



MINUTES

January 28, 2020

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION MEETING

6:00 p.m.

Council Chambers
311 Vernon Street
Roseville, California

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Speight called the January 28, 2020 Public Utilities Commission meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Cannon, Granger, Sedwick, Speight, Vertido, Webb

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Vertido

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments received

5. MINUTES

5.1. Approval of October 22, 2019 Minutes

Motion by John Vertido, seconded by Debra Sedwick, Approve Motion. The Motion Passed.

Roll call vote: Ayes: Cannon, Granger, Sedwick, Speight, Vertido, Webb

5.2. Approval of November 26, 2019 Minutes

Motion by John Vertido, seconded by Debra Sedwick, Approve Motion. The Motion Passed.

Roll call vote: Ayes: Cannon, Granger, Sedwick, Speight, Vertido, Webb

6. REQUESTS/PRESENTATIONS

6.1. Roseville Electric Utility Monthly Update

Report by Electric Utility Director, Michelle Bertolino, summarizing the monthly status of Electric Utility issues, for information.

Director Bertolino explained that the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is requiring cities to accommodate communications providers to attach small cell equipment to street lights.

She also announced that the city will be hosting two Community Open Houses simultaneously on March 12, from 5-7p.m., with one taking place at Mahany Park, and one at Maidu Park.

Director Bertolino reported that the City recently purchased the vacant building at 116 S. Grant Street, which is located directly across the street from the Civic Center. She explained that the City has been interested in purchasing the building for the past five years, and was able to negotiate the purchase price of \$10.5 million dollars, using funds that were available in cash reserves that are intended for one-time expenses. The City will work with a broker to lease out the portion of the facility that the utility doesn't need.

Commissioner Sedwick commented that she agrees that the one-stop shop for the Electric Utility will be very positive for the residents. Commissioner Cannon also agreed that the purchase seems like a win-win for the city and the Utility, especially with the potential of the revenue due to the lease of some of the space, and the option to free up other spaces that have been long over-due.

Chair Speight requested clarification of how many vendors would have their small cell equipment attached to the street lights. Director Bertolino stated that it will be one vendor's equipment per street light. Commissioner Webb asked if the vendors will be required to pay a fee to attach their equipment to the City poles. Director Bertolino confirmed that vendors will be required to pay the fee that the Federal Government has determined cities can charge.

6.2. Roseville Electric Utility Electric Vehicle Programs Update

Presentation by Electric Customer Programs Supervisor, David Bradford, providing an update on the Electric Utility's Electric Vehicle programs, for information.

Commissioner Sedwick asked if there is a time-limit for the customers to charge their vehicles at the charging stations, and she asked if the City is looking into adding additional free-charging stations around the City. David Bradford explained that at the current time, the City will be adding the free-charging stations only in City parking garages, and at the time, there will not be imposed

time-limits. The activity and needs will be monitored and revised as necessary.

Commissioner Webb asked if there are incentives available for anyone who is considering purchasing a used electric vehicle (ev). David Bradford explained that the Electric Utility is in the process of developing a used ev incentive program, however, at the current time there is not a large inventory of used ev's, but the Electric Utility is looking into this in an effort to make ev's affordable to people of all income-levels, by providing incentives to bring down the price-point.

Commissioner Vertido asked what the life expectancy is for ev's, and he expressed concern for the disposal of the batteries. He also expressed a concern about the distance that ev's can be driven, before needing to be recharged. David Bradford explained that due the newness of ev's, it is being estimated that the batteries will last between 10 to 15 years, and confirmed that the auto industry is currently working on the issue of the disposal of expired batteries. He went on to say that the Dealership Education Program will help people understand the behavior and lifestyle changes that come with owning an ev. Director Bertolino added that at the recent Capitol Day event in Sacramento, disposal of ev batteries was a topic of discussion with the Legislators. Commissioner Cannon agreed that ev battery disposal is an issue that effects everyone. He asked if Roseville Electric would be contracting with one vendor for the charging stations. David Bradford explained that Roseville Electric owns a few Charge-Point charging stations, and these were purchased for the purpose of research. Michelle Bertolino added that it is not cost-effective for the Utility to own and operate the charging stations, so the Utility is incentivizing the private sector to do so.

