



Meeting Minutes - Draft

Utility Advisory Committee

City Hall
601 4th Avenue E
Olympia, WA 98501

Contact: Andy Haub
360.753.8475

Thursday, April 6, 2017

5:40 PM

City Hall, Room 207

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Wilson called the meeting to order.

1.A ROLL CALL

Present: 6 - Chair Roger Wilson, Committee member Steve Fossum, Committee member Austin Hildreth, Committee member Dever Haffner-Ratliffe, Committee member Arland Schneider and Committee member Jeremy Twitchell

Absent: 2 - Committee member Luke Bowerman and Committee member Chase Gallagher

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The UAC amended the agenda so that the sea level rise update would occur before the storm and surface water financial incentives.

The agenda was approved as amended.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

[17-0353](#) Approval of the March 2, 2017 UAC Meeting Minutes

Chair Wilson requested two minor grammatical changes. Staff made note of those changes and will amend the minutes.

The minutes were approved as amended.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

The following people gave public comment on the sea level rise business item:

- Bev Bassett
- Walt Jorgensen (also spoke about the storm and surface water incentives)
- Helen Wheatley
- Judy Bardin
- Chris Sterns
- Thad Curtz

Andy Haub read the written comments he received from Bob Jacobs regarding sea

level rise.

Chair Wilson thanked the members of the public that provided comments.

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM UAC AND STAFF

Chair Wilson and Andy Haub attended the Council's General Government Committee meeting on March 22nd. The meeting was the annual check in with all the advisory committee chairs.

Committee member Austin Hildreth attended a meeting on March 14th for the City's "Missing Middle" Housing work group. Austin volunteered to be the UAC representative on the work group that will provide recommendations to Council.

Andy announced that Luke Bowerman was appointed as a new member of the UAC effective April 1st. Luke was not able to attend tonight's meeting, but will be at the May 4th meeting.

The UAC sent a letter at the end of March to the City Council regarding wastewater utility funding for downtown toilets.

A motion was made to elect Dever Haffner-Ratcliffe as Vice Chair of the UAC. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

6. BUSINESS ITEMS

[17-0354](#) Storm and Surface Water Financial Incentives

Water Resources Director and UAC Staff Liaison Andy Haub presented information on incentivizing Storm and Surface Water Utility rates to better encourage contemporary best management practices and innovation. The incentives could foster commercial developments and residential homes to exceed current development regulations in exchange for a reduction in monthly utility charges.

The City's financial consultant is conducting a complete financial review of the Storm and Surface Water Utility. The consultant is also reviewing the incentives as a part of the 2018 utility rate review. Andy requested UAC's thoughts and ideas which can then be incorporated into the UAC's rate recommendation in September.

Andy explained the current rate structure for the utility. Single family residential stormwater rates are a flat rate and also calculated on an assumed amount of impervious surface. Commercial and multi-family is a three tiered system and based on age of development.

Examples of environmentally-friendly stormwater practices include:

- Pervious concrete
- Green roofs

- Infrastructure that treats stormwater onsite, such as rain gardens.

Andy noted that other communities have stormwater incentives rates, such as Portland. He noted that it's very difficult for them to administer.

The UAC asked some clarifying questions. It was noted that the cost of installing a green roof (for example) is a substantial cost compared to the relatively "small" credit the City can provide to a customer. The UAC thanked staff for the briefing.

The information was received. The item is a briefing only.

[17-0355](#) Sea Level Rise Planning - Update

Andy provided an update on the planning efforts for sea level rise response project. City staff will attend the April 11th City Council meeting to request approval of the Interlocal Agreement for sea level rise efforts between the City, Port of Olympia and LOTT Clean Water Alliance. The three agencies will hire the consulting firm AECOM Technical Services to assist with the project.

Andy showed a flowchart on Olympia's response planning. UAC members suggested moving the governance item to the beginning of the chart. He made note of this change and also commented that governance occurs throughout the process. All documents presented during the meeting will be posted to the sea level rise business item (file number 17-0355).

Staff will keep UAC members briefed on this topic throughout the year. Staff will also keep UAC and the public informed of any community outreach meetings or opportunities for public input. A list serve will be created for citizens to sign up for notifications. The UAC thanked staff for the update.

The information was received. The item is a briefing only.

9. ADJOURN

Chair Wilson adjourned the meeting at 7:49 p.m.