

**CITY OF BELLEVUE  
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES**

Thursday  
June 23, 2020  
6:30 p.m.

Zoom

**1. CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Knezevic at 6:30 p.m. Deputy Director Bartle read a statement regarding the meeting process.

**2. ROLL CALL**

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:** Vanja Knezevic (Chair), Ling Zhuang (Vice Chair), Neal Hines, Diann Strom, Anne Howe, Negin Khanloo

**COUNCIL LIAISON:** Conrad Lee

**COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:** None

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Brian Bartle, Deputy Director; Lucy Liu, Assistant Director; Linda De Boldt, Utility Engineering Assistant Director; Brian Landau, Planning Manager, Utilities; Cherish Jackson, Interim Executive Assistant; and Laurie Hugdahl, Minutes Taker

**3. TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF BYLAWS**

Chair Knezevic explained that several items in the Commission's bylaws needed to be suspended temporarily in order to remotely hold meetings.

**Motion made by Vice Chair Zhuang to suspend remote participation provisions and bylaws until such time as the Environmental Services Commission is no longer holding its meetings remotely. Motion passed unanimously.**

**Motion by Vice Chair Zhuang to suspend oral public communications provisions and bylaws and allow public participation to be submitted in writing and read for the June 23, 2020 Environmental Services Commission meeting only. Motion passed unanimously.**

**Motion made by Vice Chair Zhuang to suspend order of business provisions and bylaws until such time as the Environmental Services Commissions is no longer holding its meetings remotely. Motion passed unanimously.**

**4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Motion made by Vice Chair Zhuang, seconded by Commissioner Strom, to approve the agenda as presented. The agenda was approved unanimously.**

**5. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS**

None

**6. COMMUNICATION FROM CITY COUNCIL, COMMUNITY COUNCIL, BOARDS AND COMMMISIONS**

Councilmember Conrad Lee expressed appreciation to the Commission for meeting remotely.

**7. STAFF REPORTS**

None.

**8. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

2/6/20 Regular Meeting Minutes

**Motion made by Vice Chair Zhuang, seconded by Commissioner Strom, to approve the minutes as presented. Motion passed unanimously.**

**9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None

**10. NEW BUSINESS**

- **Utilities Proposed 2021-2027 Capital Investment Plan**

*Brian Landau, Planning Manager, Utilities Engineering  
Linda De Boldt, Assistant Director; Utilities Engineering*

Assistant Director De Boldt and Planning Manager Landau made a PowerPoint presentation regarding Utilities' proposed 2021-2027 CIP. Assistant Director De Boldt discussed the development process and gave a high level overview of the Plan. Planning Manager Landau described the

process used to develop the proposed CIP and reviewed an overview of the funds. The proposed CIP budget is \$236 M for three funds for seven years: The Water Fund is the largest fund and has 12 programs for a total of \$135 M; the Wastewater Fund has 10 programs for a proposed budget of \$58 M; and the Storm/Surface Water Fund has 11 programs at a proposed budget of \$42 M.

Planning Manager Landau then reviewed major changes in budget drivers for this CIP. Foundational drivers include improvements in developing project scopes, schedules, and budgets as well as staff resourcing evaluation. There are also enhancements to existing programs such as the Sewer Pump Station Program, Flood Control Program, Reservoir Rehab Program. Finally, there are new programs and capital expenditures - O&M Yard Development and SCADA Program. He reviewed the difference in budgets from the previous CIP to the proposed CIP and differences in areas of investment. Each fund was then reviewed in detail. For each fund the current and proposed budget was presented as well as key drivers for the fund.

#### Water Fund

Continuing Programs with approved budgets from prior CIP include W-104 New Water Inlet Station, W-110 Enatai Inlet Station, NE 40<sup>th</sup> Street Inlet Station and AMI.

#### Programs

- W-16 Water Main Replacement Program
- W-67 Pressure Reducing Valve Rehabilitation Program
- W-69 Minor CIP Program
- W-85 Reservoir Rehabilitation
  - Commissioner Strom asked about the reason for delay of completion of Pikes Peak Reservoir. Assistant Director De Boldt explained it got delayed due to design needs that took longer than the original schedule.
- W-91 Pump Station Rehab
  - Vice Chair Zhuang asked about the lower pace of replacement of pump stations. Planning Manager Landau explained they are doing one pump station every other year, from every year.
- W-98 Commercial Meter Vaults
- W-99 Service Saddles
- W-103 West Operating Area Storage
  - Commissioner Strom asked for more information about the reason for the new reservoir study that is being proposed. Planning Manager Landau explained that the population is growing faster than anticipated so that study is being

moved up in time.

- W-105 NE Spring Blvd Corridor
- W-111 Operations & Maintenance Yard
- W-115 SCADA Upgrades (New Program)
- W-117 170<sup>th</sup> Place SE Pressure Improvements (New Program)

#### Wastewater

Assistant Director De Boldt discussed the mission of the Wastewater Fund and then reviewed the Wastewater Fund budget and programs. Three programs will continue with the prior budget and do not require additional funding. These include the Inflow & Infiltration Investigations and monitoring program; the Sewer Forced Main Conditions Assessment Program; and AMI.

