

# **Meeting Minutes**

# **City Council Workshop Session**

Thursday, August 12, 2021 9:00 AM	City Council Chambers
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FY 2022 Budget Workshop for Streets, Stormwater (including Proposed Stormwater Fee), Water and Wastewater Utilities, Capital Budget and Gas Department

Public Notice - - ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA ARE FOR COUNCIL'S INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY. NO ACTION WILL BE TAKEN AND NO PUBLIC COMMENT WILL BE SOLICITED.

### A. Mayor Paulette M. Guajardo to call the meeting to order.

Mayor Guajardo called the meeting to order at 9:13 a.m.

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

City Secretary Rebecca L. Huerta 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 Risley and City Secretary Rebecca L. Huerta.

Note: Council Member Hunter participated by video conference.

- Present
   8 Mayor Paulette M. Guajardo, Council Member Roland Barrera, Council Member Gil

   Hernandez, Council Member Michael Hunter, Council Member John Martinez, Council

   Member Ben Molina, Council Member Mike Pusley, and Council Member Greg Smith
- Absent 1 Council Member Billy A. Lerma

### C. BRIEFINGS TO CITY COUNCIL:

1. <u>21-1002</u> FY 2022 Budget Workshop for Streets, Stormwater (including Proposed Stormwater Fee), Water and Wastewater Utilities, Capital Budget and Gas Department

Mayor Guajardo referred to Item 1.

Director of Public Works and Street Operations Richard Martinez presented information on the following Public Works topics: mission statement, organization chart, and information about Public works Department; FY2021 achievements; street maintenance three year historical funding levels; FY2022 proposed revenue budget for street maintenance and reconstruction; 11 proposed enhancements: 1. pavement rehabilitation crew, 2. vision zero program enhancement, 3. LED internally illuminated street name signs, 4. safe routes to schools program, 5. special event traffic control, 6. pavement evaluation contracts, 7. CDL pilot training program, 8. safety grant match, 9. traffic signal battery backup system installation program, 10. fiber optic communication to traffic management center and 11. improvement along Northwest Blvd.

Council Members, Director Martinez and City Manager Peter Zanoni discussed the following topics: 18 miles of residential streets will be reconstructed with the \$18 million that is budgeted; 40 percent of residential streets need to be reconstructed; if the obligation towards reconstruction to arterial and collectors could be reduced residential street fund could be increased; how fees are determined for the Industrial district; former Council Member David Lobe gave a brief overview of what the previous council negotiated with the Industrial Districts; working with AEP in adding new street lights; whether to finance the new street lights with AEP or owning the lights in-house; sidewalks needing to be a part of the planning and design for new schools and neighborhoods; incorporating more hike and bike trails; include a commitment requirement to the city for the Commercial Driver License (CDL) program; and whether traffic lights can be sequenced.

Director of Public Works and Street Operations Richard Martinez presented information on the following Storm Water Operations topics: mission statement, organization chart, and information about Storm Water; FY2021 Achievements; FY 2022 proposed budget; 6 proposed enhancements: channel maintenance crew; in-house street sweeping transition; CDL pilot program; public education and outreach; storm water account reconciliation team; and storm water crew quarters modular complex.

Council Members, Director Martinez and City Manager Peter Zanoni discussed the following topics: acquiring two new street sweepers and arterials to be done in-house; and educating the public on the storm water program.

Director of Public Works and Street Operations Richard Martinez presented information on the following Storm Water Utility Fee Process topics: statewide storm water implementation; objectives of a standalone storm water fee; Current Fee Structure: current customer impact; existing rate fee structure; parcel without water meters; Proposed Rate Structure: parcel types, tiered residential options, storm water 5-year program, storm water improvements; Customer Impacts: impact of impervious areas examples (single family resident), utility assistance program, impact of impervious area examples (non-single family residential); Benchmarking and community input.

Council Members, Director Martinez and City Manager Peter Zanoni discussed the following topics: whether there is funding for private and public retention ponds; having maintenance requirements for private retention ponds; assisting property owners to calculate their new water rate; non-residential rate moved back to the equivalent residential unit (ERU); refineries are not in the city limits and will not pay a storm water fee; separate non-residential rate from industry rate; rates for multiple properties use a

master meter; how the available funds from previous years will be used and increasing the amount of residential streets that need to be repaired.

Chief Operating Officer of Water Utilities Michael Murphy presented information on the following Water and Wastewater Utilities: mission statement, about water and wastewater utilities, organization chart, FY2021 Achievements, Performance Measures, FY2022 Services, FY2022 water/wastewater proposed operating budget, FY2022 enhancements, FY2022 water CIP, Water Towers, other funds, wastewater treatment plants, consent decree, FY2022 proposed water/wastewater rates, and the Impact on Fy2022 utility bill.

Council Members, Chief Operating Officer Murphy, Director of Water Utilities Kevin Norton, Strategic Communication Manager Amber Oetting, Assistant Director of Support Services Reba George, Assistant Director of Maintenance of Lines Wesley Nebgen, Assistant Director of Water Quality & Treatment Gabriel Ramirez and Assistant Director of WasteWater Daniel Deng discussed the following topics: Mary Rhodes Pipelines being able to run at full capacity; whether any of the \$9.6 million will be included in the 2022 budget for the Mary Rhodes Pipeline; funding concerns regarding the permits for desalination; whether the Maximo System can automatically populate work orders for preventative maintenance; all lift stations that are scheduled to be rebuilt should be listed separately on the budget; when the debt service will be paid off; whether residential customers can add a separate water meter for irrigation and pools; and San Patricio Industries will pay a drought fee.

City Manager Peter Zanoni recommended postponing the CIP Engineering Services and Gas Department budget presentation until Tuesday, August 17, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. due to the time constraints.

#### D. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mayor Guajardo adjourned the meeting at 12:27 p.m.