



Meeting Minutes

Utility Advisory Committee

City Hall
601 4th Avenue E
Olympia, WA 98501

Contact: Eric Christensen
360.570.3741

Thursday, September 5, 2019

5:40 PM

City Hall, Room 207

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Buffo called the meeting to order.

1.A ROLL CALL

Present: 6 - Committee member Dennis Bloom, Committee member Arland Schneider, Committee member Cullen Stephenson, Committee member Eleanor (Pat) Vernon, Committee member Dever Haffner-Ratliffe and Chair Mike Buffo

Absent: 3 - Committee member Steve Fossum, Committee member Roger Wilson and Vice Chair Luke Bowerman

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

[19-0774](#) Approval of August 22, 2019 UAC Meeting Minutes

The minutes were approved.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT - None

5. UAC AND STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Christensen provided the following updates:

- At the October UAC meeting, staff will brief the UAC on:
 - Draft Wastewater Plan. The UAC received a copy of the draft plan during the meeting.
 - Next steps in the process to implement the Olympia Sea Level Rise Plan.
- Members were invited to attend a tour of the LOTT Budd Inlet Treatment Plant on September 26.
- The Finance Committee will meet October 16 to discuss 2020 utility rates, the Lifeline customer assistance program as well as hold a discussion with the UAC. Chair Buffo plans to attend the meeting on behalf of the UAC.

Mr. Franks provided the following updates:

- Staff can arrange for UAC members to tour a recycling facility in Tacoma. Mr. Franks will coordinate with the plant manager and will keep the UAC informed of the date.
- Mr. Franks will brief the City Council at a study session on September 17 in regards to the current state of the U.S. recycling markets and how it affects Olympia's recycling collections. Staff will send the UAC an email with a link to the study session materials.

6. BUSINESS ITEMS

[19-0773](#) 2020 Preliminary Utility Rates and Operating Budgets

Mr. Christensen and Mr. Franks provided the briefing. Staff noted financial numbers that were updated from the last UAC meeting on August 22. Members and staff discussed 2020 utility rates, budget and general facility charges. Staff will brief the Committee on the Capital Facilities Plan at the October 3 meeting.

The Committee is leaning towards supporting Waste ReSources' option two (2.3% residential increase) for the 2020 rates, that was presented in the powerpoint. Chair Buffo noted the UAC would like to discuss option two further at the October meeting. They support the GFC increase for Storm and Surface Water. The only other decision the Committee needs to make in October is in regards to capital depreciation funding for drinking water.

The UAC will discuss and conclude the budget and rates business item at the October 3 meeting. The Committee will draft a recommendation letter to the City Council.

The information was provided.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Buffo adjourned the meeting.