Commissioner Granger asked whether the LCFS credits offered by the California Air Resources Board will be based on the ev's that are registered with DMV. David Bradford confirmed the City will receive LCSF credits for the number of cars located within the service areas.

Commissioner Vertido asked to clarify the concept of the all-electric home and how it is anticipated to have affordable energy. Director Bertolino confirmed that the State is moving towards carbon-free energy, which means eliminating natural gas, and this goal is the State's motivation for promoting all-electric homes.

Commissioner Webb asked how soon it could be expected that time-based power rates would be in effect. Director Bertolino explained that the new meters should be installed within the next two years and time-based rates would go into effect at that time.

6.3. Environmental Utilities Monthly Update

Report by Environmental Utilities Assistant Director, Dale Olson, summarizing the monthly status of Environmental Utilities activities, for information.

Assistant Director Olson reported that Environmental Utilities staff attended the California Municipal Utilities Association (CMUA) Capitol Day in Sacramento to

do some advocacy by sharing concerns with Legislators. He added that as well as Electric and Environmental Utilities staff, four Councilmembers also attended Capitol Day. He added that Sean Bigley, Assistant Director of the Water Utility, and staff, will be traveling to Washington D.C. at the end of February for the APPA Legislative Rally with plans to advocate for the advancement of the ground water infrastructure. He also noted that the Mayor's trip to D.C, would be in March, and the Sacramento Metro Chamber Capitol-to-Capitol (Cap-to-Cap) program will take place also in Washington, D.C., in April.

Assistant Director Olson also stated that City Council recently approved a new water contract with the Bureau of Reclamation and that there will be a formal signing ceremony with the Bureau in late February, or early March. He commended everyone in Environmental Utilities who worked on the contract.

Assistant Director Olson also reported that the City acquired water from a SMUD Water Transfer Contract, for a three-year term, and roughly 163 million gallons of water have been injected into two ASR wells since December, 2019. A third well will also be receiving injections of water soon, once repairs to it are completed.

Assistant Director Olson added that there has been some confusion in the general public with California Assembly Bill (AB) 1668 State mandated water conservation and water usage per household. Once the mandate is in effect, the 55 gallons per household, per capita, is not enforceable on each household, but rather the water agencies will be responsible for ensuring the volume used collectively, remains at, or below, the 55 gallons per household level.

Commissioner Webb asked which wells would be getting injected. Assistant Director Olson confirmed that the Blue Oaks and Hayden Parkway wells are currently being injected, and Well 6, on Woodcreek will soon receive injections, once repairs to the well are completed.

Commissioner Sedwick asked if each household has 55 gallons allotted per day for internal use only. She asked that residents be assured that there is enough water for each household to take showers and do laundry at the same time. Assistant Director Olson confirmed the 55 gallons of water per household is for internal use only, and that irrigation water will be allotted separately. He also confirmed that residents can continue to take showers and do laundry at the same time.

Commissioner Sedwick also asked whether there has been an increase in requests for battery pickups at residences, since Environmental Utilities sent out information regarding battery disposal and residence curbside pick ups. She reiterated that batteries should not be thrown in the trash, and she suggested that the Utility provide battery disposal information at the Open House events on March 12, 2020. Assistant Director Olson stated that there are dangers associated with disposal of some batteries, such as Lithium-ion batteries, which is why some public collection sites have been eliminated. He confirmed that the Utility will pick up batteries from residences, and that batteries should have tape on the ends when put out for recycling. Environmental Utilities Public Information Officer, Maurice Chaney confirmed that there has been an uptake in calls for

residence battery pickups. Commissioner Cannon concurred with Commissioner Sedwick's comments regarding public education for the proper disposal of batteries, and the dangers of improper battery disposal. He also stated the importance of proactive water conservation, even in the winter months. Assistant Director Olson added that there are weather-based irrigation controllers that can be added to existing irrigation controllers, and will override an irrigation system by turning it off when it is raining.

Commissioner Vertido asked how prepared the City will be in 10 to 15 years when electric vehicle batteries start to expire and need to be disposed of. Assistant Director Olson stated that he expects the processes to be driven by the Legislators, and the auto industry, for a procedure that will have to be adopted industry-wide. Commissioner Granger stated that he would expect the process to be similar to the one already in place for the current auto batteries to be recycled and disposed of.

