CITY OF PRESCOTT
Everybody's Hometown

CITY COUNCIL SUBCOMMITTEE FOR WATER ISSUES

MINUTES

Tuesday, November 5, 2019
9:00 a.m.

Council Chambers
201 South Cortez St., Prescott, AZ
(928) 777-1130

Minutes of the City Council Subcommittee for Water Issues meeting held on **Tuesday, November 5, 2019** in the Council Chambers, 201 South Cortez Street, Prescott, Arizona.

A. Call to Order

Chairman Lamerson called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m.

B. Roll Call

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:
Chairman Jim Lamerson
Member Steve Blair
Member Steve Sischka

CITY STAFF PRESENT:

Craig Dotseth, Public Works Director
Gwen Rowitsch, Administration Support Services Manager
Clyde Halstead, Senior Assistant City Attorney
Mark Woodfill, Finance Director
Denise Moore, Revenue Manager
Leslie Graser, Water Resources Administrator
Leah Hubbard, Water Resources Specialist
Carey Oberheim, Administrative Assistant

C. Approval of Minutes of September 3, 2019

COUNCILMAN SISCHKA MOVED TO APPROVE THE MEETING MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 3, 2019; COUNCILMAN BLAIR 2ND. PASSED 3-0

D. 2019 Budgeted Water Supplies Update

Item Summary
For January 1, 2019 until July 1, 2019, alternative water supplies were made available in accordance with City Resolution No. 2018-1663. The available supply was 350 acre-feet and stated to be for, "...any

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development of any type during this period." A second policy extension was recommended by the City's Legal Department and approved with Resolution No. 2019-1713 while ongoing policy Council Study Sessions are conducted related to water policy updates, see http://www.prescott-az.gov/

Requests for Water Service
New Water Service Agreement applications filed before October 22, 2019 (submission deadline for 11/5/2019 Subcommittee meeting).

Application No.	Units/Type	Requested Volume (in acre-feet)	Water Budget Remaining (in acre-feet)
			253.22
WSA 19-018 (Lisciarelli)	1 SFR	0.25	252.97
WSA 19-019 (Boyd)	1 SFR	0.25	252.72
WSA 19-020 (Burford)	1 SFR	0.25	252.47

SFR = Single Family; MFR = Multi-family Residential; COM = Commercial

Leslie Graser presented this item for information purposes only.

E. Water Service Agreement Applications

1. WSA 19-018 (Lisciarelli)

Item Summary

Water Service Agreement Application No. WSA19-018 was filed by Gary Lisciarelli on September 18, 2019. The applicant is seeking to connect his home (2501 W. Copper Basin Rd), built in 1979, to City water service.

Background
APN 108-21-004A is located within the City Limits. The Zone 19 Water Improvement Project added additional infrastructure up Copper Basin Road. During the infrastructure expansion, the Lisciarelli's were offered a stub-out for water service. The stub is present in the As-Builts and Zone 19 Project Plans.
The Lisciarelli's have been hauling water since the 1970's for this home and would like to connect to city water (home is a seasonal summer home). The dwelling unit will be allocated 0.25 AF/yr and can be administratively approved.

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Leah Hubbard presented this item to the Subcommittee for information purposes only.

2. WSA 19-019 (Boyd)

Item Summary
Water Service Agreement Application No. WSA19-019 was filed Scott Nalda with Crystal Creek Builders for John and Beth Boyd on September 23, 2019. The applicant is constructing a single family residence at 329 Sterba Lane (APN 111-09-043B).

Background
The property is located at the end of Sterba Lane in Mile High Park. The property has terrain difficulties but will be connecting to City sewer as required by the current Water Allocation Policy. The single family residence will be allocated 0.25 AF/yr and can be administratively approved.

Leah presented this item to the Subcommittee for information purposes only.

3. WSA 19-020 (Burford)

Item Summary
Water Service Agreement Application No. WSA19-020 was filed by Robert Burford on October 4, 2019. The applicant is constructing a single family residence at 484 S. McCormick Street (APN 109-09-086A).

Background
APN 109-09-086 was split into two parcels in 2016. City Contract No. 2017-013 allocated water for the single family residence on APN 109-09-086B. This single family residence (APN 109-09-086A) will be allocated 0.25 AF/yr and can be administratively approved.

Leah presented this item to the Subcommittee for information purposes only.

F. Comprehensive Agreement No. 1 Annual Report

Item Summary
In accordance with Comprehensive Agreement No. 1 (CA#1), City Contract No. 2013-058, Section 6.10, an annual report must be produced documenting the multiple subcontracts developing scientific data sets (Data Collection Monitoring Plan) to be applied to the Big Chino Sub-basin groundwater flow model.
The Parties are pleased to provide the Sixth Annual Report to the CA#1 principals, documenting both monitoring and modeling activities for Fiscal Year 2019 (July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019). As with previous annual reports, it has been posted on the City's website at http://www.prescott-

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az.gov/water-sewer/water-management/big-chino-water-ranch-project/project-documents/

Leslie presented that the Annual Report was competed at the end of September.

