

City of Keizer
Water Rate Task Force
Minutes
Monday, July 22, 2002
Keizer City Hall – Council Chambers

1. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 5:40 p.m.

2. Roll Call:

The following members were present: Councilor Jerry McGee, Keizer Citizen Louise Kennel, Finance Director Susan Gahlsdorf, Public Works Superintendent Bill Lawyer, Public Works Director Rob Kissler, Keizer Citizen Jim Nightengale, City Manager Chris Eppley, Mayor Lore Christopher, Billing Technician Elsa Palacios, Keizer Citizen Jack Lowery and Utility Billing Clerk Karen Sergeant.

Absent: Keizer Citizen Mike Kurtz and Keizer Citizen Garry Whalen.

3. Approval of Minutes:

The minutes of June 24, 2002 were approved as written.

4. Discussion:

Rob Kissler went over the SDC (System Development Charge) scenarios done up by the Black & Veatch consultant Karyn Johnson. He asked the group if they had any questions.

Jerry McGee mentioned how he was amazed how the little the SDC's affect the water rates. He also feels that Karyn Johnson should emphasize this point when making her presentation.

Jerry McGee stated that he supports the Improvement Fee on the SDC but not the Reimbursement Fee. He feels the Reimbursement Fee isn't fair to impose since he didn't have to buy in to the system when he moved in to Keizer.

Jack Lowery asked for a better definition on what a Reimbursement Fee entails. Rob Kissler referred him to page 51 of the Final Study Results for clarification.

Rob Kissler mentioned that legally we could only charge the maximum of \$1,985.00 that our consultant has recommended.

Jack Lowery supports the fee of \$1,255.00. He thinks this will be a big enough of a leap from the current charge of \$300.00.

Mayor Christopher moved that we adopt Scenario #1 (the \$1,255.00 charge) as long as it is indexed. Jim Nightengale seconded the motion.

Jerry McGee supports indexing it each year – that way developers know how to budget for the increase.

Susan Gahlsdorf mentioned how we index the Parks donations. The group supports using the same index system.

A vote was taken on Scenario #1. The group voted unanimously in favor of this scenario.

Rob Kissler let the group know that Karyn Johnson's presentation is an hour long. She is scheduled to present this at the August 19, 2002, Council Meeting. Rob asked the group if they feel this is too long of a presentation.

The group feels she should summarize the information and keep it to half an hour in length.

Jerry McGee also suggests that Karyn Johnson make this presentation in as simple terms as possible so that all present will be able to understand the data.

Jerry McGee questioned whether we should present all of this information at once – or break it down in sections to be presented at different times. The group feels that we should present everything at once.

The group then discussed Service Fees, Shut-Off Fees and Tampering Fees. The supports the recommendation by staff to increase all of these fees to ensure we recover our actual costs.

Mayor Christopher would like to see the fees enforced in the following way:

- a) A "one-trip" transfer fee = \$15.00 for a straight turn-on or turn-off
- b) A "two-trip" transfer fee = \$30.00 for having to make two trips to the same address
- c) A "two trip" vacation fee= \$30.00 for having to turn the water off when they leave for vacation and then turning it back on when they return from vacation.

Jack Lowery suggested we send out a flyer showing the new increase in charges to all customers – to prepare them for the changes. The group all agreed to this suggestion.

5. Adjourn:

The meeting adjourned at 6:29 p.m.