

City of Siletz
City Council Work Session
September 19, 2022 –Monday, 4:30 PM
Siletz City Hall -215 W. Buford Ave

Present: Mayor Worman, T. Retasket, M. Cummiskey, S. Trachsel
Staff: Public Works Director A. Middaugh, Public Works D. Viar, City Recorder B. Chestler

1, Call Meeting to Order and Establish a Quorum

Mayor Worman called the meeting to order at 4:40 PM and established a quorum.

2. Oregon Association of Water Utilities -Heath Cokeley and Monty Norris

Introductions were made. Heath and Monty are employees of the Oregon Association of Water Utilities (OAWU). Heath is the circuit rider for OAWU and a specialist on the water side of their programs. Monty is a circuit rider and specialist in wastewater. The City of Siletz is a member of the OAWU Association.

- Status of Water and Sewer Plants

Heath stated that the plants are functioning well and that is due to the level of consistent operations and maintenance they receive. He noted the sewer plant is ready for significant upgrades. Discussion included the need for backup power (generators) for the plant and liners for the settling ponds and the DEQ permit process.

- Labs

Labs were discussed and the sampling requirements, lead and copper samplings, and the new rules coming regarding additional required samples. The cycle of the labs and their fees were discussed, and the labs required for hauling bio-solids. This was a larger than normal year for testing due to the cycle of the testing requirements.

- Permit Expectations

The NPDE permit was discussed. It currently is up for renewal in November of 2022. The city received and submitted the NPDES application and received notification that the NPDES-R form of the application was needed for it to be considered complete and ready for review. It was noted that we do hold an Ammonia Permit. Heath stated handing off the permitting process to an engineer is not uncommon in small communities, but it does add cost to the process.

- Operational needs of Plants and Systems

The distribution side and service lines of the water plant were discussed and the new rule regarding inventory which will be a requirement by October 2024, which will require the city to know what type of lines are on both sides of the meter, what the city owns and what the customer has had installed. This rule has to do with the new guidelines on lead and copper. Discussed further how and when we would do the inventory, what type of man hours it would require, and the methods and means to get it done. Suggested was looking at building

records and it was noted that anything built after 1985 should already meet standards and won't require additional work as part of the inventory.

- Operators (Certifications Mandatory)

The certification requirement for our system - both water and sewer - was discussed and how difficult it would be to replace the certified operators at Siletz because of the fairly high requirements for certification given the size of the city and the difficulty to find and retain certified operators right now. It was noted our certifications were adequate on the wastewater side and are we close to full certification on the water after the current Superintendent retires. He is currently fully certified. Getting others certified to that same level as the current Superintendent so they could be the DRC is important. Discussed were incentives that other communities are using for retention of the certificated employees, and the upcoming classes. After the current fully licensed employee retires, the city has the option to contract for a fully certified operator to oversee and sign necessary documents until the current employees are fully certified.

- Repair and Replacements Expected or Suggested

Infiltration and Inflow (I&I) was discussed including summer flows versus winter flows, storm screens, smoke testing, and camera work on lines. The service lines on Siletz River Drive have to be upgraded from transite 6" pipe to 8" PVC pipe. Thirty percent of the city's water lines are transite and need replacement. The need for repairs and replacement of a galvanized water line 10 to 15 feet long under the Logsdan Road apron was discussed.

- Changes to up-and-coming operations; industry-wide and state mandates

The lead and copper statewide mandates were discussed.

- Operations and Maintenance Manual Updates

GIS mapping was discussed. It was noted the tribe has a GIS planner and the City should inquire about contracting with the Tribe to provide assistance with our projects.

- Cost Cutting Measures

Day-to-day maintenance and operations and the results of deferred maintenance were discussed. The list of updates to the Sewer plant and the suggested priorities were reviewed.

3. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the council, Mayor Worman adjourned the meeting at 6:25 PM.

ATTEST



Mayor Will Worman



City Recorder Chestler