



Meeting Minutes

City Council

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Wednesday, August 24, 2022

10:00 AM

Council Chambers

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**FY 2022-2023 BUDGET WORKSHOP - Water and Wastewater Utilities**

**A. Mayor Paulette Guajardo to call the meeting to order.**

Mayor Guajardo called the meeting to order at 10:08 a.m.

**B. City Secretary Rebecca L. Huerta to call the roll of the required Charter Officers.**

Assistant City Secretary Ruth Bocchino called the roll and verified that a quorum of the City Council and the required Charter Officers were present to conduct the meeting.

Charter Officers: City Manager Peter Zanoni, City Attorney Miles K. Risley and Assistant City Secretary Ruth Bocchino

Note: Council Member Pusley attended by video conference.

**Present:** 9 - Mayor Paulette Guajardo, Council Member Roland Barrera, Council Member Gil Hernandez, Council Member Michael Hunter, Council Member Billy A. Lerma, Council Member John Martinez, Council Member Ben Molina, Council Member Mike Pusley, and Council Member Greg Smith

**C. BRIEFINGS:**

1. [22--0147](#) City Council Workshop on Water and Wastewater Utilities for FY 2023 Proposed Budget.

Chief Operating Officer Michael Murphy presented information on the following topics: mission statement; about Corpus Christi Water; organization; FY 2022 achievements; performance measures; FY 2023 Corpus Christi Water proposed budget: \$223.6M; FY 2023 proposed budget water fund: \$144.8M; FY 2023 proposed budget wastewater fund: \$78.8M; desalination; consent decree; water-FY 2023 enhancements; wastewater-FY 2023 enhancements; FY 2023 water CIP: \$157.2M; new water CIP projects; O.N. Stevens Water Treatment Plant; FY 2023 wastewater CIP: \$121.4M; new wastewater CIP projects; wastewater treatment plants; and 2023 public agency water rate adjustments.

Council Members, City Manager Peter Zanoni, Chief Operating Officer Murphy, Water Resource Manager Esteban Ramos, Assistant Director of Support Services Reba George, Assistant Director of Maintenance Lines Wesley Nebgen, Engineer Nick Winkelmann, and Assistant Director of Waste Water Daniel Deng discussed the

following topics: City Council will decide on the procurement method for desalination; staff is recommending two positions for conservation outreach and marketing; the importance of providing to Council an improvement and implementation plan on conservation; the reason for more positions for wastewater is for more response to our systems; the City's goal is to create six separate pods of employees that maintain their wastewater treatment plant and surrounding lift station; the next water rate increase will begin in FY 24/25; a Council Member's concern about security issues at the O.N. Stevens Water Treatment Plant; in response to a Council Member's question regarding debt service expenditures, staff stated that the \$33.8M is debt service on bonds that are already sold; the \$3.19 water rate increase would include debt service for FY 23/24; the water department will probably surpass the overtime budget this year due to the drought; the water department is increasing staff for more preventative maintenance to be done; the City increases its water rates once every two years; the financial advisors are confident with the proposed budget; what is the rate impact over the next three years; a Council Member's request for a three year rate model plan; the O.N. Stevens plant is designed for 180 to 200 Million Gallons per day (MGD); a Council Member's concern that production is up, but revenue is down; and a Council Member's request for a better explanation about how much a ratepayer will pay for a gallon of water over the next three years.

**D. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Mayor Guajardo adjourned this meeting at 12:28 p.m.