



CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS
City Hall Room 280-A
455 N. Rexford Drive
Beverly Hills, CA 90210

MINUTES
PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
April 9, 2015
8:00 A.M.

The meeting was called to order at 8:06 a.m.

A. ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Felsenthal, Wolfe, Aronberg, Shalowitz and Pressman.
Commissioners Absent: None.

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Cartagena.

C. COMMISSION MINUTES

Consideration of the Minutes of the Public Works Commission Regular Meeting of March 12, 2015. MOTION by Commissioner Aronberg, SECONDED by Commissioner Pressman to approve. Absent objection by the Commission, the Minutes are approved by order of the Chair.
CARRIED 5/0

D. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE

None.

E. REPORT FROM THE CHAIRPERSON

Mayor's Cabinet Meeting Chair Shalowitz attended the meeting of March 18, 2015; minutes are available online.

Other Items of Interest

None.

F. NEW BUSINESS

1. Recreation & Parks Commission Water Conservation Update

Mr. Pfalzgraf and Recreation & Parks ('R&P') Commissioners Chair Friedman and Commissioner Rosoff provided an update on conservation efforts. Mr. Pfalzgraf discussed the following: R&P functions and possible changes after upcoming City Council decisions; Drip tubing, spray heads, pop-up heads; Size of City's service area; The City's computerized weather-controlled irrigation system and possible upgrading by year's end; Climatec's system; California native plants; Future projects; and Maintenance work. The City uses a larger percentage of pop-up over drip sprinklers; grass removal is required to complete a change out. Regarding fountains, water is recirculated and replenished as it evaporates. Regarding landscaping permitting and coordination, R&P's scope is the public area; private property is under the purview of Planning (Building & Safety). Sprinklers watering concrete and over-watering can be addressed via increased staffing. Regarding reducing use, the target is 25-35%; City Council's directive will be followed. The R&P Commission requests information sharing on water conservation and would like PWS staff and/or Commissioners present at their meetings.

2. Zero Waste Strategic Plan

TABLED

3. Proposition 1 Funding TABLED

4. Parking Operations, Enforcement and Permit Administration Quarterly Report TABLED

G. CONTINUED BUSINESS

1. Water Enterprise Plan Presentation Review

Ms. Rhay provided an update and PowerPoint presentation. The following were discussed: State Requirements; Comment Letter to the State Water Board; WEP Background; Changing Water Conditions; Plan Intent; Commission Evaluation Process; Conservation Program Costs/Goals/Timeline; Development Process; Commission Recommendation; Cost Assumptions; and Next Steps. Commissioner Felsenthal suggested implementing in-lieu water rights. Regarding prioritization of alternatives, Chair Shalowitz stated order of ranking should be removed. Regarding pipeline construction Ms. Rhay stated there are several steps (Environmental impact; Public comment; Mitigation plans; and Planning) and the hope is to shorten the timeline.

Commissioner Felsenthal suggested the inclusion of the words "up to" in regards to the \$60 million bond funding in the WEP and a provision for a saleable water business in the future. Ms. Rhay stated the final recommendation of the Commission is to be worked out during Workshop #3.

2. Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) Program Overview

Ms. Tse introduced the Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) Program which allows cities to unite to secure electricity. Recently, City Council Members Mirisch and Brien expressed interest in the CCA. Several cities are part of this group. Staff is requesting a Commission recommendation that the City Council pass a resolution for the City to participate in the no cost feasibility study. Joe Galliani of CCA stated that AB117 gave authority to the program which includes lower rates than PG&E and offers local control of energy future and clean energy options.

MOTION by Commissioner Pressman, **Seconded** by Vice Chair Aronberg that the Commission recommend to City Council that the City participate in the Community Choice Aggregation Program.

Ayes: Aronberg, Felsenthal, Pressman, Shalowitz and Wolfe.

Noes: None

Abstentions: None

Absent: None

CARRIED 5/0

3. Wastewater Capacity Fees TABLED

4. Water Tracker Update TABLED

5. Water "Will Serve" Letters TABLED

6. Reports from Sub-Committees TABLED

7. Outstanding Action Items List from Previous Meeting TABLED

8. Capital Improvement Program Projects Under Public Works Management TABLED

9. Discussion of Future Agenda Items and Areas of Priority TABLED

H. COMMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS

None.

I. COMMENTS FROM STAFF

1. Parking Project Update TABLED

2. Water Conservation Update

Ms. Tse provided an update. The following were discussed: Background; Current City Measures; Existing Restrictions; New State Measures and Requirements; Staff Recommendation and Next Steps. Staff suggests implementing modified 'Stage D.' There will be an update following the April 21, 2015, City Council Meeting.

Ms. Rhay is in the process of drafting a comment letter to the State Water Board covering issues unique to the City (high daytime population, hotels, business use, green space, etc.). Commissioner Felsenthal stated the permit process for new structures should require low-flow features; non-use of pools until the drought is over; limitations on grass areas; and that will serve letters be analyzed prior to granting. Mr. Chavez stated the liaison list recently came out and action can now move forward. Regarding penalties, Mr. Marquis stated the billing system has the capacity to set ranges and place penalty rates on those ranges.

MOTION by Commissioner Wolf, **Seconded** by Commissioner Pressman that the Commission recommend that City Council institute Stage D Water Restrictions including penalties per the Beverly Hills Municipal Code.

Ayes: Aronberg, Pressman and Wolfe.
Noes: Felsenthal and Shalowitz.
Abstentions: None
Absent: None

CARRIED 3/2

MOTION by Vice Chair Shalowitz, **Seconded** by Vice Chair Aronberg to recommend to City Council that penalties be waived for the first billing cycle of the previously passed Motion to institute Stage D Water Restrictions.

Ayes: Aronberg, Shalowitz and Wolfe.
Noes: None
Abstentions: Felsenthal and Pressman.
Absent: None

CARRIED 3/2

3. Monthly Report - Water Conservation Program (Education & Inspections)

Mr. Descalzo provided an update on lawn and sidewalk watering restrictions. There has been a decrease in watering violations. 39 violations were given in March, with few repeat offenders.

4. Earth Day Information

Earth Day will be held at the Beverly Hills Farmer's Market Sunday, April 19, 2015, from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.

J. COMMENTS FROM METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT (MWD) DIRECTOR

None.

K. ACTION ITEMS

- Commissioner Wolfe requested a liaison meeting to discuss conservation as soon as possible.

L. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair Shalowitz, with the consent of the Commission, adjourned the meeting at 11:53 a.m.

Passed and approved

This _____ day of _____, 2015

Chair Shalowitz