



CITY OF MERCER ISLAND UTILITY BOARD VIDEO MEETING

Tuesday, September 13, 2022, at 5:00 PM

BOARD MEMBERS:

Tim O'Connell, Chair
Brian Thomas, Vice Chair
Stephen Majewski, George Marshall,
Stephen Milton, and William Pokorny

LOCATION & CONTACT

Mercer Island City Hall – Zoom Meeting
9611 SE 36th Street | Mercer Island, WA 98040
Phone: 206.275.7706 | www.mercerisland.gov

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, those requiring accommodation for meetings should notify the Staff Liaison at least 24 hours prior to the meeting at 206.275.7706.

The virtual meeting will be broadcast live on Zoom and recorded and saved on the City Council's [YouTube Channel](#)

Registering to Speak: Individuals wishing to speak live during Appearances will need to register their request with the City Clerk at **206.275.7793** or email the [City Clerk](#) and leave a message before 4 PM on the day of the Utility Board meeting. Please reference "Appearances" on your correspondence and state if you would like to speak either in person at Mercer Island Community & Event Center or remotely using Zoom. Each speaker will be allowed three (3) minutes to speak.

Join by Telephone at 5:00 PM: To listen to the meeting via telephone, please call **253.215.8782** and enter Webinar ID **894 3181 7889** and Password **555278** when prompted.

Join by Internet at 5:00 PM: To watch the meeting over the internet via your computer, follow these steps:

- 1) Click [this link](#)
- 2) If the Zoom app is not installed on your computer, you will be prompted to download it.
- 3) If prompted for Webinar ID, enter **894 3181 7889**; Enter Password **555278**

Join in person at Mercer Island Community & Event Center at 5:00 PM: Mercer Island Community & Event Center
8236 SE 24th Street.

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL, 5:00 PM

PUBLIC APPEARANCES

REGULAR BUSINESS

1. Approval of Minutes for the July 12, 2022, Regular Video Meeting
Recommended Action: Approve Minutes of July 12, 2022, Utility Board Meeting.
2. EMS Rate Discussion/ Recommendation
Recommended Action: Discuss and provide feedback.

OTHER BUSINESS

3. 2022 Workplan
4. Next Meeting October 11, 2022

ADJOURNMENT



UTILITY BOARD MINUTES REGULAR VIDEO MEETING July 12, 2022

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Chair Tim O'Connell called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm from a remote location.

Board Members Tim O'Connell, Stephen Milton, Stephen Majewski, George Marshall (joined at 5:15), Meredith Lehr, and Will Quantz participated remotely using a video teleconferencing platform by Zoom. Council Liaison Lisa Anderl was also present.

Board Members, William Pokorny was absent.

Jason Kintner, and other staff members participated remotely.

PUBLIC APPEARANCES

There were no public appearances.

REGULAR BUSINESS

Approval of Minutes for the following meetings:

June 14, 2022, Minutes

It was moved by Milton; seconded by Lehr to:
Approve the minutes as presented.
Passed 5-0

2022 Limited Water System Plan Update

Rona Lin, Utilities Engineer, and consultant team from HDR engineering gave a presentation and provided updates. The Board received the presentation and asked questions.

2023-2024 Utility CIP Preview

Clint Morris, Capital Division Manager gave a presentation and provided updates. The Board received the presentation and asked questions.

Utility Board Workplan

Board reviewed the workplan, the next meeting is September 13th (August Recess).

ADJOURNMENT

There being no additional business, the meeting adjourned at 6:20 pm.

Attest: _____
Tim O'Connell, Chair

Jen Matsuda, CIP Administrative Assistant



Memorandum

CITY OF MERCER ISLAND, FINANCE DEPARTMENT

9611 S.E. 36th St. • Mercer Island, WA 98040-3732
www.mercerisland.gov

Date: September 13, 2022
To: Utility Board
From: Ben Schumacher, Financial Analyst
Re: Utility Board Meeting – EMS Utility Rates

Emergency Medical Service (EMS) utility revenues are directly tied to the average budgeted salary and benefit costs, excluding overtime, of four firefighters hired in 1996. The four firefighter positions were added to the Department to provide capacity to handle simultaneous EMS calls during high call demand. This cost constitutes the annual revenue requirement to the General Fund.

