



MAYOR
Geno Martini

CITY COUNCIL
Donald Abbott, Ward I
Ed Lawson, Ward II
Ron Smith, Ward III
Charlene Bybee, Ward IV
Kristopher Dahir, Ward V

CITY ATTORNEY
Chet Adams

CITY MANAGER
Stephen Driscoll

CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP – Sanitary Sewer Model Update
8:30 A.M., Monday, January 23, 2017
Sparks City Hall, Lower Level, 431 Prater Way, Sparks, Nevada

1. Call to Order (Time: 8:33 a.m.)

The workshop of the Sparks City Council was called to order by Mayor Pro Tempore Ron Smith at 8:33 a.m.

2. Roll Call (Time: 8:33 a.m.)

Council Members Donald Abbott, Ed Lawson, Ron Smith, Charlene Bybee, Kristopher Dahir, Acting City Manager Neil Krutz, Acting City Attorney Doug Thornley and City Clerk Teresa Gardner, PRESENT.

ABSENT: Mayor Geno Martini

3. Pledge of Allegiance (Time: 8:33 a.m.)

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Acting City Attorney Doug Thornley.

4. Public Comment (Time: 8:33 a.m.) - None

5. Agenda

5. Presentation, discussion and possible direction to staff on the Sanitary Sewer Model update. (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION) (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION) (Time: 8:33 a.m.)

An agenda item to present the results of the model and lead discussion regarding the policy implications that have arisen from this update. The sewer model update was needed due to significant improvements in GIS technology and sewer flow modeling capabilities. In 2015 the City Council approved a contract with Atkins to prepare an update to the 2004 Sparks Sewer Model. Atkins completed the study and staff has reviewed the land-use assumptions and sewer generation rates used as inputs to the model and generally agrees with the model results.

Acting City Manager Neil Krutz introduced Atkins consultant Dan Stucky and said this product is a living model representing land use, identifying investment needs, and demonstrating capacity. Utility Manager Andrew Hummel discussed the existing wastewater system, historical flows, flow metering, existing and buildout land use, dry/wet weather model calibration, existing and buildout capacity, and budget.

Truckee Meadows Water Reclamation Facility Manager Michael Drinkwater talked about treatment capacity, nitrogen disposal limits and sewer flow projections.

Staff identified the policy implications as:

- Collection System and TMWRF Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) may necessitate user fee and/or connection fee increases.
- Land use intensifications in excess of current land use assumptions will increase future costs of CIP and treatment.
- Delay in determining CIP costs, and adopting associated user and connection fees, will increase the magnitude of future fee hikes.

Staff identified the next steps as:

- Adoption of the model by City Council in February
- Continue evaluating TMWRF capacity expansion options
- Initiate user and connection fee rate study

Mr. Hummel demonstrated the model's capabilities. Mr. Drinkwater discussed the joint ownership with Reno and capacity requirements, as well as benefits to not putting water back into the river. Planning Manager Jim Rundle discussed land use and said the estimates for the industrial area did not include the projected increases because the flood plan project is not completed. Mr. Krutz said this model is a powerful tool to aid policy decisions.

Mr. Krutz requested direction from Council to:

- 1) Adopt a standard model as a requirement at the February 27, 2017 Council meeting
- 2) Update the model at least every 2 years with consensus data
- 3) Develop options for allocating excess interceptor capacity
- 4) Begin a rate study including new technology testing at TMWRF

Mr. Thornley cautioned to have some flexibility in the policy so it is not too restrictive and recommended the policy allow for the reservation of capacity.

The Council provided direction for staff to move forward on items 1, 2, and 4 above and to move forward with item 3 including a percentage of overall capacity to be reserved for infill and to continue to work with Reno on capacity and discourage any additional capacity to Washoe County. Assistant Community Services Director Armando Ornelas said the recently approved Comprehensive Plan makes infill a priority.

Discussion was held regarding communication to constituents during the rate study. Community Services Director John Martini said a consultant would be hired to develop the financial model and it would be brought before Council; and outreach would be done. Mr. Thornley said public outreach would be separate from the study.

6. Comments

8.1 Comments from the Public (Time: 10:55 a.m.) – None

8.2 Comments from City Council and City Manager (Time: 10:55 a.m.)

Council commended staff for the work done on this project and development of a useful tool.

7. **Adjournment** (Time: 10:56 a.m.)
Council was adjourned at 10:56 a.m.

Ron Smith, Mayor Pro Tempore

ATTEST:

Teresa Gardner, City Clerk

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