

City of Wimberley

City Hall, 12111 Ranch Road 12, Ste. 114

Wimberley, Texas 78676

Minutes of Joint Workshop Meeting of City Council and Water Wastewater Advisory Board

July 8, 2009 at 5:30 p.m.

City Council meeting called to order at 5:57 p.m. by Mayor Tom Haley.

Councilmembers Present: Mayor Haley and Councilmembers Charles Roccaforte, Bob Flocke, Bill Appleman, and Steve Thurber. Councilmember John White had an excused absence.

Water Wastewater Advisory Board Members Present: Dave Estey, Clint Frankmann, Charles Jennett, Joe Malone, and Mac McCullough.

Staff Present: City Administrator Don Ferguson and City Secretary Cara McPartland

Workshop Session:

- A. Discuss the role and responsibilities of the City of Wimberley Water Wastewater Advisory Board
- B. Discuss water and wastewater priorities for the City of Wimberley.

Mayor Haley and Council thanked Water Wastewater Advisory Board (WWAB) members for their service and expert advice.

Mayor Haley stated the following priorities:

- Securing wastewater for downtown, the bypass area, and South River
- Cooperation among WWAB and local water providers to coordinate efforts to obtain surface water in order to reduce and potentially replace groundwater pumpage
- Eventual regional water supply
- Conservation

Discussion among Council addressed:

- In addition to pursuit of grant funding, consideration of all funding sources, including ad valorem taxation
- Conservation and incentives for rainwater collection
- Legalization of rainwater collection for commercial use as part of a municipal water supply and need for legislative support of same
- Need for innovative thinking and problem-solving
- Possible distribution of wastewater costs among users and impact fees
- Benefit to community in preserving Cypress Creek and downtown sales tax revenue
- Need for regular WWAB meetings and procedures for meeting as needed

In response to WWAB member Mr. McCullough, City Administrator Ferguson detailed the City's interlocal agreement with Guadalupe Blanco River Authority (GBRA) to develop a community centralized wastewater system and the process underway to secure stimulus funding. Funding options for both short- and long-term projects were discussed, including development and impact fees.

WWAB, Council, and staff discussion included:

- Problems encountered in utilizing Canyon Lake as a water source
- Current treatment plant for single user and possible expansion of that plant to serve downtown
- Continuing a working relationship with GBRA and the need to move expeditiously
- Geographical difficulty of providing wastewater to the downtown area
- State water resource laws
- Need for lift station
- Keeping all options open, in addition to the present GBRA relationship
- Cypress Creek water quality and test results
- Status of the City's grant application and designation as a "green" project
- Possible alternate funds available through Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) rural development funding
- Impact of development, groundwater control, and current drought
- Economic development districts/wastewater development districts as possible funding options
- Need for review of documentation such as the draft Preliminary Engineering Report and current water/sewer line maps
- Timeframe for WWAB recommendations
- Need for ongoing communication with supportive legislators
- Aqua Texas as a wastewater provider for downtown with the City's ability to control rates

Mayor Haley stated that the City has had contact with Buda, San Marcos, and Kyle regarding purchase of water from their public water supplier(s). Also discussed was the possibility of leasing from other entities with access to surface water such as Canyon Lake.

Mayor Haley requested that staff prepare an informational booklet for WWAB members and City Administrator Ferguson anticipated scheduling WWAB's first meeting in early August.

Hearing no further comments, Mayor Haley called the meeting adjourned at 6:59 p.m.

Adjournment: Council meeting adjourned at 6:59 p.m.

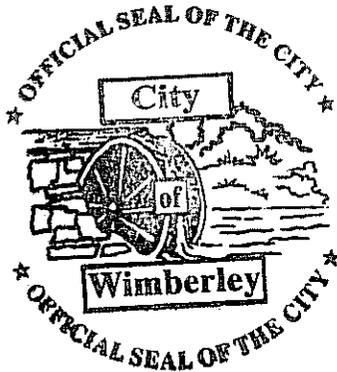
Recorded by:

Cara McPartland

Cara McPartland

These minutes approved on the 16th of July, 2009.

APPROVED:



Tom Haley
Tom Haley, Mayor