#### Programs:

- S-16 Sewer Pump Station Improvements
- S-24 Sewer System Pipeline Major Repairs
- S-66 Sewer Pipeline Replacement
- S-32 Minor Sewer Capital Projects
- S-58 Lake Washington Lake Line Management Plan
- S-60 Wilburton Pump Station
- S-61 Mid-Lakes Pump Station
- S-111 Operations & Maintenance Yard
- S-112 Sewer Planning (New)
- S-115 SCADA Upgrades (New)

Vice Chair Zhuang asked about the justification for the increased budget for the Wastewater Fund. Assistant Director De Boldt explained that the City is doing a more robust job of asset management. In this process, staff has determined an increased need.

Commissioner Hines asked about the timing of the Lake Washington Lake Line Management Plan. Assistant Director De Boldt explained that the work on the Plan is happening now and will extend into 2021. The results of the Plan will help to identify actual design and construction projects which will be part of the next CIP.

#### Storm / Surface Water Fund

Planning Manager Landau reviewed this fund. The following programs will continue with the approved budget from the prior CIP and do not require funding: Stream Restoration for Mobility & Infrastructure in the Spring District, the Lower Coal Creek Flood Hazard Reduction Project, and the Replacement Culvert at Kelsey Creek at NE 8<sup>th</sup>

#### Programs:

- D-59 Minor CIP
- D-64 Infrastructure Rehab

Commissioner Strom referred to the \$1M budget for West Lake Sammamish Parkway Emergency Repair and asked why they don't use reserve dollars for this. Assistant Director De Boldt explained that the project has been completed to repair damage done from a heavy rainstorm.

- D-81 Fish Passage Improvement
- D-86 Stream Channel Modification
- D-94 Flood Control Program
- D-114 Factoria Blvd/Richards Creek Flood Reduction (New)
- D-103 Replace Coal Creek Parkway Culvert
- D-109 Storm Water Quality Retrofit Program
- D-112 Storm and Surface Water Planning Program (New)
- D-115 SCADA Upgrades (New)
- D-116 Post-Construction Monitoring and Maintenance (New)

Commissioner Hines asked about the purpose of D-116. Planning Manager Landau explained that it is aimed at funding the maintenance and monitoring of post-construction site revegetation required for many stormwater utility projects.

Assistant Director De Boldt summarized that the CIP ensures sustainable utility services to customers. There is a continued investment in R&R for Aging Infrastructure, support for community growth, environmental stewardship, service enhancement, regulatory compliance, and leveraging technology. The process has been improved in scoping, scheduling and cost estimating as well as the capacity to deliver. She reviewed the proposed CIP Budget Schedule.

Vice Chair Zhuang expressed concern about the structure of the way projects are listed by fund and environmental preservation projects are listed only in the Stormwater fund when in actuality environmental projects are not just related to stormwater. She asked how they could address more need for environmental stewardship when they are limited by the revenue for stormwater. Assistant Director De Boldt explained that all projects have a triple bottom line analysis which includes the solution for the project, the financial impacts, the social impacts, and the environmental impacts. Environmental analysis is included in all projects regardless of what fund it is in. Vice Chair Zhuang commented that mitigation for flood control is limited by stormwater fund. Assistant Director De Boldt agreed, but noted that the financial requirements limit how the funding is used. The stormwater fund is responsible for the storm

and surface water assets. It is the fund designated for providing environmental preservation for our natural resources. The Watershed Management Plan is the strategic planning document that will guide investments into the future for environmental preservation.

Vice Chair Zhuang suggested looking into having a comprehensive fund dedicated to environmental preservation. Brian Landau commented that the environmental stewardship initiative is looking at an overall citywide focus on addressing environmental issues. Different departments have different roles and associated funding for those projects and programs. Utilities just plays one role in this process. Deputy Director Brian Bartle clarified that state law is very clear about what each fund can be used for, and cities aren't allowed to mix these up.

Commissioner Strom asked about the role of R&R funds in the CIP. Assistant Director Lucy Liu briefly reviewed the relationship between the budget, rate revenues, and R&R.

Commissioner Hines expressed appreciation for the tremendous work that staff has done in this planning. This step in planning has resulted in a lack of major breakdowns in the city and has contributed to overall environmental stewardship.

## **11 ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS**

None

## **12. REVIEW OF ESC CALENDAR/COUNCIL CALENDAR**

Deputy Director Bartle reviewed changes to the upcoming ESC Calendar which will be necessary in order to stay on track with the budget process. There will be two meetings in July, one in August, one in September, and two in October if necessary. All meetings will be via Zoom until further notice. He also reviewed the tentative Council Calendar.

## **13. ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion made by Vice Chair Zhuang, seconded by Commissioner Strom to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously.**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:16 p.m.