



CITY OF
BAINBRIDGE ISLAND

UTILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
SPECIAL MEETING
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2017
CITY HALL
280 MADISON AVENUE NORTH
BAINBRIDGE ISLAND, WA 98110

Present: Andy Maron, Chair

Jeff Kanter, Vice Chair

Steve Johnson, Nancy Nolan, Emily Sato, members

Absent: Ted Jones, Jim Thrash, members

Also Present: Barry Loveless, Public Works Director

Bob Bosserman

Luke Carpenter, BIFD Fire Marshal

1. The meeting was called to order at 5pm.
2. The minutes for the September 13, 2017 regular meeting were unanimously approved.
3. There was no public comment.

4. Casey Street Water Company

The Public Works Director plans to move forward with recommending City ownership of the Casey Street Water Company (8 connections and a water source) as proposed by the current owner. He is currently working on getting the matter placed on the council agenda and establishing a basis for rates to be assessed.

5. Washington Water Company Termination Notice

City Manager Doug Schulze sent a letter to all four systems that received the Washington Water termination notice and offered to initiate a conversation with each system about the needs of these Bainbridge Island citizens. There was discussion that the City could possibly operate these systems on a contract basis. According to Public Works Director Barry Loveless, the City does not need to be an Satellite Management Agency to manage these systems; the City just needs to contract with the systems to do so. Jeff Kanter, principal representative of the affected Bill Point system, stated that KPUD does not bill systems it manages and NW Water does not actually fix the systems if there is a service disruption. Discussion ensued about using a City management of one or more of these systems as a test case in the process of furthering the City's comprehensive plan goal of consolidating small water systems. The deadline given by Washington Water is November 30. Public Works Director Loveless will meet with the Bill Point and Place 18 representatives to continue the discussion.

6. SSWM Rate Increase

Public Works Director Loveless says the City Council approved the SSWM rate increase of 8.9% next year and 2% every year until 2021.



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7. Fire Code Impact

The UAC subcommittee has been investigating the relationship between the fire code and possible impediments to the City's Comprehensive Plan's goal of improving or consolidating small water systems. The problems are that small water systems may not make necessary improvements or consolidate because they would be required to bring their system up to the current fire code, which may be cost prohibitive for smaller systems.

Jeff Kanter suggested that other rural areas in the County are often only required to meet the 500 gallon per minute for 30-minute standard instead of the stricter general Bainbridge Island requirement of 1000 gallons for 60 minutes standard. (requiring storage for 60,000 gallons).

Jeff also noted that there are substantial areas of the island where people are on wells and there are no accessible fire hydrants. He further suggested that there are numerous small water systems on the island that are 40 to 60 years old and need to be improved or replaced, but are not big enough to take on the cost of upgrading to the 1000 gallons for 60 minutes. Jeff further noted that there have been no upgrades in smaller water systems for the past 25 years and that current fire standards may be an impediment.

A draft memorandum was submitted to the UAC members recommending the city create a working group that could recommend appropriate standards to encourage improvement and consolidation.

Fire Marshall Luke Carpenter stated that he would be happy to serve on a committee that would encourage better fire safety on the island and would study these issues further.

Public Works Director Loveless also suggested further study of whether city design and construction standards for rights-of-ways are also any kind of impediment to improvement and/or consolidation of small water companies. Further discussion of these issues to be continued to next week's regular meeting.

8. City Council has informally agreed to allow Emily Sato to continue to serve on the UAC until the end of her term despite her recent move.

9. Election of Officers: Jeff Kanter and Andy Maron were unanimously elected as co-chairs of this committee.

Andy Maron, Co-Chair

10/11/17