

City of Lodi Public Works & Utilities Committee Meeting
Minutes of June 4, 2019

1. Call to Order

Chair Stevenson called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM.

Committee Members Present: Rich Stevenson, Eric Hansen, Ann Groves Lloyd

Staff Present: Julie Ostrander, Kennan Buhr and Sandy Bloechl

Others: Jim Ness, Suzanne Miller, Jessica Woodburn, Tonya M Maier, Kathy Gordon, Thadius Gajek, Mike Goethel, and Mike Miller

2. Public Input.

Kathy Gordon voiced her concerns on the PSC issue. Jessica Woodburn also voiced her concerns. Tonya Maier wanted to know if the increase is for the water bill or water & sewer.

3. Minutes of May 7, 2019 PW Meeting

MOTION (Groves Lloyd/Hansen) to approve the minutes of the May 7, 2019 meeting. Motion carried.

4. Discussion on Wayfinding Signage 2019

Buhr and Ostrander drove around the city to determine the best places to put signs. Discussion followed. Groves Lloyd suggested that all committee members take the handout and drive around town to see if the map for signs is accurate. Stevenson asked Buhr to have an idea of where the signs will be installed by the 4 corner intersection downtown.

5. Discussion on Emerald Ash Borer Tree Removal (Plan/Notification)

Ostrander and Buhr explained that the city has contacted the DNR to see about the situation with our Ash trees. It is suggested that if someone cannot afford to remove a dead tree from their yard that the city PW department remove the trees and then the cost would be put on the residents' tax bill. It was suggested that it be treated as a special assessment.

6. Discussion and Recommendation to Amend Chapter 307-3 Trees on Public Property

MOTION (Groves Lloyd/Hansen) to Amend that all Ordinances regarding trees be in line and that city staff update ordinances of removal of trees be treated as special assessments and send to council. Motion carried.

7. Update: City Projects

Buhr spoke about all the summer projects that are scheduled and their start dates. Buhr also mentioned that the State raised the level of phosphorus that is allowed.

8. Update: Staffing (Equipment Operator)

Buhr announced that the new person will be starting June 17th. Ryan Schmitz is the PW employee and 2 assistants will work in the Parks.

9. Financial Reports

Ostrander went over the financials with the committee. It was suggested that we send information out to residents to try and lessen the use of plastic.

a. Update: PSC Rate Case

Ostrander explained that we still have not heard from the PSC regarding our results for the rate case and once we have the information we will schedule an informational meeting.

b. Information: 2019 Retail Rates (WPPI Benchmark Report)

Ostrander wanted to make sure that this information was given to the committee from WPPI. It was discussed that water rate cases may be done every 3 years instead of waiting so long in between and then have to have a large increase.

10. Next Meeting Date and Agenda Items

The next regular meeting is July 2nd at 5:00 p.m. at City Hall.

11. Adjourn

MOTION (Groves Lloyd/Hansen) to adjourn at 6:20 p.m. Motion carried.

Minutes by Sandy Bloechl, Accounting Manager/Treasurer

APPROVED