Councilman Sischka asked Leslie if there were any surprises in the report, Leslie replied no.

Councilman Blair asked what we are getting from the model that costs $316,000 (the portion for which will be added to the contract) and how long have we been working on it. Leslie stated that a full groundwater flow model ($1.2M) is the end result and we are currently in the 7th year.

Councilman Sischka asked what do we get in 2022? Leslie responded, a fully operational groundwater flow model that integrated all we know about the geology and hydrology. Then scenarios can be run on it, such as what if it is drier in the future or wetter in the future? What if there is more or less groundwater pumping (increase or decreased agricultural or domestic use)?

Chairman Lamerson remarked that a level of accountability for the shared delivery of the water from the aquifer is needed, does this model show where the demand is coming from. Leslie stated this question would be posed through running model scenarios (such as where demand centers would be). The Chairman asked if this was a good use of public monies? Leslie responded, stepping back in time recall the City was at a point where it could spend more money in the courts or on science. The decision by previous Councils was science, work with the downstream water right holder, and work toward the future.

Councilman Blair asked will the model include the demand associate with exempt wells? Leslie responded yes, and the Parties are currently in an active conversation with the modeling team (Golder) for how to include this in the model's pumping data set.

Councilman Sischka questions is this model strictly on the Big Chino aquifer or does it included the Little Chino aquifer? Leslie responded, the model focuses on the Big Chino, it was not built into the Little Chino. However, a boundary condition must be employed between to two showing how water moves across that boundary.

G. Governor's Water Augmentation, Innovation and Conservation Council Update

Item Summary

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Update on the Governor's Water Augmentation, Innovation and Conservation Council held on September 12, 2019. For the recorded meeting go to: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=65-IRDrh4m4

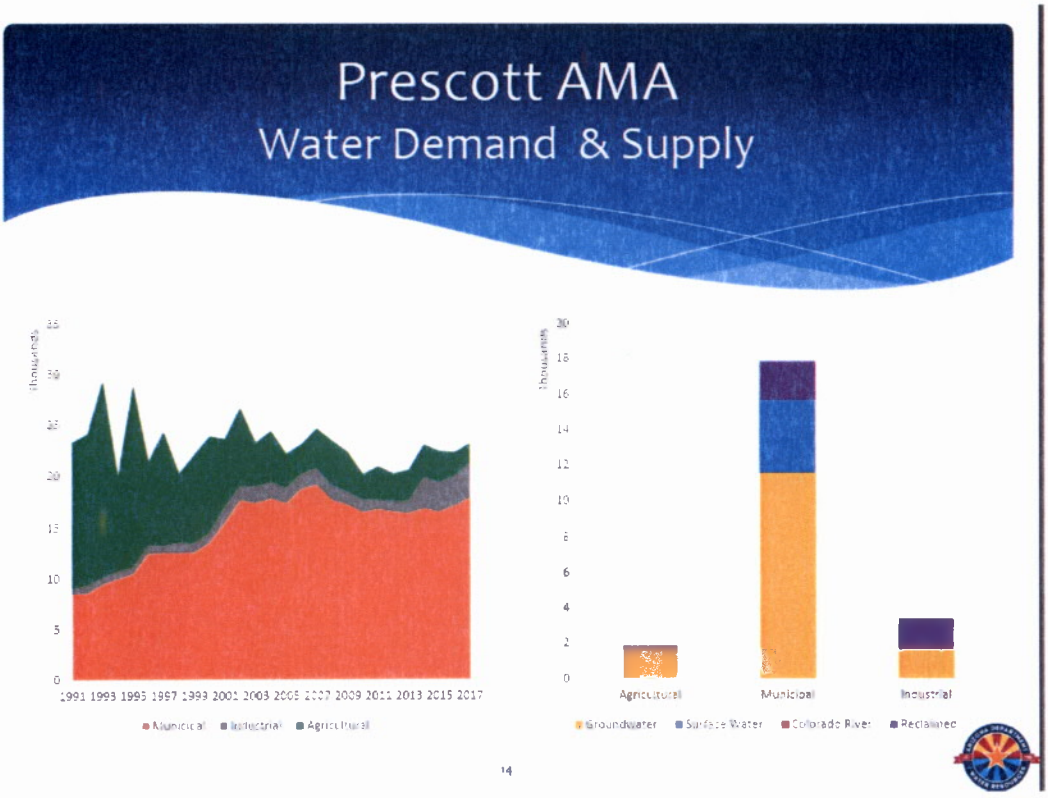
Next meeting will be held on December 3, 2019, ADWR Offices, 10:00 to 11:30am; with remote attendance available. For remote attendance coordinates go to: https://new.azwater.gov/gwaicc/contact-us

Leslie presented an overview of the September GWAICCU meeting. Which included upcoming Committee meetings:

1/16/20 – Desalination
11/14/19 – Non-AMA Groundwater
12/9/19 – Post 2025 AMA
1/8/20 – Long Term Water Augmentation

The above meetings are open to the public and they can join in person (in Phoenix) or by webinar.

