



MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
SOLVANG CITY COUNCIL

Council Chambers
1644 Oak Street
Solvang, CA 93463

May 9, 2016
Monday
6:30 pm

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Richardson called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: Mayor Richardson, Council Members Duus, Jamieson, Skytt,
and Zimmerman

STAFF: Brad Vidro, City Manager; Roy Hanley, City Attorney; Matt van der
Linden, Public Works Director; Sandra Featherson, Administrative
Services Director; Lt. Shawn O'Grady; Lisa S. Martin, City Clerk

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Council Member Skytt

CITY MANAGERS REPORT: Informational report only

1. **PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS – WRITTEN OR VERBAL**

None.

2. **COUNCIL REQUESTS**

None.

3. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA AS PRESENTED**

Mayor Richardson moved Item 8 up on the agenda as many representatives were present. The regular agenda items will be ordered 8, 6, 7.

4. **CITY COUNCIL MINUTES OF APRIL 25, 2016**

*Motion made by Council Member Duus to approve the minutes as written, seconded by Council Member Jamieson, and **carried** with a verbal response of 5 ayes.*

5. **CONSENT AGENDA**

- a. Approval of Warrant Register

Motion made by Council Member Duus to approve the Consent agenda, seconded by Council Member Skytt, and carried with a verbal response of 5 ayes.

REGULAR AGENDA

8. AWARD SANTA YNEZ VALLEY TRANSIT OPERATIONS CONTRACT

Staff report by Matt van der Linden, Public Works Director. A rigorous review process was conducted by the City and the consultant, Moore & Associates. Should the Council award the contract at this meeting, a start-up date of July 1, 2016 is proposed.

Consultant presentation by Jim Moore, Moore & Associates.

Council Member Skytt asked if Storer was one of the five firms who submitted proposals.

Matt van der Linden responded that they were.

Mayor Richardson inquired if options A & B could be combined so that we could have a full-time manager for, as an example, the first year – and then transition to option B.

Matt van der Linden answered that under our current contract with Storer we only have a manager 20% of the time, so the new contract is an improvement.

Jim Moore indicated that in ninety (90) days he will be making a recommendation to the Council as far as management of the transit services.

Council Member Jamieson was curious as to whether Storer would cooperate with the City during the transition.

Jim Moore responded that he is confident that Storer will honor their contract which has not yet expired, and continue to provide a high level of service.

Mayor Richardson opened the item to public comment at 6:50 p.m.

Steven Fernandes, Vice President of Storer Transit Systems

- Their company has enjoyed providing services to the City and the Santa Ynez Valley and believe they have performed very well, with zero complaints
- No transparency in the process, they were not informed of the initial cost proposals and were not given the opportunity to submit a Best and Final Offer
- Roadrunner was allowed the potential for a 5-year extension, they were not
- Feels that the chosen contractor did not comply with all of the requirements of the Request for Proposals, including insurance coverage amounts
- Doesn't feel right, feels like the integrity of the process was compromised
- Asks the Council to reject the awarding of the contract until they review further

The item was closed to public comment at 6:58 p.m.

Council Member Zimmerman asked staff to respond to public comment.

Matt van der Linden explained the City's position and commented that there were actually many complaints about the Storer operation, although not major. Additionally, the project manager for Storer was let go by the company without the City being informed, and the replacement project manager is their dispatcher, not a qualified project manager. Storer's interview was very weak. The selected contractor has not yet been required to submit a certificate of insurance, but will certainly be required to submit the appropriate coverages as indicated in the contract.

Council Member Duus questioned why the Council did not see all of the bids.

City Attorney Hanley replied that the RFP process is different than the bid process, it is not a low bidder process. The City followed the process correctly five years ago when Storer was selected, and followed the process correctly this time as well.

Council Member Jamieson inquired as to the selection criteria.

Matt van der Linden responded that criterion included Overall Ability, Proposed Methodology, Experience and References, Price, and Project Manager.