The current EMS utility rate structure was significantly impacted by the Council's decision – during its 2011-2012 Budget deliberations – to institute a Basic Life Service (BLS) ambulance transport fee to help balance the budget. Per Washington State Law, this action unintentionally replaced the long-standing variable EMS rate structure (different rates for each customer class based on actual service calls) with the same flat rate (per equivalent service unit) for each customer class.

Customer account data (as measured by equivalent service units) has been updated for the proposed 2023 EMS rates. The City experienced growth in the Single Family and Commercial customer classifications.

Calculation of 2023 Revenue Requirement

The 2023 revenue requirement is based on the 2022 average, budgeted salary and benefit costs for four firefighters, which equals \$677,943 (excluding the Interim Fire Chief, Interim Deputy Fire Chief, and Fire Marshal). Compared to the 2022 revenue requirement (\$642,334), this represents an increase of 5.54 percent.

EMS Rate Proposal

The proposed 2023 EMS rates, which are needed to generate the \$677,943 revenue requirement in 2023, are compared to the 2022 rates in the table below.

Customer Class	Bi-Monthly Charge		\$ Change	% Change
	2022	2023		
Single Family Residential	\$9.95	\$10.49	\$0.54	5.43%
Multi-Family Residential	\$9.95	\$10.49	\$0.54	5.43%
Commercial	\$9.95	\$10.49	\$0.54	5.43%
Public Schools	\$9.95	\$10.49	\$0.54	5.43%
Public/Other	\$9.95	\$10.49	\$0.54	5.43%
Residential Board & Care:				
Covenant Shores	\$467.65	\$493.03	\$25.38	5.43%
Island House Retirement	\$179.10	\$188.82	\$9.72	5.43%
SJV Mercer Island LLC	\$497.50	\$524.50	\$27.00	5.43%
Aljoya House	\$308.45	\$325.19	\$16.74	5.43%
Aegis	\$726.35	\$765.77	\$39.42	5.43%
In-Home Care	\$59.70	\$62.94	\$3.24	5.43%
24 Hour Nursing:				
Covenant Shores (Skilled Nursing)	\$417.90	\$440.58	\$22.68	5.43%
Aegis (Memory Care)	\$159.20	\$167.84	\$8.64	5.43%

Staff recommends the 2023 bi-monthly EMS rates be increased 5.43 percent relative to the 2022 rates.

The 2023 EMS utility rate resolution is scheduled to go to the full Council on December 6, 2022.



Utility Board

2022 Work Plan

2nd Tuesday

Meeting Date	Agenda Item
January 11	Recess
February 8	Water Meter Replacement Contract Recommendation
	Utility ARPA Project Update
March 8	Recess
April 12	SCADA Sewer Project Update
	Water Meter Replacement Project Update (2024)
May 10	Recess
June 14	Board Elections
	Sustainability Utilities Work Plan Update
July 12	Utility Project Field Visit (daytime)
	2023-2024 Utility CIP Preview
	ALOP Water System Plan Update
August 9	Recess
September 13	Stormwater Budget & Rate Discussion/Recommendation
	EMS Rate Discussion/Recommendation
October 11	Sewer Budget & Rate Discussion/Recommendation
	Water Budget & Rate Discussion/Recommendation
November 8	Recess
December 13	2023 Work Plan Development
	Water System Plan Update
	2022 Solid Waste/Recology Annual Report
To Be Scheduled:	King County Interceptor Project Update
	Climate Action Plan Utilities Check In
	Draft Utility CIP (April/May meeting)

Updated 4.20.22