

**CITY OF BELLEVUE  
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES**

Thursday  
November 1, 2018  
6:30 p.m.

Conference Room 1E-113  
Bellevue City Hall  
Bellevue, Washington

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:** Diann Strom (Chair), Vanja Knezevic (Vice Chair), Anne Howe, Negin Khanloo, Aaron Morin, Lisa Schreiner, Ling Zhuang

**COUNCIL LIAISON:** Jared Nieuwenhuis

**COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:** None

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Andrew Lee, Deputy Director; Lucy Liu, Assistant Director – Resource Management & Customer Service; Douglas Lane, Water & Sewer Systems Sr. Engineer – Utilities; Laurie Hugdahl, Minutes Taker

**1. CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Strom at 6:30 p.m.

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

*There was unanimous consent to approve the agenda.*

**3. ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS**

Oral and written communications were solicited. There were none.

**4. COMMUNICATION FROM CITY COUNCIL, COMMUNITY COUNCIL, BOARDS AND COMMISIONS**

Councilmember Nieuwenhuis reported the following:

- The Council did a commendation for Paul Allen.
- There was also a Proclamation for Domestic Violence Action month.
- Council also reviewed rates and the rate relief program. There was an overwhelmingly positive response by the Council.

Chair Strom and Commissioner Khanloo reported that they had attended a meeting on parliamentary procedure.

## 5. STAFF REPORTS

Deputy Director Lee had the following comments:

- The annual retreat will be held next month on December 6 instead of a regular meeting.
- The January meeting falls on January 3 which is still part of the Bellevue School District's holiday. He recommended shifting this to the second Thursday on January 10. There appeared to be unanimous consent for that change in meeting date.
- The AMI Contract has been pushed out until December 3.

## 6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

### 10/4/18 Regular Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Zhuang noted that her name should be added to "Commissioners Absent" for those minutes.

*There was unanimous consent to approve the minutes as corrected.*

### 10/4/18 Public Hearing Verbatim Minutes

Commissioner Zhuang noted that her name should be added to "Commissioners Absent" for those minutes.

*There was unanimous consent to approve the minutes as corrected.*

## 7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

### New technology for ESC packet.

The City will be eliminating paper packets and moving to iPads for all commissioners in an effort to save paper and be more efficient. Councilmember Nieuwenhuis said he would like the Council members to have access to the agendas online. Deputy Director Lee indicated the agendas would be available to the Council.

## 8. NEW BUSINESS

### Budget/Rate Recommendation to Council

*Presenter: Lucy Liu, Assistant Director – Resource Mgmt. & Customer Service – Utilities*

Asst. Director Liu thanked the Commission for all their hard work on the budget and rates. She stated that staff was seeking the ESC's recommendation on the budget. The proposed budget and rates will be presented to the Council on November 13. Chair Strom will be presenting the ESC's recommendation at that time. Asst. Director Liu provided a recap of the proposed budget and rates for the Proposed 2019-2020 Utilities Operating Budget which is comprised of Capital, Taxes & Support Services, Local Operations, and Wholesale Costs for a total of \$316.3M. The proposed 2019-2025 Utilities CIP Budget of \$225M is comprised of 77% aging infrastructure, 5% capacity for growth, 8% environmental preservation, 10% service enhancement. The proposed rates for 2019-20 were reviewed. The proposed rate increase for all three utilities combined is 4% in 2019 and \$3.8% in 2020. Bellevue's rates were compared to its neighbors and found to be competitive, especially considering Bellevue is actively putting money away for future needs.

Commissioner Zhuang thanked the Utility staff for their work and for meeting with her to bring her up to speed. She expressed concern about the R&R fund for aging infrastructure noting that the value of the savings is decreasing and losing value. Commissioner Morin thanked Commissioner Zhuang for her comments and concerns, noting that he was also interested in this and that he hopes the City will look into this further. Chair Strom suggested bringing this back so the Commission and staff had more time to review the proposal.

