

COUNCIL SPECIAL WORKSHOP

April 30, 2002
5:30 p.m.

MINUTES



"Where Dreams Can Soar"

The City of Bonney Lake's Mission is to protect the community's livable identity and scenic beauty through responsible growth planning and by providing accountable, accessible and efficient local government services.

Call to Order

Mayor Young called the meeting to order at 5:45 p.m. In attendance with Mayor Young were: Deputy Mayor Dan Swatman, Councilmember Stephen Bricker, Councilmember Phil DeLeo, Councilmember Neil Johnson, Councilmember Dave King, Councilmember Maureen Palecek and Councilmember James Rackley. Staff members attending were: Finance Director John Weidenfeller, Public Works Director Seth Boettcher, Assistant Public Works Director Gary Leaf, Interim Planning & Community Development Director Bob Leedy, City Attorney Jim Dionne, Deputy City Attorney Jeff Ganson, and City Clerk Gayle Butcher

Agenda Items

Sumner Wastewater Treatment Facility & Upgrade Agreement

Public Works Director Boettcher briefed Council on the advantages of entering into an agreement with the City of Sumner for sewer treatment and plant upgrade. His 17 discussion points are attached to the minutes. Council discussed several concerns related to flat fee or percentage fee regarding operation and maintenance costs, shared plant ownership, and to spell out the "payment in lieu of taxes" in Section 10. A few comments related to building a treatment plant on the plateau and other growth concerns were noted. Councilmember Bricker clarified Section 16, termination clause, which dealt with real property net proceeds in the event of a property sale.

Motion by Councilmember Rackley, second by Councilmember Bricker, to adopt Resolution No. 994, Intergovernmental Agreement for Improvements and Expansion of the Sumner Wastewater Treatment Facility.

Deputy Mayor Swatman noted concern that Council action was being requested at a workshop and that he believed there was a need for public opinion. Councilmember King responded that the issue had been before the Council numerous times and that he believed the issue needed to be moved forward.

Councilmember Bricker requested a roll call vote.

Motion Carried 5-2: Councilmember Rackley, yes; Councilmember Johnson, no; Councilmember Bricker, yes; Deputy Mayor Swatman, no; Councilmember Palecek, yes; Councilmember DeLeo, yes; and Councilmember King, yes.

Councilmember Bricker requested this evening's workshop have time limit. Council consensus reached the time limit would be 8:00 p.m.

Discussion of Fluoride Treatment to Water

Councilmember DeLeo began the discussion with his concern that the Public Health Physician's decision to fluoridate Pierce County water did not take into consideration impacts to Salmon. Councilmember King concurred that the proposed treatment amounts would harm the Salmon and that Pierce County did not address environmental impacts. Councilmember Bricker expressed his frustration in trying to get statistical data from the Health Department that was used to make a fluoride decision. He was gravely concerned that the Public Health Department mandate was made without statistical data.

Council discussed a response that disagrees with the decision to mandate fluoride in the water systems.

Mayor Young called for an executive session at 6:25 p.m. for approximately 25 minutes to discuss potential litigation. At 6:50 p.m. it was noted an additional 20 minutes were needed. Mayor Young reconvened the workshop at 7:27 p.m. The Council took no action.

Water Rate Discussion

Public Works Director Boettcher discussed rate tiering based upon use and consumption to restructure water rates. He presented how the tiering structure was developed and changed per Council's direction last year, noting the approved system development rate structure is one facet of the water rate package. Discussion centered on 1000 to 1500 cf base rate models and whether to adopt a rate model that provides for incremental increases each year for a set period of time (5 years) or whether water increases should be larger over a 2-year period. Also discussed was concern on how to plan for mandated fluoride treatment. Councilmember King noted his concern that water rates were being considered mid-way through the year versus the budget cycle. Debate continued on the rate structure, calculations for needed increases, the 20-year Capital Improvement Plan, and the concern that if the City of Milton could lower their rates, the City of Bonney Lake should look into such a possibility.

Finance Director John Weidenfeller noted the time and that under the Mayor's guidance, further visioning and planning would be brought back to Council.

Discussion exhibits (except Resolution No. 994) are attached to the minutes. Workshop adjourned at approximately 8:14 p.m.

Bob Young, Mayor

Gayle Butcher, City Clerk