

TRADES ADVISORY COUNCIL (TAC)

MINUTES

June 20, 2007

Present were Gail McQuiston, Eba Hobbs, Martha Segal, Mary Ellen Jackson, Marilyn Tidwell, Rick Jones, Jim Paulus, Gary Ragland, Josh Schulz, Rick Blackburn, Jack Steakley, Cyrus Toosi, Richard Smith, Mike Morris, Dan Barge, and Ilke Hanloser

Guests were introduced.

Jim McClain, Carson Boxes and Mike Delvizis, Carothers Crossing were introduced.

Review of Minutes

Minutes were approved as is

MWS FY08 Budget Discussion

Mary Ellen explained that we did not know what the Council would approve or not approve at this time. There is another reading next Tuesday. The following were mentioned as possible inclusions in the new budget:

- ✓ Late payment charge will increase to 5% of balance or a \$10 minimum
- ✓ Private Fire Protection – will not be implemented on July 1 as it is still in review
- ✓ Plans Review – Engineering side will change fees
- ✓ Water and sewer capacity fees of \$1,000 and \$2,000 respectively will remain the same
- ✓ Same day reconnect fee increase from \$15 to \$50, next day increase from \$15 to \$25
- ✓ Customer Connection Charge increase from \$25 to \$35 for same day turn-on and next day will remain at \$25
- ✓ New inspection fees (Permits) – will be charged for every meter inspection whether inspection passes or fails. If passed, this will be effective July 1. Cost will be between \$41 and \$44 depending on inspector. If multiple meters at same site, Mary Ellen will check on how charges will be done
- ✓ Grease control device fee of \$120
- ✓ Grease control – will charge for a plan and permit review
- ✓ Stormwater plan and review fee (no info at this time)
- ✓ Non-sufficient Fund fee for returned checks will increase from \$10 to \$30
- ✓ Collection fee – if department turns an account over to Collections, any associating cost will be billed back to the customer
- ✓ Tap fees will increase if Council approves. (At this time Mary Ellen did a fee comparison with surrounding counties and major cities. Even with the increase, Metro Water Services would still be the lowest) Water tap fee would increase from \$250 to \$430 and sewer tap fee would increase from \$500 to \$860. Accounting came up with new fees based on tap activity and Permits' budget
- ✓ Eliminate evolution rates
- ✓ Vacant property readiness charge on hold.

Cyrus discussed the following changes for Engineering:

- ✓ Plans Review will charge a recovery cost. (Rick Blackburn stated plans need to be returned in a timely manner if there is going to be a fee charged)
- ✓ Availability letter fee will increase from \$50 to \$500 (at this time Rick Blackburn indicated that developers needed longer than one year for letter to be effective if the cost is increasing. Cyrus stated there would be no charge to update an availability letter)

It was agreed that a six-week cycle turn around time would be sufficient once the plans have been submitted to the Planning Commission. Metro Codes is looking at an electronic plans review process that would go from department to department as a means to expedite the process.

Stormwater is the main issue in the plans review process. There is a resolution for a study to establish a fee structure that should become effective July 2008.

Carson Meter Box Update

Jim McClain stated he represented the manufacturer. He stated that the two-piece box was approved and then the first of May, he received a request for a one-piece box. Gary stated the one-piece box needs to incorporate the John Bouchard lid into the box. He said the one-piece make it more convenient to work inside of the box. Mr. McClain stated it would take six to eight months to produce a one-piece box. Mr. McClain asked that MWS approve the two-piece box as designed until further notice. This issue will be discussed at the next MWS internal meeting. There are currently 12 boxes in the ground.

Valve Ops Update

Cyrus stated that visual inspections have been implemented. The valve ops inspection will not pass the first time around; it will need at least two inspections. Rick Blackburn indicated that he has one valve op that has been out since January 2007. Cyrus stated there are currently 2-3 crews at System Services that are doing the inspections. The inspection includes a punch list of six items. The developers indicated they would like a copy of the punch list. Rick Blackburn, Cyrus and several others will meet to review the current process before the September TAC meeting.

Follow-up Meter Inspection

Since the meter box only has a one year warranty, MWS would like to do a follow-up inspection prior to the end of the warranty. MWS will gather data internally for six months on how many are failing after the one year warranty is up. Once data is gathered, results will be placed on the agenda.

ABI Meeting Follow-up

- ✓ Details for threading connections - Jim Paulus distributed a drawing of the threading connections that will be allowed and gave a short explanation. Hal needs to put the explanation in words that will be included in the specs. The verbiage will be complete by the end of July and forwarded to TAC members.
- ✓ Revised verbiage for form – No information at this time but will ensure the verbiage is complete by the end of July to be distributed to TAC members.

General Discussion

Jack stated that the meter inspections were going better.

Martha and Mary Ellen stated that once the budget is approved, highlights of passed items will be sent out. Generic bill inserts will go in with bills. Mike Morris said Engineering would use the Planning Commission's master list to get new budget info to the developers and engineering community.

Anyone interested in assisting with the planning of the upcoming Community Meeting agenda, please let Mary Ellen know.

Next meeting is September 19, 2007 at 10:00 a.m. Location is TBA.