

City of Bainbridge Island  
Utility Advisory Committee

April 27, 2015 UAC meeting.

Present: Andy Maron, Jeff Kanter, Nancy Nolan

Also present: Public Works Director Barry Loveless, Councilmember Val Tollefson; Jay Kinney (BIMPRD), Dan Hamlin (BIMPRD); Steve Leach and Robert Dashiell

1. Notes from April 13 meeting were approved as amended.
2. Public Comment
  - a. Dan Hamlin (BIMPRD) discussed storm and surface water management on Park property, in support of the proposition that the physical characteristics and management practices on Park property result in a net benefit to the City.
  - b. Robert Dashiell offered his views on the decisions the UAC should make with regard to the SSWM Utility. Jay Kinney (BIMPRD) offered further comment on BIMPRD SSWM issues.
3. Barry Loveless offered his recommendations for a revised SSWM fee structure, using the UAC recommendations of 2011 as a starting place.
4. Andy Maron then asked for reactions, comments from those Committee members present about the future of the SSWM utility:
  - a. Jeff Kanter pointed out the inconsistency of homeowners paying (through SSWM fees) for work largely, in his view, necessitated by roads and cars. He also noted that the UAC had not reviewed position-by-position the FTE's assigned to the utility, and Andy Maron suggested that perhaps one solution was to simply dictate the total number of FTEs that could be charged to SSWM, and let Public Works figure it out from there.
  - b. Nancy Nolan discussed notes she had made in advance and circulated. She was very concerned about the cost of fish-culverts, and discussed ways to avoid those costs. Barry pointed out that COBI was a relatively small player among jurisdictions faced with the same issues, and that it was not economical for COBI to try to lead the battle. She also discussed using some reserves for capital projects, cutting operating expenses, and raising revenue.
  - c. Andy Maron thinks changes need to be made to the utility, as its current operation is not sustainable. He suggested the utility needs to cut costs, raise revenue, and utilize existing reserves so that the Utility can make needed capital investments.
  - d. Barry pointed out that he has been looking at the operating expense issue, and believes that with some efficiencies and with removal from the CIP of projects that should be funded by the general fund as non-motorized activities, the current budget can achieve the savings that the Committee seems to think are needed.
5. The Committee acknowledged the need to get its review of the SSWM utility in time to be considered in city budget discussions starting in late August and September. Andy will work on rescheduling meetings and scheduling an extra meeting before the end of May.

6. Public Comment: Robert Dashiell suggested that the work on the SSWM was going to take longer than the Committee seemed to think. Jay Kinney reiterated the SSWM benefits of Park property, and argued that the City should not be imposing this fee on a "sister" taxing district, but rather that it ought to seek necessary funds directly from the taxpayers.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Andy Maron", followed by the date "5/14/15". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

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Andy Maron, Chair