6.4. Environmental Utilities Customer Satisfaction Survey Results

Presentation by Environmental Utilities Public Information Officer, Maurice Chaney, and RKS Research, providing the results of the Environmental Utilities Customer Satisfaction Survey, for information.

Commissioner Webb stated that she subscribed on the Environmental Utilities web-page to receive an alert for the Green Waste/Solid Waste pick-ups each week, and she encouraged residents to use the alert, as it is very convenient and user-friendly.

Commissioner Cannon commented that the consistently positive responses to the Environmental Utilities Customer Satisfaction Survey are due to the hard-working employees and their commitment to high-level of customer service. He thanked everyone working at the Environmental Utility, and the Electric Utility, that continue to work for the satisfaction of the residents of the City of Roseville. Ann Davis, RKS Research, confirmed the survey underscored the efforts made by everyone who work at Roseville Environmental Utilities.

6.5. Environmental Utilities Capital Projects Overview

Presentation by Principal Engineer, George Hanson, providing an overview of the Environmental Utilities Department's capital projects, for information.

Senior Engineer Janice Gainey and Senior Engineer Tracie Mueller gave project status summaries on Water and Waste Water Capital Improvement Projects (CIP).

Commissioner Webb asked what slip-lining means. Ms Gainey explained that slip-lining is taking the larger existing ductal iron pipes and lining them with smaller PVC pipes.

Commissioner Cannon asked if all of the Aquifer Recovery sites are located in

West Roseville. Senior Engineer Janice Gainey explained that they are not all located in West Roseville, due to the extensive research and studies with a matrix of 25-30 different characteristics to consider, in order to select the top candidate sites. Assistant Director Olson stated that one of the goals was to place the new wells so that they can utilize gravity-flow to the West. If all of the wells are located in the West, the water will need to be pumped up-hill, which would not be cost-productive, so the wells are spread out across the City. He assured the Commission that all efforts were used to find the most acceptable sites within the pressure zones, which would best benefit to the City.

Commissioner Cannon expressed how impressed he is with all of the proactive work the Environmental Utilities is doing. Commissioner Sedwick asked about the odor-control on the PGWWTP Project, and whether it will help with odors at the existing plant, and she asked if using the gas produced by the digesters in the Expansion Project will save the City on fuel costs. Senior Engineer Tracie Mueller explained that one of the benefits of the Expansion Project is that it will help to reduce odors. Assistant Director Olson added that the majority of the odors occur when the bio-mass is being off-loaded for transport to the landfill for farming, and he further explained the digesters will digest most of the odors, and the off-gassing will be the methane gas they use for electrical regeneration, but the material that comes out is inert at that time, so there will be very little odor.

Commissioner Sedwick also asked if using the gas produced by the digesters in the Energy Recovery Project will save the City on fuel costs. Assistant Director Olson stated that the use of the gas produced by the digesters will save the City money, however, from an environmental and green energy standpoint, the larger benefit is eliminating sending all of this gas into the atmosphere, so the Utility will actually be making a productive use of it by providing fuel for the solid-waste fleet and as renewable power for the plant. Ms. Mueller also stated that the Utility anticipates receiving over \$7 million dollars in loan-forgiveness and grants for the Energy Recovery Project. Principal Engineer, George Hanson commented that the energy created by the microturbines at the Energy Recovery Project will offset approximately 20% of the plant's energy with the build-out.

Commissioner Sedwick asked to confirm that 3.5 miles would be completed in about a year. Ms. Mueller confirmed the Utility will add 3.5 miles in a year. Commissioner Webb asked where the 3.5 miles of piping are located. Ms. Mueller explained that they are located all over the City, based on the priority of the degradation of the existing pipes as seen in the inspections. Priority 1 and 2 are being addressed now, and the Priority 3 will be addressed. Commissioner Vertido complimented the Environmental Utilities staff for proactively working to improve the Waste Water facilities.

Assistant Director Olson announced that there will be a Groundbreaking Ceremony for the Pleasant Grove Waste Water Treatment Plant on March 25, 2020.

7. BOARD MEMBER / COMMISSIONER / STAFF REPORT

There were no comments made by the Commissioners

8. ADJOURNMENT

The Public Utilities Commission Meeting was adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

Motion by Samuel Cannon, seconded by Blandon Granger, Approve Motion.
The Motion Passed.

Roll call vote: Ayes: Cannon, Granger, Sedwick, Speight, Vertido, Webb