Minutes of the City Council Subcommittee for Water Issues held on May 23, 2018, in the Lower Level Conference Room, located at 201 S. Cortez Street, Prescott, Arizona.

A. Call to Order

Chairman Lamerson called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

B. Roll Call

CITY COUNCIL SUBCOMMITTEE FOR WATER ISSUES MEMBERS:

Present:

Chairman Jim Lamerson

Member Steve Blair

Member Steve Sischka

Staff Present:

Michael Lamar, City Manager

Clyde Halstead, Assistant City Attorney

Craig McConnell, Regional Programs Director

Leslie Graser, Water Resource Manager

Teresa Ogle, Administrative Assistant

C. Approval of Minutes for the April 3, 2018 Meeting

COUNCILMAN SISCHKA MOVED TO APPROVE THE MEETING MINUTES OF APRIL 3, 2018; COUNCILMAN BLAIR 2ND. PASSED 3-0.

D. 2018 Alternative Water Budget Update

Leslie Graser reviewed the 2018 Alternative Water Budget. The single-family category was budgeted at 20 acre-feet (AF), with 18.50 AF remaining (between 74-92 units could still be approved with the standard allocation or if deemed EPA "WaterSense"). The multi-family category was budgeted at 10 AF, with all 2018 supplies in contract.

Councilman Sischka asked how many multi-family projects under contract are actually beginning construction. Leslie Graser will research and provide this number. There are 1,500 recent multi-family projects with water allocated in contract. Per City Policy and the contract themselves, performance criteria will apply and the project can seek a one-year, one-time extension. If the performance criteria are not met, the water will go back into the portfolio, and be made available to another project.

Councilman Lamerson asked if there was much push-back to this "use it or lose it" policy and whether there is much movement in the final plats before 1998? Ms. Graser will research and provide an update on the pre-1998 final plats.

E. Commercial Subdivisions and Assured Water Supply Requirements

Ms. Graser reviewed Arizona Revised Statute § 32-2101, and referred to the briefing provided to the Subcommittee members a month ago. Today will be the first in a three-part discussion on commercial subdivisions as it relates to assured water supply requirements.

For the City Council to approve a subdivision and in accordance with State Statutes, the subdivision must have an assured water supply. Residential subdivisions go through the platting process, and the City's water policy sets forth the amount to allocate. On commercial subdivisions the use is unknown, so the associated water demand is difficult to predict long-term. Following 1998, the City created a policy to apply one-tenth of an AF mark-up for community support services. That 0.1 AF mark-up has created a cushion of 400 AF that commercial subdivisions are relying upon now. At one time, projects with a demand of 5 AF or more were put into a water contract. Unit allocations and billing records are reviewed to determine actual use.

Ms. Graser noted that YRMC - West and ERAU continue to grow and rely on those supplies that are a result of the 0.1 AF markup. Work will continue with these institutions along with others as they build-out.

Ms. Graser reviewed the final plat for The Crossings as an example of an existing commercial subdivision. Meter reports were reviewed. Usage is approximately 8.6 AF for the complex, which is predominantly for medical services.

F. Scheduling of Next Subcommittee Meeting

The next meeting will be held Tuesday, July 3, 2018.

G. Adjourned

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 9:47 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Teresa Ogle, Administrative Coordinator

Councilman Jim Lamerson, Chairman

Date: _____