Leslie also reviewed ADWR's Management Plan work group slides related to the Prescott AMA.



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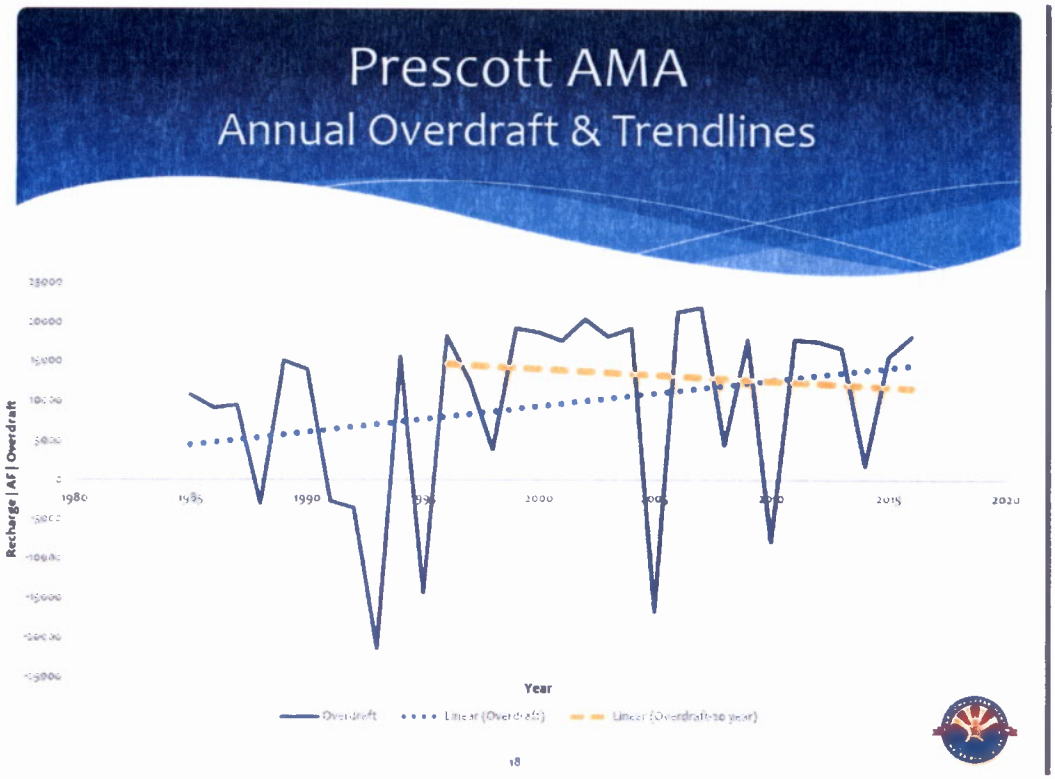

