



UTILITY BOARD MINUTES REGULAR VIDEO MEETING APRIL 13, 2021

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Vice Chair Tom DeBoer called the meeting to order at 5:01 pm from a remote location.

Board Members Stephen Majewski, George Marshall, and Brian Thomas participated remotely using a video teleconferencing platform by Zoom.

Council Liaison Lisa Anderl joined the meeting at 5:27 PM.

Chair Tim O'Connell and Board Members Stephen Milton and William Pokorny requested excused absences.

Chief of Operations/Public Works Director Jason Kintner and several Public Works staff members participated remotely.

PUBLIC APPEARANCES

There were no public appearances.

REGULAR BUSINESS

Approve the minutes of the December 8, 2020, Special Video Meeting and February 9, 2021 Regular Video Meeting.

It was moved by Marshall; seconded by Majewski to:
Approve the minutes as presented.
Passed 4-0
FOR: 4 (DeBoer, Majewski, Marshall, and Thomas)

Sustainability Work Plan Update

Ross Freeman, Sustainability Analyst, provided a brief history of sustainability on Mercer Island that summarized the following:

- 2006 - Comp Plan language added regarding conservation/sustainability
- 2007 - Council Resolution 1389 (Reduce GHG's 80% by 2050)
- 2011 - City joins King County-Cities Climate Collaboration (K4C)
- 2012 - Sustainability Task Force convened
- 2013 - City launches first Sustainability position (0.5 FTE)
- 2019 - Additional Comp Plan language on Climate Action/GHG's
- 2021 - Budget: 100% sustainability position approved within Public Works

Freeman also reviewed the Sustainability Program Functions, which are integrated across all City operations and include:

- Efficiency
- Waste & Toxics
- Energy
- GHG Emissions
- Transportation
- CIP & Operations
- Outreach & Education

Freeman also outlined sustainability across the various utilities: Stormwater, Sewer, SPU Potable Water,

Recycling, Compost, Garbage, and PSE Electricity and Gas.

National Pollutant Discharge Elimination Systems (NPDES) Annual Report

Brian Hartvigson, Right of Way and Stormwater Manager, explained what the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System is and that the pollution comes from residential, commercial, and construction. Hartvigson also outlined the eight stormwater permit components:

- Stormwater Planning
- Public Education and Outreach
- Public Involvement and Participation
- MS4 Mapping and Documentation
- Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination
- Controlling Runoff from New Development, Redevelopment, and Construction Sites
- Municipal Operations and Maintenance
- Source Control Program for Existing Development

Hartvigson also explained that the permitting process requires an Annual Report and a Stormwater Management Program Plan Update. Future projects included:

- Watershed Inventory (2022) Stormwater Management Action Plan (2023)
- Behavior Change Campaign (2021-2024)
- Source Control Program City (2023)
- Update facility Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plans (2022)

Chris Kelley, Stormwater Lead, explained the operations and maintenance perspective which addressed the following:

- Repair & Replacement
- Vactor, Jet, and CCTV
- Vegetation Control
- Street Cleaning & Sweeping
- Storm Event Response
- Steep Slope Stabilization & Erosion Control
- Illicit Discharge Detection & Elimination

Fred Gu, Capital Project Manager, outlined related Capital Improvement Projects and explained why they are not the typical Public Works projects, noting following reasons:

- Watercourses are protected critical areas hence the use of natural materials (stream boulders and logs).
- Invasive removal and replanting native plants within project limits.
- Difficult access, long permitting time
- Fewer experienced contractors

Ruji Ding, Senior Development Engineer, explained the mitigating impacts from private development which addressed how the NPDES permit establishes requirements to mitigate stormwater from private development and how new impervious surfaces create stormwater runoff and require mitigation.

Staff also explained that the City website provides tip sheets, handouts, and requirements. The website also includes customizable maps for utilities, topography, aerial images, and more.

OTHER BUSINESS

Public Works Department Update

Public Works Director Kintner briefly outlined department and staffing updates as the city continues to through a rehiring phase. He also reported that the May 11 meeting would include a draft risk and resiliency plan.

Board Member Reports

There were no board member reports.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no additional business, the meeting adjourned at 6:36 pm.

Attest:

Tom DeBoer, Vice Chair

Deborah A. Estrada, City Clerk

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