Deputy Director Lee thanked Commissioner Zhuang for her comments and stated that staff shares her concerns and is looking forward to investigating this further in 2019. He also expressed appreciation for the strong Council policies in existence.

**Motion made by Commissioner Morin, seconded by Commissioner Howe, to recommend the budget as presented. MPU (7-0).**

Water System Seismic Vulnerability Assessment

*Presenter: Douglas Lane, Water & Sewer Systems Sr. Engineer – Utilities*

Mr. Lane reviewed the project scope and guiding principles. He explained he would be seeking feedback from the Commission on the scope and the guiding principles. The scope for the Water System Seismic Vulnerability Assessment was reviewed.

- Level of Service Development: The City will seek to see what is affordable and what the priorities are. Post-earthquake level of service goals will be considered. A typical level of service chart that similar studies around the region have come up with was reviewed. Bellevue will need to determine its appropriate level of development.
- Geotechnical Data Refinement: Modeling work will be done to help determine the impacts. The assessment will verify statewide hazards maps

and adjust as appropriate at critical areas. This will provide greater confidence in the vulnerability estimates. Ground motions will be adjusted for near surface geology.

- Vulnerability Evaluation: Evaluation of every pipe will be conducted based on historical events and empirical data as a result of those events. This will assess the probability that there will be leaks or breaks on pipe based on the material or the size and other factors.
- Consequence of Failure: The consultants will import Bellevue's hydraulic model into Optimatics software which systematically rates every pipe and produces a result showing the impact of failure. A multi-break analysis will also be conducted to produce a more realistic scenario.
- Service Restoration Curves. This task will use vulnerability and consequence data to predict where customers will be out of service, for how long, and the associated economic impacts.

The results of all the tasks will be summarized in an Engineering Report with recommendations for operational and/or capital improvements for resiliency. These may be capital or operational improvements. Mr. Lane emphasized that guiding principles will provide the overall purpose of the project. Guiding principles may affect scoring or prioritization of proposed improvements, and it is important that they demonstrate consistency with adopted policies. He reviewed the proposed guiding principles and the relevant policies from the Comprehensive Plan. The proposed guiding principles include: public safety, social equity, economic vitality, regional preparedness, value, and resilience. Staff will come back in 2019 for updates and to discuss this further.

#### Questions and Comments:

Commissioner Zhuang asked what the simulation scenarios will look like. Mr. Lane explained staff is planning to look at the Cascadia subduction zone event as well as another event which has not been decided on yet. Commissioner Zhuang referred to the cost-benefit analysis and suggested incorporating an assessment of whether items used for earthquake operations can be used for day-to-day operations as well as emergency response.

Commissioner Howe asked if some of the scope of work such as guiding principles already exists somewhere (like the Emergency Management Plan) or if it is all new. Mr. Lane replied that the Emergency Management Plan will play into it, but that deals with response; this has more to do with mitigation.

Commissioner Morin asked if the City partners with other jurisdictions that have done plans to see how other jurisdictions have handled it. Mr. Lane replied that the City is partnering with the Central Puget Sound Water Supply Forum. Deputy Director Lee added that the group shares emergency response plans with each

other. The Forum also has an inventory of resources and skills that are available for sharing.

Chair Strom spoke in support of the work. She asked if staff is also considering how other services will be impacted. Mr. Lane replied that they are.

Commissioner Khanloo asked about comparing with cities in other countries that have done this. Deputy Director Lee replied that staff has those examples and can provide them in the future.

**9. ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS**

None

**10. REVIEW OF ESC CALENDAR/COUNCIL CALENDAR;  
CONSERVATION AND OUTREACH EVENTS AND VOLUNTEER  
OPPORTUNITIES**

- ESC Calendar/Council Calendar

Deputy Director Lee reviewed these items. There is no agenda for the ESC for December except for the retreat. The main item on the Council calendar for December is AMI.

- Conservation & Outreach Events & Volunteer Opportunities

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

Seeing no objection, the meeting was adjourned at 7:44 p.m.