

Assistant City Manager Mark Morgan called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm. Present were Councilors Smith and Davis, City Manager Byron Smith, Bill Schmittle, Roy Bicknell, Ron Sivey, Chas Hutchins, Brett Moore, and Lilly Alarcon-Strong. Councilor Kirwan was excused.

Street Department

Street Superintendent Ron Sivey stated the street department has been working on storm drain updates and will be crack filling streets through the end of June.

Water Department

Water Superintendent Roy Bicknell stated besides regular maintenance, the water department has been spending a fair amount of time working on the Regional Water System, as well as work on Hwy 395 and McDonald's projects.

Recycled Water Department

Recycled Water Superintendent Bill Schmittle stated like the street and water department, the recycled water department has been spending a fair amount of time working on the Hwy 395 project, regular maintenance, and upcoming budget process. The department recently received the NPDES permit draft from DEQ and has responded with comments; DEQ will review these comments and make changes if possible.

Recycled Water Department Plant Solids

Mr. Schmittle introduced Brett Moore with Anderson Perry. Mr. Moore stated when dealing with wastewater treatment there are two treatment streams: one solids and one liquids. The liquids are treated and placed back into the environment and the solids are treated and placed in ponds for disposal at a later time. 2014 plant improvements were only focused on the liquid stream process as phase one of the plan, phase two would focus on irrigation and solids stream improvements. 210 tons of dry solids are produced annually, treated, and then stored in the pond. Once the pond is full, the pond is cleaned out at \$1,000 per ton. The pond is not cleaned annually, and it is estimated that there is 1,000 tons of solids that will need to be disposed of sometime this summer.

Councilor Smith asked if a micro system could work in disposing of solids, and if the City could look into using solids in organic materials that are not used for human consumption.

Mr. Moore stated a micro system could not be used for this process as the micro system would not be able to break down the microorganisms and cell matter left after treatment of the solids from the plant.

Mr. Moore stated he has been working with Mr. Schmittle to try to establish a better way to dispose of solids and has come up with two options:

One, instead of pumping the solids into the storage pond and then disposing of the solids once the pond is full, haul solids on a daily basis to be disposed of. The initially cost of switching to this system would be about \$650,000 but will save the City about \$147,000 per year as the cost of dry solids disposal would decrease from \$1,000 per ton to \$300 per ton. The solids costs is not in disposing of them, it's the cost of handling them that is expensive.

Two, find contractors who will use the solids for ground production. Mr. Moore stated the EPA's regulations state that solids cannot contaminate the ground water or the soil beyond a usable condition, but annual production is possible with a 100 acre site or a 400 acre site could be used on a rotational basis with growing restrictions. Mr. Moore stated finding contractors who are willing to take the solids can be difficult, but once they do take and use the solids, they find the solids are very useful in conditioning the soil, retaining water, and contain many nutrients.

City Manager Smith stated this information will be presented to the Council on the April 11th work session to hopefully gain approval to move forward with one of the two options, but regardless, the pond will need to be cleaned. City Manager Smith stated one thing to consider is that phase one of the plant improvements came in under budget, therefore the remaining budget could be used to pay for improvements of phase two and not have to drastically increase rates.

Capital Improvement Plan Development and Outline

Assistant City Manager Mark Morgan stated the City Council, during the goal retreat work session, stated one of the major long range goals is to establish a Capital Improvement Plan for the public works departments. A CIP is a savings and expense plan that is used to plan for long term projects that the city needs to improve or invest in. The plan is usually 5 years out but can be modified depending on the City's changing needs. Mr. Morgan stated a CIP is a realistic way to plan for the future expenses of a city, schedule projects, and give a timeline for each.

Mr. Morgan stated currently, Anderson Perry is working with public works department heads and financing staff to gather the City's capital needs and will have until June to submit the information to City Manager Smith for review. Once the CIP has been reviewed by City Manager Smith, the CIP will be presented to this Committee for final review and then the final draft will be presented to the Council in hopes of approval of the CIP in October with annual updates and review.

There was no other business and the meeting was adjourned at 5:52 pm.