

LA PINE UTILITIES COMMITTEE WORK SESSION AGENDA

Tuesday, November 16, 2010 - 5:00 p.m.
51340 Highway 97, La Pine, Oregon 97739
South County Building Meeting Room

1. Call to Order

Chair Scholer called the meeting to order at 5 pm.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

None

3. Introductions

Roll Call

Present Were:

Chair Scholer
Vice Chair Benner
Councilor McAfee
Ken Mullenex

Absent Were:

Quorum Established

Guests included Dan Varcoe and Stu Martinez both Councilors Elect . City Manager Rick Allen was also in attendance.

4. Approval of Minutes

September 21, 2010 - Utilities Committee Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Ken Mullenex and seconded by Vice Chair Benner to approve the September 21, 2010 meeting minutes.

<i>Vote as follows:</i>	<i>AYE</i>	<i>NAY</i>
<i>Chair Ted Scholer</i>	<i>X</i>	
<i>Vice Chair Jayne Benner</i>	<i>X</i>	
<i>Ken Mullenex</i>	<i>X</i>	
<i>Adele McAfee</i>	<i>X</i>	

Motion passed unanimously.

5. Added Agenda Items

Any matters added to the Agenda at this time will be discussed during the "Other Matters" portion of this Agenda or such other time selected by the Utilities Committee

None

6. RCAC Meeting in January regarding rates and how to set them – Jake Salcone

No discussion.

7. Continued discussion on Water and Sewer Districts Withdrawal

City Manager Allen deferred to others present to discuss the last Water District and Sewer District meetings. Ken Mullen stated the City is now at another crossroad with the Districts. The Districts referred to a letter sent by Pam Swires of USDA in which she states that unless the two districts approved it, the merger with the City could not happen. The attitude was they will move down the road to stay as Special Districts. Dan Varcoe asked if we can go after one, if not both.

City Manager Allen said the Water District voted not to allow the merger and the Sewer District voted to table the issue. Stu Martinez stated the Sewer District meeting went more smoothly than the Water District and they seem more willing to work with the City. Chair Scholer asked if we should get Senator Wyden to put pressure on them. City Manager Allen feels we are not yet at that point. Councilor McAfee said we need to stay consistent.

Stu Martinez stated there are two different entities with two different make ups. City Manager Allen believes we should continue to work with Dennis Carter, and get some people to run for the Water and Sewer Boards. It was also suggested to visit with Mr. Carter about the realities of the situation. City Manager Allen had talked with Dick Norud, Engineer for the Districts, and pointed out some issues with the two districts and how they are currently operated.

City Manager Allen further stated the committee needs to have three or four strategies; it is important to find people to run for offices. The City will need to conduct forums to educate the voters. Dennis Carter and Mrs. Nelson-Dodson are up for re-election. The Sewer District approved annexation of the Cagle District, however, City Manager Allen said the City Council will not likely support that and the City will request Deschutes County oppose it. The cost estimate to add sewer to Cagle is \$13 Million. The Engineers get 10% or \$1.3 Million.

The District also adopted new employee policies and more of this is expected. Their current policy allows employees to save over nine weeks of vacation and to get paid out on it when they retire.

City Manager Allen advised that the Districts did not use State Public Contracting rules, but adopted their own rules. They do not bid out engineering and do not appear to have done so back as far as the 1990's.

8. Public Comments for Items Not on the Agenda

None

9. Other Matters

Only those matters properly added to this Agenda under line item No. 5 will be discussed at this time.

None

None

10. Adjourn

Chair Scholer adjourned the meeting at 6 pm.


Chair Ted Scholer

Attest:



City Manager/City Recorder Rick Allen