

Work Session
Mayor and Council
July 28, 2011

A Work Session of the Mayor and Council was called to order at 7:45 p.m. by Mayor Barra who announced that the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act were met by the required posting and notice to publications.

The following individuals answered roll call: Council members Bernstein, LaMonica, Schoepflin, Strauch, White, Wilczynski and Mayor Barra. Mrs. McCarthy and Mr. Bole were also present.

Ordinance 11-09, Water Rates

Mr. Bole stated that the Ordinance 11-09 is scheduled for introduction this evening. It was pointed out to him that the ordinance is slated to take effect on August 25th which is in the middle of the third quarter for water billings. He asked if the Council would want to make the water rate effective after the ordinance is adopted and published or if they would prefer to fix another date for the rate increase. Water rates cannot be retroactively billed.

Ms. LaMonica said she felt the billing shouldn't go into effect until the start of a new quarter because it would be confusing for residents to have two billing rates in one quarter.

Mayor Barra said Mr. Paterson suggested that the commercial rates be reviewed to see if they should be brought into conformance with the residential rates. Mr. Barra noted that if the ordinance doesn't go into effect until October 1st it should be pulled for further review. That review will include looking at increases for both the residential and commercial customers with the goal of the Water Utility being self liquidating. They could ask for a run of the numbers to see what the billing options are.

Mr. Schoepflin said he is concerned about the balance in the water accounts by the end of the year. He added that a surcharge might be necessary for the Water Utility to be self liquidating. He agrees with the suggestion from Ms. LaMonica to postpone the effective date to October 1st.

Mr. Barra said he will ask for a run of the numbers at the end of the third billing quarter and he will follow up with the Municipal Accountant for financial guidance if it is necessary. He pointed out that there was lower consumption during the second quarter because there was a lot of rain.

Ordinance 11-10, Vehicles and Traffic

Mr. Barra said earlier in the day Mr. Yakimik provided the Council members with a map of the proposed changes to the commuter parking area. Everyone agreed that the map was correct as submitted.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Barra did not have a report this evening.

Respectfully submitted,

Gwen McCarthy
Municipal Clerk