

**Public Works Committee
February 1, 2018
5:00 PM
City Hall Council Chambers**

ROLL CALL:

Committee: Councilors Doug Edmonds and Jerry Jackson Sr. (pro-tem appointment by Mayor Rocky Sloan)

Staff: Chris Workman, Kevin Fear, Garry Black and Ruth Post

Guests: Brad Fuqua, Michael Sprouse and Scott Parker

MINUTES: Councilor Jackson moved/Doug Edmonds second, to approve the minutes of November 1, 2017, as presented. Motion APPROVED 2-0 (Yes: Jackson & Edmonds, No: None).

TREE BOARD BUSINESS:

Tree removal request from 1010 Main Street -- Mr. Black explained the request from the property owner at 1010 Main Street to remove trees due to blocking his business sign. He summarized the City Arborist's report that the trees could be trimmed but probably still wouldn't get the desired result. He stated that the trees are otherwise in healthy condition.

Scott Parker, One on One Realty, 1010 Main Street – Mr. Parker said he was excited to get his new sign board installed last year and had hoped that when the trees dropped their leaves, his sign would be more visible; and it isn't. He stated he understood the community need for the trees and would accept the Committee's recommendation. He stated he understood the tree ordinances don't really address commercial signage visibility. He did request that the tree that is about to lift the sidewalk be replaced with a tree more centered in the available space and that the others be trimmed if possible. There was discussion about the trees in question. Councilor Jackson suggested having a second look taken at the tree that may be about to damage the sidewalk. It was agreed to table the matter until the next meeting.

Tree Board concluded at 5:10 p.m.

PUBLIC WORKS BUSINESS:

New Water Plant Construction -- Mr. Workman summarized the history of the need for a new water treatment plant. He described the location of the proposed new structure adjacent to the existing plant and possible future uses of the existing plant, such as treating the 9th Street well water.

Mr. Workman explained that the membrane technology being recommended by the City's Engineer is the most current treatment method and that the current treatment plant just barely is able to meet the constantly tightening federal standards. Mr. Fear stated that the Rock Creek treated water is used approximately 4% of the time and is the same treatment technology as the current plant. There was discussion about the advantages of the proposed new storage tank, including fire flow and ability to make repairs to either tank with a redundant system. There was discussion about this tank replacing the previously proposed tank to be located above the Starlight Village subdivision and advantages of locating the tank adjacent to the treatment plant, including security and chlorine detention contact time. Mr. Fear explained the greater simplicity of locating the tank at the treatment plant complex.

Councilor Jackson questioned the opportunity to create a countywide water district. Mr. Workman described the time constraints involved in trying to move forward with that proposal while having an aging water treatment plant that is overdue for replacement. There was discussion about challenges in meeting the increasing turbidity standards at both the current facility and the Rock Creek water.

Mr. Workman stated that the present need is for the Committee to consider the initial \$90,000 in engineering costs to begin the process of replacement over the next year. There was discussion about the potential financing through Business Oregon for such a large project in a small community and the advantage of this over using bonding. Mr. Workman stated the total \$12.7 million is a high level estimate.

Mr. Workman explained that current water treatment capacity is the constraining factor in the City's ability to provide water, despite having sufficient senior water rights to supply it. There was discussion about the City's treatment plant operators taking on the new membrane technology. Mr. Fear stated that the operators are familiar with the technology and will have no problem operating the facility.

Mr. Workman stated this initial recommendation is for construction slated for 2020 and the need to complete both projects. He suggested the Committee make a recommendation regarding directing this to the City Council. He questioned if the Committee thought this was the time to move forward with the project or if the Committee wants to wait for the new Master Plan to be approved.

Councilor Edmonds described the multiple factors to be considered. There was discussion about the estimated year-long construction timeline. He stated it needs to be done and the rates will need to be looked at carefully.

MOTION: Councilor Edmonds moved/Councilor Jackson second, that City Council review the water treatment plant plan as presented in an upcoming work session. Motion APPROVED 2-0 (Yes: Edmonds and Jackson, No: None).

There was discussion about the need to do the project right the first time. There was discussion about the impact on the parking area on City property that Philomath Community Services currently uses and past conversations with PCS about the City's future use of that property.

ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting adjourned at 5:42 p.m.