



Meeting Minutes

Utility Advisory Committee

City Hall
601 4th Avenue E
Olympia, WA 98501

Contact: Jesse Barham
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Thursday, December 1, 2022

5:30 PM

City Hall, Room 207 and Virtually

Register to attend:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Y0IT9bfYTxWRgDWUgTABfQ

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Bloom called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

1.A ROLL CALL

Present: 7 - Chair Dennis Bloom, Vice Chair Kristin Lamson, Committee member Dani Clark, Committee member Donald Krug, Committee member Arland Schneider, Committee member Eleanor (Pat) Vernon and Committee member Roger Wilson

1.B. STAFF PRESENT

Water Resources Director/Staff Liaison Eric Christensen
Waste ReSources Director Gary Franks
Waste ReSources Senior Planner Ron Jones
Interim Water Resources Director Jesse Barham
Drinking Water Quality Operations Supervisor Mike Vessey
Administrative Specialist Lindsay Marquez

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Due to staff illness, the business item, Climate Mitigation Plan Update, was postponed to 2023.

The agenda was approved as amended.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

[22-1120](#) Approval of November 3, 2022 UAC Meeting Minutes

The minutes were approved.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT - None

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM UAC AND STAFF

Chair Bloom acknowledged Mr. Christensen on his upcoming retirement at the end of 2022. UAC members thanked Eric for his work with the UAC and the City of Olympia.

Mr. Christensen provided the following updates:
Announced Jesse Barham will be the interim Water Resources Director as well as the UAC staff liaison.

Emailed a follow-up document showing information in response to the UAC's questions from the November meeting regarding utility funds operating and capital financial histories.

Ideas for the utility publication *Five Things* were requested. UAC members suggested staff utilize it to promote goals of the Waste ReSources plan and garner engagement with programs and initiatives.

The American Waterworks Association Benchmarking report is not available yet. Staff will provide it when available.

The City is asking advisory committee members to attend a virtual training on diversity, equity and inclusion. City staff are also taking this training.

Mr. Franks announced Waste ReSources is recruiting internally for a lead worker.

6. BUSINESS ITEMS

[22-1121](#) Climate Mitigation Update

The information was postponed and referred to the February 2, 2023 Utility Advisory Committee meeting agenda.

[22-1123](#) Review and approval of 2023-2030 Waste ReSources Master Plan

Mr. Jones and Mr. Franks provided the briefing. Staff will provide the UAC with the Plan's appendices.

The UAC requested the topic continue to the February 2, 2023 UAC meeting for further discussion and a recommendation to City Council.

[22-1124](#) Development of Utility Advisory Committee Work Plan

Mr. Christensen and UAC members reviewed the draft work plan. The UAC requested the addition of the following business items to the 2023-2024 work plan:

- How migration/population growth affects utilities
- Rates/affordability metrics (before the budget and rates are presented to UAC)
- Change utility financial quarterly updates to written updates, with the ability for the UAC to ask staff questions.

The UAC requested to have the following items provided during the announcements section of their agenda. Items would be provided on an as needed basis and when there is information to share:

- Legislative priorities update
- Utility assistance program metrics

Staff will send the UAC the City Council's goals.

The information was provided.

[22-1125](#) Utilities - Quarterly Financial Updates

Staff provided a financial briefing for the City's utilities of Waste ReSources, Drinking Water, Storm and Surface Water and Wastewater. The information focused on budget vs. expenditures and revenues. The UAC thanked staff for the briefing.

The report was received.

7. **ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Bloom adjourned the meeting at 7:33 p.m.