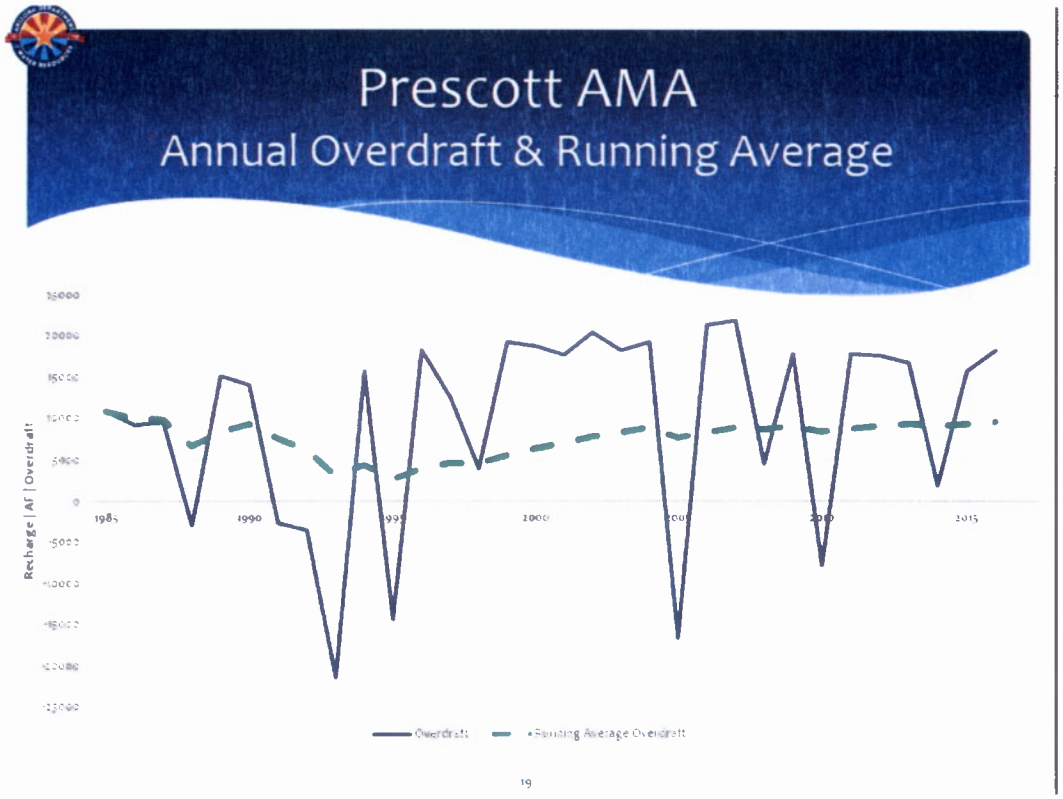

Councilman Sischka asked how many AMA's are in Arizona and if any of them are close to reaching safe yield in 2025. Leslie stated that Arizona has 5 AMAs and

the Tucson AMA is close to reaching safe yield by 2025 a big factor in this is their Colorado River supplies. Councilman Sischka asked if this was a shell game? Leslie responded not, and clarified that although Tucson is using CAP supplies (like the Phoenix Metro area) they have also employed other tactics to improve the management of water supplies.

Councilman Lamerson interjected that his recollection is that the Prescott AMA would never meet safe-yield unless it imported water supplies from the Big Chino. Leslie responded that the State's management plans recommend a multi-faceted approach (importation, conservation, reuse, etc).

H. Water Resource Management Model Update

Item Summary
Introduction to the City's Water Resource Management Model (WRMM)

Background
In the early 2010's assessments were initiated to determine where the City stood in regards to its water portfolio and what management tools would be needed in the future. This included reengaging with Herb Dishlip Consulting in 2016 to assist the City with 1) ongoing long-term water planning; 2) preparations for updating the City's AWS; and 3) future water supply opportunities. In 2016, an analysis of residential billing records (2010-2015) was performed to determine how actual use compared to water allocations assigned to Single-Family dwelling units. Based on the findings, in May 2017, City Council took the first action to better align its water allocations with actual water use; see City Council Agenda Memo dated May 9, 2017.

The above actions set forth the foundation for the WRMM. Today, a brief overview of the WRMM will be provided to include: Intended Uses, Operation and Maintenance, Basic Operating Components (Excel and GIS). Additional brief presentations on the WRMM during Subcommittee meetings can be prepared, if requested. These could include model runs (why they are done and what they tell us), and GIS maps (to show different conditions across the City, Water Service Area, etc).

Leslie presented a City compiled WRMM brochure and identified the proposed usage of the model to include tracking usage (billing data/consumption) with legally available supplies. Currently working on update procedures for annual updates. Second update will be in early 2020.

I. Review of High Water Billing Disputes

Item Summary
This item will provide a general overview of the City's current efforts toward customer leak detection, notification and billing review processes. This overview will lead into a discussion to inquire if the Water Issues Committee would consider acting in an appeals review capacity to make

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recommendations regarding high water use situations and possible reductions in payment.

Background
The City has been requested by a citizen to consider having an appeals review board related to high water billings and City practices when a residential water loss occurs.

Craig Dotseth presented the current code and process of resolving water bill disputes that includes alerting citizens when our Utility Billing system notices a higher than normal meter read with a leak letter. One citizen has requested that an appeals committee be formed as a last level of resolution.

Councilman Blair thanked Craig for the overview and stated he thinks the system in place is very fair.

Councilman Sischka stated he does not thing this should be politicized, there should be personal responsibility for this situation.

Chairman Lamerson remarked that the City goes above and beyond on this and he is happy with how the City is handling private leaks.

J. Future Agenda Items

No future agenda items discussed.
Chairman Lamerson allowed some questions from the public. Those were from Peter Kroopnick and Leslie Hoy. Member Blair asked Ms. Hoy about a recent CWAG Facebook post. As this topic was not agenized, Chairman Lamerson sought direction from Clyde. Conversation ceased on the Facebook topic.

K. Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 10:11 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Carey Oberheim

Carey Oberheim, Administrative Assistant

Councilman Jim Lamerson, Chairman

Date: 1-7-2020

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