

22500 Salamo Road West Linn, Oregon 97068 http://westlinnoregon.gov

## UTILITY ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, April 8, 2014

6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Meeting – Bolton Conference Room

- 1. Call to Order and Introduction
  - Called to order by Alice at 6:05pm
  - In attendance: Ray Kindley, Alice Richmond, Michael Monical, Edward Keonjian, Jon Miller, George (Michael) Dunlap, Jim Whynot, Richard Seals, Council Tan, Guest: Bill Hill
- 2. Approval of Summary Notes from March 2014
  - Unanimously approved
- 3. Discussion Items:
  - a. Continued water rate discussion and possible recommendation
  - Richard introduced Bill Hill (Chair of budget committee) who played a role in advocating for the passing of funding for Police Station, he is gathering information and may help with advocating for the water rate increase. Richard shared that the Police Station was passed by only 300 votes. Bill shared information about his background, past superintendent of a school district, experience levying funds for public projects. Bill discussed the costs and politics involved in generating money for public outreach such as mailings, ads in newspaper, etc. Bill has analyzed precincts within the city and their voting behavior. Bill stated that the city needs to put forth a plan to be persuasive and legally and politically correct using resources that are available, both public and private. He noted that past polls have acknowledged the need of investing in water system, and it may be strategically wise to not have it run at the same time as the school district or other important bonds up for vote. The committee discussed additional expenditures impacting the water rates such as the increased rates to purchase water from South Fork, the cost of building new

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water reservoir, etc. The committee wants to avoid any misconception of overspending.

- Jim and Richard provided updated spreadsheets demonstrating the forecasted water expenditures based on the various rate increase scenarios including information about completed water capital projects through 04/01/2014. The committee discussed what current priorities are for water with regards to addressing maintenance. The committee continued to discuss favoring the 18% increase and need to be transparent about the fact that there is a possible 5% increase and the 18% increase will be on top of that. Committee members stated the need for continued discussion. Alice stated concerns about the current reservoir site and possible landslide and/or seismic activity, the report that Alice referenced is available on the city website.

## 4. Other Business

- 5. Adjournment
  - Meeting adjourned at 7:10, motioned by Ray Kindley and seconded by Alice

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