



UTILITY BOARD REGULAR MEETING MINUTES JULY 8, 2014

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Ben Levie called the regular meeting of the Utility Board to order at 7:01 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 9611 SE 36th Street, Mercer Island, WA.

ROLL CALL:

Chairman Ben Levie, Vice Chair, Kwan Wong, Tom DeBoer, Stephen Milton, Susan Kaltenbach, Tim O'Connell, and Council Liaison Debbie Bertlin were present. Wendy Weiker was absent.

City Staff: Glenn Boettcher, Maintenance Director and Asea Sandine, Recording Secretary were also present.

MINUTES:

Wong moved to approve the minutes from the June 10, 2014 meeting. Milton seconded the motion. The Commission unanimously approved the minutes

REGULAR BUSINESS:

Cedar Grove Presentation

Boettcher introduced Janet Pritchard, Municipal Relations Manager of Republic Services and Susan Thoman, Media Relations of Cedar Grove to provide the Board with an update on recycling services. Pritchard advised the City is doing very well with dry recycling; 65% of what is collected is recycled. Pritchard shared that recycling has many benefits to the environment. One is that the landfill life is extended. Pritchard introduced Susan Thoman of Cedar Grove. Cedar Grove is contracted by Republic to process wet recycle. Thoman shared that Cedar Grove has been the leading composting facility in the Northwest. Thoman presented a PowerPoint that highlighted an increase in compost contaminants requiring more screening of matter, an increase in operational costs for Cedar Grove mostly around contaminants, and WA State's revised composting regulation. The regulation revision means that physical contaminants must now be less than one percent by weight from film plastic. The previous regulation was five percent. Thoman concluded that Cedar Grove has had stable rates for the last 24 years. However; the cost model has shifted and Cedar Grove is requesting a \$0.40 per month increase per household to recover costs. Glenn advised that this would be revisited in November.

Sustainability Work Plan

Ross Freeman, Sustainability & Communications Manager presented a PowerPoint which highlighted Sustainable Projects on Mercer Island such as raingardens, plastic bag bans, stormwater education and solarize campaign. Future Climate Action Plans include implementation of Green House Gas (GHG) reduction actions, procurement policy, alternative fleet fuels, styrofoam ban and selecting a tracking tool. The City will continue to partner with King County Climate Cities to identify joint actions.

Hazard Mitigation Public Meeting

Boettcher shared that the City participates in the Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan (RHMP). The public has an opportunity to comment from June 20 – July 11, 2014. Boettcher informed the Board that there is a public meeting at Issaquah City Hall on July 9th, 2014 for anyone interested in attending.

NEXT MEETING: The next scheduled meeting is September 9, 2014.

ADJOURNMENT: 9:10 p.m.

Asea Sandine
Recording Secretary