



# UTILITY BOARD REGULAR MEETING MINUTES MARCH 11, 2014

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## **CALL TO ORDER:**

Chairman Ben Levie called the regular meeting of the Utility Board to order at 7:06 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 9611 SE 36th Street, Mercer Island, WA.

## **ROLL CALL:**

Chairman Ben Levie, Vice Chair, Kwan Wong, Steve Milton, Tim O'Connell, Glynda Steiner, Wendy Weiker and Council Liaison Debbie Bertlin. Susan Kaltenbach was absent.

Staff: Assistant City Engineer Anne Tonella-Howe and Recording Secretary Asea Sandine.

## **MINUTES:**

O'Connell moved to approve the minutes of October 15, 2013. Wong seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously to approve the minutes as written.

## **REGULAR BUSINESS:**

### **2014 Work Plan**

Tonella-Howe discussed the 2014 Work Plan with the Board. The Board inquired if the Work Plan would include a status update regarding the Meter Replacement Program. Tonella-Howe shared that Smith found a meter supplier and hopes to get started on changing out meters that are 40+ years old this year (approximately 250 meters). The Board further inquired if the meters pulled out will be tested. Tonella-Howe advised that even if the meters are tested and show that there is minimal water loss a replacement program for old and aging meters would still be recommended due to the anticipated failure rate of this older infrastructure.

O'Connell requested requirement or guideline information regarding the Water System Plan Update prior to the May meeting.

Wong requested a recap of the projects the Sustainability Coordinator has implemented or worked on in support of Utilities. Wong would like to review this prior to the rate discussions at the September meeting.

O'Connell shared an article regarding Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) planned massive infrastructure projects. O'Connell shared concern that the cost could impact rates of Mercer Island residents. Steiner and Howe advised that the projects described in this article (CSO and Solid Waste Improvements) should not impact Mercer Island because they are not tied to water treatment or water distribution to the Island. As a wholesale customer if any questionable items were to arise then staff would request discussion. O'Connell requested to review a copy of the SPU contact and a sample bill.

Weiker inquired why the discussion regarding commercial and multi-family recycling is to be scheduled. The Board shared it was added as a sustainability project and also it is an equity issue for the population not being served.

**Project Updates**

Tonella-Howe advised the following water projects will be underway this year: 1) Meter Replacement Project; 2) Water main replacement project at 88<sup>th</sup> and 86<sup>th</sup> SE at SE 48<sup>th</sup> and 3) 83<sup>rd</sup> Ave SE at SE 40<sup>th</sup>. For Sewer the following projects are planned: 1) Pump Station 14 Modernization; 2) Sewer Comprehensive Plan Update and 3) The Sewer Code has been approved by Council. Lastly, for Storm water the following projects are planned to control erosion and sediment: 1) Basin 27; 2) Basin 6 - Phase 2 and 3) Basin 52.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Levie advised that there will be two vacant Board positions in May and anyone interested should contact the City Clerks Office. Steiner advised she will be concluding her term.

The Board reached consensus to cancel the April 8, 2014 meeting due to spring break vacation schedules.

**NEXT MEETING:** The next scheduled meeting is May 13, 2014.

**ADJOURNMENT:** 8:01 p.m.

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Asea Sandine  
Recording Secretary