



City Council
Special Meeting Minutes - Final

Tuesday, March 27, 2018

2:00 PM

SPECIAL JOINT MEETING OF
CITY COUNCIL AND BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Mayor Coursey called the open session to order at 2:00 p.m.

Present: 7 - Mayor Chris Coursey, Vice Mayor Chris Rogers, Council Member Julie Combs, Council Member Ernesto Olivares, Council Member John Sawyer, Council Member Tom Schwedhelm and Council Member Jack Tibbetts

Also present: Chair Dan Galvin, Vice Chair William Arnone, Jr., Board Member Richard Dowd, Board Member Christopher Grabill, Board Member Matt Mullan, and Board Member Mary Watts. Board Member Lisa Badenfort joined the meeting at 2:33 p.m.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT (Public Comment will be limited to the items listed on the Special Meeting Agenda)

3. STUDY SESSION

3.1 SANTA ROSA PLAIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY FUNDING OPTIONS

The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) required some groundwater basins, including the Santa Rosa Plain basin, to form Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) to sustainably manage the groundwater basin and develop a groundwater management plan. In the Santa Rosa Plain basin, the cities of Santa Rosa, Rohnert Park, and Cotati, the Town of Windsor, Sonoma County, the Sonoma County Water Agency, the Goldridge and the Sonoma Resource Conservation Districts formed the Santa Rosa Plain GSA to comply with SGMA. Councilmember Schwedhelm currently serves on the GSA Board for the City of Santa Rosa.

The Santa Rosa Plain GSA is a self-funded agency, with the initial funding for the first two years coming from each of the member

agencies of the GSA. The GSA Board is working with a rate consultant to explore options for rates and fees to provide funding for the GSA after the first two years. Staff will provide the City Council and the Board of Public Utilities an update on current rate and fee options being explored by the GSA.

Attachments: [Presentation \(Revised 03/26/18\)](#)
 [Attachment 1 \(added 03/23/18\)](#)
 [Attachment 2 \(added 03/23/18\)](#)

Presented by Jennifer Burke, Deputy Director of the Water Department.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Michael Martini spoke regarding the concerns of overspending the budget; the concerns of managing a basin unnecessarily; and groundwater sustainability.

Noreen Evans spoke in support of the Groundwater Sustainability Act.

Thomas Ells spoke in support of the Groundwater Sustainability Act.

This item was received and filed.

3.2 UPDATE ON WATER QUALITY ADVISORY FOR FOUNTAINGROVE AREA

On November 10, 2017, Santa Rosa Water issued a Water Quality Advisory for 13 homes in an isolated area of Fountaingrove due to the October fires. Water Quality testing after the fires revealed contamination in an isolated area of the City's water distribution system. In collaboration with water quality experts and our drinking water regulators, Water Department staff has conducted a thorough investigation to confirm that the fire caused the contamination, to identify the sources of the contamination, and identify a recommended repair to eliminate the contamination.

Staff will provide the City Council and the Board of Public Utilities an update on the water quality advisory, including the current results of the investigation, recommended repair, funding and timeline to address this

water quality issue.

Attachments: [Presentation \(added 3/26/18\)](#)

Presented by Ben Horenstein, Director of Water, Jennifer Burke, Deputy Director of the Water Department.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Carol Ellen spoke regarding concerns of the water quality; and requested information for residents be given an estimate of how soon they can move back home.

John Stratton spoke regarding the construction timeline; the need of publishing properties that are being constructed for rebuilding purposes; concerns of not receiving consistent communication of construction timeline, concerns of insurance policy period to maintain coverage; and requested to connect with other water sources.

Dennis Parsons spoke regarding the need of homeowners finding other immediate alternative solutions.

James Sickles spoke regarding the need of having the Geographic Information System map update be provided frequently; and the concerns of the construction timeline.

Shelly Browning spoke in support of using public banking.

Philip Beard spoke in support of using public banking.

Thomas Ells spoke regarding the water quality testing alternatives.

Philip DeCarlo spoke regarding the need to know which properties can rebuild homes concurrently during the construction of the water system.

Bob Hansen spoke regarding the water contaminants.

Natalie Casantino-Manning spoke regarding the concerns of the construction timeline; requested that Council not go through a bidding process to expedite the construction of the water system.

Jan Verspecht spoke regarding using a temporary alternative solution like active carbon filters to remove contaminants.

Rosemary Yates, representing Custom Home Builder, spoke regarding the need to know which properties can rebuild homes concurrently during the construction of the water system; spoke regarding an opportunity to use a temporary water system to prevent any liability from rebuilding; and requested that her property be tested for contamination.

Rebecca O'Connell requested for clarification of the construction timeline.

Scott Adams spoke regarding the concerns of the construction water system timeline.

Board Member Grabill left the meeting at 4:11 p.m.

This item was received and filed.

4. ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

Hearing no further business, Mayor Coursey adjourned the meeting at 5:11 p.m.

Approved on: June 19, 2018

/s/: Daisy Gomez, City Clerk