

MINUTES
OXNARD CITY COUNCIL
Special Meeting
December 10, 2015

A. ROLL CALL/POSTING OF AGENDA

At 5:03 p.m., the regular meeting of the Oxnard City Council convened in the Council Chambers. Councilmembers Tim Flynn, Carmen Ramirez, Bryan A. MacDonald, Dorina Padilla and Bert Perello were present. The City Clerk stated that the agenda was posted on Monday in the Library and City Clerk's Office. Mayor Flynn presided and called the meeting to order. Staff members present were: Daniel Martinez, City Clerk; Greg Nyhoff, City Manager; Stephen Fischer, Interim City Attorney; Maria Hurtado, Assistant City Manager; Scott Whitney, Assistant City Manager; Jeri Williams, Police Chief and Daniel Rydberg, Interim Utilities Director; Joseph Lillio, Chief Financial Officer; Tabin Cosio, Human Resources Director; Todd Vasquez-Housley, Interim Deputy Public Works Director; Thien Ng, Senior Process Engineer; Terry Kirsch, Interim Water Resources Manager and Jeff Miller, Wastewater Maintenance Manager.

B. PUBLIC COMMENTS

C. REPORTS

Utilities Department

1. SUBJECT: Proposed Utility Rate Increase Options, Utility Rate Policy and Proposition 218 Rate Increase Protest Procedures. (001)

RECOMMENDATION: 1) Provide direction on proposed utility rate increase options and utility rate policy and 2) Adopt a resolution setting Proposition 218 Utility Rate Increase Protest Procedures

DISCUSSION: Michael Kramer and Phillip Curls, First Southwest Company (City's Financial Advisor), outlined the credit rating information, use of S&P as rating agency, setting reasonable rates using various factors and provided a comparison with other "full" service cities.

The Chief Financial Officer recommended debt coverage service (of 2.5 times to be a best practice per Government Finance Officer Association), capital reserve of one years' depreciation, operation reserve be 90 days and 180 day of debt service.

The Interim Utilities Director reviewed several issues: how rates are established; cost of service study; voting process (including community outreach, plant tour and mailing); maintenance of facilities; projected revenues; water supply and system reliability.

Mary Vorissis, P.E., commented on several issues including: regulatory permits, need for maintenance improvements; certification requirements; new regulations needing to be addressed; being aware of possible penalty costs and legal responsibilities.

The Interim Water Resources Manager reviewed several issues including the maintenance of pipelines, water wells, water meters and staffing levels.

The Senior Process Engineer and Wastewater Maintenance Manager reviewed facilities/ infrastructure needing replacement and/or maintenance including "biotower", clarifiers, corrosion/ deterioration of materials (pipelines, walls, equipment) and sewer line odor control.

The Interim Deputy Public Works Director (Environmental Resources) reviewed the need to replace equipment & vehicles, maintenance of facilities, future fueling facilities and future regulations.

The Interim City Attorney reviewed "Proposition 218" resolution to regulate the election and process of the City Clerk including form of protest and tabulating of ballots by City Clerk.

Public comments were received from: Lillian Sharples; Larry Stein; Jurgen Gramckow; George Miller; Pat Brown; Nancy Lindholm; Steve Nash and Brett Munoz.

The City Manager addressed the building of the "recycled" water line.

The City Council discussed: policies options presented by staff; proposed utility rates; Proposition 218 process (including protest procedures); infrastructure issues; need to raise rates and best practices of other cities.

ACTION: The Council provided comments to staff regarding preferred options and Proposition 218 procedures and moved to approve **Resolution No. 14,877** (MacDonald/Padilla) unanimously.

D. ADJOURNMENT

At 10:44 p.m. the City Council concurred to adjourn the meeting.


DANIEL MARTINEZ
City Clerk


TIM FLYNN
Mayor