***Motion** made by Mayor Richardson to approve the staff recommendation and award the contract to Roadrunner Management Systems, seconded by Council Member Skytt. **Motion carried** with a roll call vote of 5 ayes.*

6. WATER PROJECTS UPDATE AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT DIRECTION

Mayor Richardson was concerned that there was too much information for the Council to digest at once and suggested that they break up the item into two meetings, one for Upland and one for River.

City Attorney Hanley alternately suggested that the Council first hear the staff's presentation and then decide if they need to bifurcate the item.

Staff presentation by Matt van der Linden, Public Works Director. (1) Gave an update on the construction of Well 22 and the Well Blending Study. Wells 22 and 23 together have the potential to pump approximately 600 gallons per minute. Well 22 could be in service by June, 2016. (2) Discussed the River Well projects and alternative well construction methods, ex: slant drilling, collector wells, and horizontal directional drilling. Identified the locations of the soil boring tests performed. The consultant has recommended the standard vertical well design based on cost per gallons per minute capacity. (3) Explained the Reservoir Storage situation and the repair or replacement options for Reservoir 2.

Council Member Skytt calculated that 600 gallons per minute (gpm) translated to an acre foot within about 9 hours. Matt van der Linden agreed, but clarified that wells are not pumped 24 hours a day so an assumption of 10 months of operation per year is used to estimate the total production.

Council Member Duus asked if we can send the “collectors” in whatever direction is the most beneficial. Matt van der Linden responded that you can direct or group the collectors as you wish.

Council Member Jamieson would like to see the water quality test results. Matt van der Linden indicated that he would email her the test results from wells 22 and 23.

Mayor Richardson inquired as to why the pipe goes all the way into the bedrock. Matt van der Linden responded that this allows for a greater ability to pull the water in and that is what allows the wells to be as close as 200 feet apart.

Council Member Skytt questioned how wide the river bed is at the locations of the soil borings. Matt van der Linden responded approximately 400 feet.

There was a discussion relating to potential river well locations. The Alisal Ranch would like the City to move Well 3 at the end of its lifespan. The well has approximately 20 years of life left.

Discussion ensued regarding options for repair or replacement of Reservoir 2. The reservoir currently has a capacity of 450,000 gallons. Minor repairs (short term) would cost \$20,000 and would possibly give us 5 more years. A major renovation would cost approximately \$210,000 and would buy about 20 years. The other option is to demolish the existing steel tank reservoir and build a new pre-stressed concrete with an additional 300,000 gallons of capacity, for about \$1.8 million. Life span of a pre-stressed concrete tank is 65-70 years, compared with 50 year life for a steel tank.

Council Member Skytt asked if the maintenance costs would go down for a pre-stressed concrete tank. Matt van der Linden responded affirmatively.

Mayor Richardson asked if the reservoir work could be considered a Public Works project so that general fund monies could be used.

Matt van der Linden indicated that that would be a Council decision. City Attorney added that yes, the general fund could be used to the benefit of the water fund (an enterprise fund), it just can't be the other way around.

Matt van der Linden clarified that a larger reservoir will not help us in a drought situation, it will only help with fire protection water demand or peak water use demand.

Council Member Skytt commented that based on his calculations, over time the replacement of the reservoir will only cost about a ½ cent per gallon more.

Mayor Richardson opened the item for public comment at 8:22 p.m.

Jeff Clay, ID#1

- ID#1 is excited to work with the City towards resolution of the river well petitions

The public comment period was closed at 8:24 p.m.

Council Member Zimmerman would consider water storage capacity to be priority #1 and getting wells 22 and 23 into production priority #2.

Council Member Duus estimated that the reservoir repair gives us a fourth of the life span for a sixth of the cost.

Council Member Skytt indicated that getting wells 22 and 23 into production should be priority #1 and that he needed more information on the reservoir repairs.

Council Member Zimmerman inquired as to whether we could budget for items this year. Matt van der Linden replied that the \$210,000 for reservoir repair and money for the engineering work for Well 22 is in the budget.

Staff is given direction to prioritize the projects as follows: 1. Wells 22 and 23; 2. Renovation of Reservoir 2; and 3. Working on the river wells, petition to amend Permit 15878, and associated easements.

