

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING

KERRVILLE, TEXAS
JANUARY 14, 2014

On January 14, 2014, the Kerrville City Council special meeting was called to order by Mayor Pratt at 8:30 a.m. in the city hall conference room, 701 Main Street.

COUNCILMEMBERS PRESENT:

Jack Pratt	Mayor
Carson Conklin	Mayor Pro Tem
Gene Allen	Councilmember
Stacie Keeble	Councilmember
Justin MacDonald	Councilmember

COUNCILMEMBER ABSENT: None

CITY EXECUTIVE STAFF PRESENT:

Todd Parton	City Manager
Mike Hayes	City Attorney
Kristine Ondrias	Assistant City Manager
Brenda G. Craig	City Secretary
Kim Meisner	Director of General Operations
Ashlea Boyle	Main Street/Special Projects Manager
Dieter Werner	City Engineer
Stuart Barron	Interim Public Works Director
Sandra Yarbrough	Director of Finance

KERR COUNTY COMMISSIONER PRESENT:

Tom Moser

VISITORS PRESENT: List on file in city secretary's office for the required retention period.

Water Master Plan and Water Reuse Feasibility Study

Freese and Nichols Engineering, Inc. (FNI) representatives in attendance were: John New, Scott Cole, and David Sloan.

FNI explained that the city's water treatment and distribution system was a complex system due to 13 pressure planes and ten pump stations, which were necessary because of topography. The water supply and distribution system consisted of 2 water treatment plants, 7 groundwater wells, and 2 aquifer storage and recovery wells, and 207 miles of water distribution lines.

FNI identified potential growth areas and estimated population growth at 2,752 over the next 20 years. FNI used historical data to project future water demand peak hour usage at 17.17 million gallons a day; current peak hour usage is 15.29

mgd. FNI cautioned that future development in higher pressure planes could not be served by the city's existing system; also, development along system extremities may require additional pumping and storage facilities.

FNI discussed water quality issues related to TTHM (total trihalomethanes), a chlorine disinfection byproduct. FNI noted that under former TCEQ regulations, the city was required to meet an average THM level, but under new regulations the city had to meet THM levels at individual sampling sites as selected by TCEQ. The longer time that water was in the system, the greater likelihood of TTHM forming. FNI presented a water age analysis of the city's system and discussed modifications to reduce/remove TTHM from the system.

Mr. Sloan noted that some water systems add ammonia instead of chlorine to solve TTHM problems, but he did not recommend ammonia because of side effects, such as odor and taste. Mr. Parton noted that ammonia created other types of chemical formations that had to be treated; ammonia systems had higher maintenance costs, and the entire system had to be flushed twice a year, which used a lot of water.

Mr. Sloan responded to the question, was there any advantage to integrating the Spur 100 tank into the system? He stated that putting it on line would worsen THM in the system. He suggested if the Spur 100 tank was decommissioned, it could serve as storage for reuse water; if the tank is not decommissioned, it would need to be painted and that project had not been identified by TCEQ at this time. He noted that any tanks painted prior to 1985 would likely have lead in the paint and possibly on the ground around the tanks; these sites would have to be remediated and this would impact the cost. Mr. Barron noted that the Summit tank was the last tank painted and it contained lead and had to be remediated.

FNI discussed eight projects in the water distribution system capital improvements plan totaling \$4.1 million, seven projects in the water treatment plant CIP totaling \$3,376,000. Mr. Parton noted \$1 million was allocated in the 2014 budget for THM removal system at Stadium tanks and to repaint Summit tank; \$2,118,200 was estimated for the 2015-2019 CIP budget.

Ms. Ondrias noted the next step was to formalize the plan with FNI and present it to council at a future meeting for adoption. She noted that staff would combine the water CIP and wastewater CIP and bring the integrated CIP back to the council, prioritized and based on the availability of financial resources.

Landfill Master Plan

Ms. Ondrias noted that expansion of the landfill cells would be required in order for the city to continue to operate its own landfill.

Commissioner Moser asked if existing gravel pits could be used for landfill purposes. Mr. Parton noted this would likely be prohibited by TCEQ as gravel

pits were located along riverbeds and landfill operations could create environmental issues.

Mr. Parton estimated the life of the landfill, without additional permitting and expansion, at 30 years. The permitting and creation of new cells could expand operations at the landfill, and with expansion of the recycling program, could increase the life of the landfill by an additional 50 years. He estimated three years and \$400,000 for the permitting process. Ms. Ondrias stated the main benefit to permitting now would be to lock in under today's regulations. One option to increasing the life of the landfill was to layer upwards; however, she noted a deficit of 1.2 million cubic yards of dirt.

Council recognized that advancing technology could potentially offer methods for converting waste into energy, but for now it was not proven technology or cost effective.

Water Reuse Feasibility:

FNI representatives believed that reuse ponds could be constructed at the city farm; three possible sites were selected for study. Geo-tech indicated the water table was about 15 ft. below the surface.

Ms. Ondrias noted a scope amendment in the contract with FNI would be presented to council for consideration soon. Staff was looking at alternative locations to relocate the soccer fields. Dirt excavated for the ponds would be used to construct the berms for the ponds and for landfill operations.

Ms. Ondrias noted these projects would be placed on an agenda in April to get direction from the council.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 9:43 a.m.

APPROVED: _____

Jack Pratt, Jr., Mayor

ATTEST:

Brenda G. Craig, City Secretary