

Mayor Gordon Cutler

Council Members:

Jerry Smith

Michelle Roberts

Kristi Bell

Dave Boothe

UINTAH CITY COUNCIL WORK

SESSION

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20TH, 2022

6:00 PM

AGENDA

Planning – Robert Guiller

Building Inspector-Jeff Monroe

Treasurer – Mike Ulrich

Sheriff – Lt. Ryan

Fire Chief – Paul Sullivan

Attendees: Mayor Cutler, Council Member Smith, Council Member Bell, Council Member Boothe, Council Member Roberts, City Treasurer Mike Ulrich, Public Works Director Jeff Holden, City Recorder Michelle Mortensen, Utility Clerk Broc Gresham, Daniel Combe, Paul & Danette Stuart, Becky & Tim Petty, Ansley Petty

AGENDA ITEMS:

1. **MEETING CALL TO ORDER:** Meeting was called to order at 6:00 by Mayor Cutler.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Mayor Cutler.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST: None

2. **DISCUSSION ON FUNDING, BIDS, AND FINAL DETAILS OF THE BYBEE WATER TANK:**

Presenter: Council Member Bell

- This project has been five years in the making and we are excited to finally be ready to begin. The tank which is already there is beyond repair. We will be putting two tanks where the one currently is.
- Our objectives will improve safety, lift the moratorium, simplify water management, reduce peak water violations, and fix the deficiencies in the structure by adding the new tanks. Council Member Roberts asked about the peak water violations. Council Member Bell stated that in your hottest months you can only use a certain amount of water in a certain amount of time. The water will pull from our tank on those days and not Weber Basin. We will meet our water storage standards set by the state.
- This project benefits the entire city and any future residents as well. Impact fees have been adjusted for future residents to pay their portion.
- This project was projected at \$3.1 million dollar by our engineer. The Citizen Water Panel did the rating and ranking process and agreed on the bid that came in at \$3,255,101 from FX Construction. We ranked the companies by references, similar builds, reliability, and what kind of people work for these companies. FX Construction had the highest number of points in this process. Mayor Cutler mentioned that it was a unanimous vote by the water panel. The water panel consists of some long-term residents, engineer, people on the planning commission, and staff and have been on this project from the very beginning.
- Tonight, my goal is to come up with how to fund this project. The grant total is \$1.9 million. In our savings we have \$2.9 million. We have \$1.4 in the water savings and checking. We also have the loan from the water drinking for \$1,000,000 at 1%.
- Rural Water has told us that we need to raise our water rates to sustain our enterprise fund. The drinking board has told us that if we take the loan, we have to raise our rates \$13.40, as a base rate increase.
- We can fund this from the water department savings. Our water rates need to be changed, which we have been told by two different state entities. Council Member Bell stated that I would like the Council to approve using the money from the water savings. Mr. Ulrich explained that we have been adding to the water fund every year with savings. It would still increase that fund, even if we didn't do any increases.
- Council Member Bell mentioned that some of the projects that may be coming up in the water department in the future are the water tanks and distribution lines in between. There may be more leaks in the future, but patching the lines won't exceed what we have in savings. This is the major expense in for the next 7-10 years. Impact fees will go towards the new tank on the other end of town when we get to that point. Council Member Roberts stated I know that we are working to lift the moratorium. If we lift that and we have these two tanks, and the property on the west end of the City develops, will it feed those houses. Council Member Bell answered yes. Once the engineer flags us and lets us know that we are at capacity, that is when we would have to start looking at putting in the tank on the other end of town.
- Council Member Smith asked who told us that we would need to raise our rates to \$13.60. Council Member Bell stated that if we took the loan from the drinking water board, they would require this. Council Member Bell stated that I suggest that we raise the water rates to help pay back the money that we are taking from the water savings.
- Mayor Cutler stated that when Rural Water came in they suggested that we raise the water rates \$11 for the base rate. We have to raise those rates no matter what. Council Member Smith mentioned that in reality, what we are doing is saving more money for these tanks which are good for about 50 years. This is a proactive concept to prepare for the next tanks.
- Mr. Ulrich stated that over the last three years, you have been able to put around \$100,000 a year into your water savings, so that is kind of a guide. Mayor Cutler stated that once we lift the moratorium we will probably see a big increase in our impact fees.
- Council Member Bell recommended using the money from savings and then start paying ourselves back.

3. MEETING ADJOURNMENT:

- Motion was made by Council Member Bell to adjourn the work session at 6:50 p.m.
- Motion was seconded by Council Member Smith.
- All in favor; motion carries unanimously.

Michelle Mortensen
Michelle Mortensen; Uintah City Recorder

10/4/22
Date