7. **DISCUSSION AND DIRECTION FOR AD HOC COMMITTEE WITH THE SANTA YNEZ RIVER WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT, IMPROVEMENT DIST. NO. 1**

Staff presentation by Brad Vidro, City Manager.

Council Member Duus commented that the item was a Council request from the last meeting but was unsure where we had left off with the committee. We came back and reported to the Council, but what response did we get back from ID#1? Council Member Zimmerman indicated that we got none.

Council Member Duus added that at the February Council meeting the ad hoc committee was directed to discuss a possible merger. We are part of ID#1 already, so why would we need to merge?

City Manager Vidro answered that he thought there was discussion about a joint study.

Mayor Richardson discussed the progress that was made at the last ad hoc committee meeting and that ID#1 was going to take it back to their group. We need to discuss some ground rules and objectives for the next time the committee meets.

Mayor Richardson asked the Council if there was consensus to continue the discussions?

Council Member Jamieson questioned if ID#1 was interested in continuing the discussions.

Jeff Clay, ID#1 Board Member, responded that the district is interested in continuing with the ad hoc committee and appreciated that Council Member Zimmerman agendaized the item.

Council Member Jamieson inquired as to the motivation of ID#1. Jeff Clay replied that if the two agencies can provide the ratepayers of the SY Valley with lower water rates, it benefits all of us. The City has a lot of things that they have to do, many responsibilities, whereas the members of ID#1 are experts in water, do it better, and can potentially help the City- but acknowledged that whatever action is taken must be a win-win for both ID#1 and Solvang.

Mayor Richardson commented that negotiations previously always came to a standstill because it didn't feel like a win for Solvang, that is why the City backed away.

Council Member Jamieson asked if a merger would require a vote of the people.

City Attorney Hanley responded that depending on the end result, it would probably not require a vote of the people because Solvang is already a water purveyor, but would certainly require a LAFCO process. It is a policy decision.

Council Members Duus and Zimmerman stated that they would like to take a real stab at a merger discussion.

There was concern as to the cost of such a merger, studies and negotiations are necessary. City Attorney Hanley advised that one public agency does not pay the costs of another public agency.

Council Member Duus opined that if we want to get to a win-win and we need to lawyer up to do it, we have a problem already. We need to get to an interim point, small steps should be taken, such as talks with LAFCO, etc. before we involve attorneys.

Matt van der Linden added that there must be some strategic long range planning. There are several advantages, in fact the State likes to see smaller water agencies merge. From a regulatory standpoint it would be a benefit. But there are some disadvantages. Only thinks it would be a positive thing however, if wastewater was included.

There was consensus of the Council to direct the ad hoc committee to continue dialogue with ID#1 and try to develop a program or strategic plan.

8. COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS (Oral reports: Each Council Member will give oral reports on their activities in relation to the following committee or agencies. In addition, each member may report on items that will be included on the agenda for such committee or agency and seek guidance from the Council as a whole on such items, including on what position to take on behalf of the City)

- Santa Barbara County Association of Governments
- Air Pollution Control Board
- Joint Wastewater Committee
- Finance Committee
- Chumash Tribe
- Water Committee
- Indian Gaming Benefit Committee
- California Joint Powers Insurance Authority

Council Members Jamieson and Skytt reported on their meeting with the Buellton library ad hoc committee. There was no mutual feeling that each agency's expectations were reasonable. Will meet again and need more input from the Santa Barbara County Library Commission.

9. ADVANCE CALENDAR

10. CLOSED SESSION

Government Code Section 54957.6 Conference with Labor Negotiators – Agency designated representative, Brad Vidro, City Manager – Employee Organization Teamsters Local 986

Government Code Subdivision (a) of Section 54956.9 Existing Litigation – Amendment to Permit 15878 in front of the State Water Resources Control Board

No reportable action taken.

11. ADJOURNMENT Mayor Richardson adjourned the meeting to closed session at 9:10 p.m. and adjourned the City Council meeting at 9:40 p.m.



Lisa S. Martin, City Clerk