

City of Wimberley
221 Stillwater
Wimberley, Texas
Minutes of Special Meeting of City Council
December 10, 2013 at 6:00 p.m.

City Council meeting called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Bob Flocke.

Councilmembers Present: Mayor Bob Flocke and Councilmembers Tom Talcott, Mac McCullough, Matt Meeks, and John White. Councilmember Steve Thurber was absent.

Staff Present: City Administrator Don Ferguson

Presentation

Presentation by Alan Plummer Associates, Inc. of the Preliminary Engineering Feasibility Report (PEFR) on the Central Wimberley Wastewater System

City Administrator Ferguson introduced Plummer representative Steve Coonan, who presented background information on the City's existing treatment plant, area on-site septic systems (OSSF), soil conditions, and water quality issues.

Topics included in the presentation:

- Service area boundaries
- Projected collection rate of 65,000 – 75,000 gallons per day
- Stakeholder process and participation
- Types of collection systems
- Construction costs of each system type
- Operations and maintenance of each system type and associated costs
- Effluent quality and odor/noise control of each system type
- PEFR recommendation to utilize a conventional gravity flow collection system
- Wastewater treatment and disposal alternatives, including reuse of effluent options
- Criteria for discharge/reuse of effluent
- Expansion of the existing plant and various options for effluent disposal
- Alternatives for plant location
- Specific wastewater treatment alternatives, including those that include contracting with Aqua Texas
- Alternatives for phasing of project to reduce initial capital costs
- Comparison of costs for construction and operations/maintenance on a net present value basis
- Non-cost factors comparison
- Four funding alternatives:
 - User fees
 - Capital recovery fees

- Ad valorem taxes (city-wide)
- Public Improvement District (PID) assessment within defined area

Based on the PEFR, Mr. Coonan presented the following recommendation for the phased planning and design process, based on engineering analysis and stakeholder input:

- Construction of conventional collection system
- Expansion of existing Blue Hole Park plant to 75,000 gallons per day
- Treatment to reclaimed water standards
- Use of effluent to irrigate areas with Blue Hole Regional Park with discharge only when necessary
- Secure TPDES and 210 authorization
- Construction of 500,000 gallon storage tank
- Possible expansion of the service area in the near future to the north side of Cypress Creek

Mr. Coonan concluded with a timeline for upcoming steps in the planning and design phase of the project. Mayor Flocke thanked Mr. Coonan for his presentation.

Workshop Session

Discussion regarding the Preliminary Engineering Feasibility Report on the Central Wimberley Wastewater System

Discussion addressed:

- Expansion of the existing plant location versus moving the plant to another location
- Location of existing pipelines
- Size/design of storage tank
- Quality/amount of potential effluent discharge
- Establishment of a baseline for water quality data
- Concerns regarding maximum plant capacity and impact of discharge
- Option for contracting with Aqua Texas for collection and/or treatment
- Importance of master planning for central Wimberley
- Stakeholder committee's consensus-building process
- Stakeholder Committee recommendation of a conventional gravity flow collection system
- Stakeholder committee's consensus recommendation to relocate treatment facilities to a location in accordance with the Blue Hole Regional Park's Master Plan, and to cap the amount of treated wastewater
- Permitting issues, if applicable
- Recommended funding methods, including user/impact fees, city-wide ad valorem taxation, assessments and available grants
- Irrigation of Blue Hole Regional Park via reuse of effluent and role of the Park as a community asset

- Importance of central Wimberley businesses to overall local economy
- Maximum plant capacity limitations
- Temporary exemptions for those central Wimberley property owners who have recently installed septic systems
- Funding recommendations for lower-income central Wimberley property owners
- Environmental sensitivity of local waterways and importance of monitoring water quality
- Future expansion of system to north side of Cypress Creek

Mayor Flocke expressed appreciation to everyone from Plummer and Associates, Inc. and the stakeholder committee for their diligent efforts to date and for tonight’s presentation.

Hearing no further comments, Mayor Flocke called the meeting adjourned.

Adjourn

Mayor Flocke called the meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Recorded by:

Cara McPartland
Cara McPartland

These minutes approved on the 19th of December, 2013.



APPROVED:
Bob Flocke
Bob Flocke, Mayor