

Town Council Work Session

May 9, 2024, 6:00 PM

Meeting minutes

In attendance: Mayor Bruce Rowley

Council Members: Rachel Goates, Bre Aagard, Chris Chipping, Ray Evans

Meeting Recorders: Christine Carrigan, Chantal Rowley

Others in Attendance: Tyler Faddis and Kyler Nielsen (Jones & DeMille Engineers), Rebecca Dopp (Times-News), Carol Bennett, Austin Black

Welcome

The work session was called to order by Mayor Rowley on Thursday, September 9th, 2024 at 6:07pm

Discussion Items

Temporary Land Use Regulation – Jones and DeMille Engineering Representative

A representative from Jones and DeMille Engineering, Tyler Faddis, was present to discuss temporary land use regulations. They explained the need to accurately measure water usage to comply with the Division of Drinking Water regulations, which require the system to be sized according to peak daily usage over a three-year period.

Water Measurements

Tyler detailed the current water measurement system which uses data from a meter to track spring water entering a tank. The current system could potentially skew results due to the time it takes to fill the tank after it drops to a certain level. The solution proposed was to install an outlet meter on the tank for more accurate measurements.

Mayor Rowley asked about the cost of the meter, which Tyler estimated to be between \$15,000 and \$20,000, depending on varying factors.

Water Peak Flow Right

Tyler explained the town's water rights, which limit the town to 0.78 cubic feet per second (CFS) translating to about 350 gallons per day. Current peak usage may exceed this, creating a potential violation. Kyler Neilsen explained options for addressing this, including acquiring more water rights and discussing strategies with the irrigation company.

The Mayor and Council Members discussed the prospect of gaining additional water rights from underground sources as a long-term solution, and more immediate, short-term solutions of aquifer storage and recovery and conservation.

Aquifer Storage and Recovery

The aquifer storage and recovery option was explored in detail. This method involves storing excess water in the aquifer during low-demand periods (such as winter) and retrieving it during peak demand periods. Kyler said a study would be required, which could cost approximately \$25,000. Kyler estimated the project to cost an additional \$100,000 or more.

The conversation also included the potential role of state support and grants in funding these projects. Tyler highlighted the importance of acquiring accurate water measurements through the installation of a tank outlet meter to better manage water rights and conservation efforts.

Adjourn

A motion to adjourn the work session was made and seconded. Motion carried. Motion by Ray Evans, seconded by Chris Chipping.

The work session was formally adjourned at 6:39pm.

Christine Carrigan, Clerk