



CITY OF
BAINBRIDGE ISLAND

UTILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2019

Minutes

Meeting called to order at 5:00 p.m. by co-chair Ted Jones.

Members present: Ted Jones, Andy Maron (co-chairs); Charlie Averill, Sheina Hughes, Nancy Nolan, Emily Sato.

Others present: Public Works Director Chris Wierzbicki; Council Liaison Rasham Nassar; Deputy City Attorney Robbie Sepler

Absent: Martin Pastucha

Minutes of the October 9, 2019 meeting were approved as submitted.

Annual Open Government Training

Deputy City Attorney Robbie Sepler distributed written material and presented information about (a) the Open Public Meetings Act, and (b) Public Records requirements. The Utility Advisory Committee, like all city committees, is subject to these rules.

It was noted that all committee members have city email accounts, which should be used for all committee business. Texts and social media should not be used for committee business, because it's difficult to save and access them in compliance with the Public Records Act.

Report on Public Works Department Activities

KPUD Franchise Agreement

Assistant City Attorney Robbie Sepler discussed work on the franchise agreement, which is now in progress. This will apparently be the first franchise agreement between the City and Kitsap Public Utility District. Tentative proposal is for a 15-year agreement.

Robbie indicated that most of the work will likely be completed by the first quarter of 2020. Next step will be for the city's legal team to work with staff, then likely coming to the UAC with specific questions. There was discussion as to whether there should be two agreements, covering the water utility and broadband services separately.

Puget Sound Energy Franchise Agreement

Chris reported that he will be getting more information in December, likely developing an agreement in 2020-21. The current franchise expires in 2022.

Representatives from the UAC and the city's Climate Change Advisory Committee will work together on this issue over the next 18 months. Ted Jones has been serving on that subcommittee. UAC's second representative was Steve Johnson, who is no longer on the UAC. Sheina offered to serve on that subcommittee as UAC's second representative.



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Rasham reported that PSE had presented to the council on Nov. 12, their annual report with information on reliability. She noted that about 50% of the power lines are now underground. In some areas, lines cannot be undergrounded because of high water tables.

Lower Lovell Sewer Shed Projects

Discussion was deferred until our next meeting, for lack of time.

Continued Discussion on Small Water Systems

Nancy reported on her research on the legal authority and history. KPUD's plan, the Kitsap County Consolidated Water System Plan, is discussed in a 2005 document. She has prepared a five-page summary, which will be distributed to the committee at a later date. She noted that some elements of the plan were projected to occur over a 10-year period (i.e. by 2015), but have not yet happened.

Emily reported on KPUD policies for new connections. KPUD is now operating Island Utility, North Bainbridge Water, and South Bainbridge Water. They are planning to consolidate Island Utility and South Bainbridge Water, which are adjacent to each other. Emily reported that KPUD does not require hookups for new construction, as long as the site is one acre or larger; but that may be changing with new legislation.

Sheina reported on King County policies. King and Kitsap have somewhat different approaches. King County requirements are legislated in the county code, and are far more detailed, including distinctions between rural and non-rural areas. In King County urban areas, property owners may be required to join a water system even if they already have a well.

Nancy distributed an updated map (September 2019) of Group A and B water systems and wells.

Andy and Chris discussed the history of water system acquisition, particularly the city's acquisition of the Fletcher Bay water system. The well was built by the PUD in 1978, and supplied water to Winslow even before it was acquired by the City in 1993.

Andy distributed an outline of "Alternatives for COBI Policies Toward Island Water Systems Not Owned by COBI." It is designed to summarize choices available for the city, ranging from no involvement to acquiring the water systems. Chris noted that there is an additional issue to be considered, i.e. How does the city serve potential new customers within our service area?

2019 Annual Report and 2020 Workplan Draft

A draft was distributed. No action was taken; discussion was deferred until the committee's December meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Co-Chair

12/11/19