

 CITY OF **PRESCOTT** COUNCIL SUBCOMMITTEE ON
WATER ISSUES MEETING

**REGULAR SUBCOMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES**

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2020, 9:30 AM

201 S. Cortez Street

Prescott, AZ 86303

Council Chambers

Steve Blair, Chairman

Billie Orr, Member

Steve Sischka, Member

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING OF THE PRESCOTT COUNCIL SUBCOMMITTEE ON WATER ISSUES HELD ON NOVEMBER 3, 2020, IN THE 201 S. CORTEZ STREET PRESCOTT, AZ 86303 COUNCIL CHAMBERS.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Blair called the meeting to order at 9:33 a.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Steve Blair Chairman

Steve Sischka Member

Billie Orr Member

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comment will be accepted following each agenda item and limited to three (3) minutes. Please complete a comment card and return it to the City Clerk, speakers will be called in the order received.

4. DISCUSSION & ACTION ITEMS

A. Approval of the October 6, 2020 Meeting Minutes.

**MOTION BY MEMBER SISCHKA TO APPROVE THE OCTOBER 6, 2020 MINUTES;
SECONDED BY MEMBER ORR: [PASSED 3-0].**

B. Water Requests - Approval of Water Service Application No. WSA20-007 Submitted by Chamberlain Development Prescott for APN 102-20-001G.

Water Resource Project Manager Leslie Graser provided a presentation to the Subcommittee regarding the water service application for Deep Well Master Plan area amenity facility which will be phased and include a large enclosed ramada providing services for up to 99 people, restrooms, .22 acres of turf landscaping and food truck parking on approx. 4.35 acres, utilizing 3.96 acre feet of water for Phase I. The applicant followed the full application process and does not need to go through the platting process before the Planning & Zoning Commission. The request will be schedule for a future Council Meeting following approval by the Subcommittee today.

Member Sischka asked if the allocation is coming from their current availability or the city's portfolio.

Ms. Graser responded that the 3rd Amendment to the Procedural Pre-Annexation Agreement approved by Council on October 13, 2020 allows them to seek water from the portfolio for open space/civic use request, therefore this will not be deducted from the Deep Well allocation.

Chairman Blair stated that he would like to get with the developer to find out what they plan to do overall on the property as far as water is concerned particularly because this is just the first Phase of the project.

Ms. Graser concurred and added that at this time staff doesn't know what will be included with future Phases, this approval is simply for the current Phase.

Member Sischka concurred and added that a positive is the Deep Well Master Plan was designed for people to stay out there and not clog up the streets in the City and this proposal seems to meet with that.

Member Orr agreed and added that this will all be open to the public as well.

Member of the Public Leslie Hoy addressed the Subcommittee and asked what measures will be put in place to limit water use since this is coming out of the city portfolio. She added that rainwater harvesting, curb cutouts and other requirements could help with conservation and should be options to consider.

Chairman Blair agreed that these are good options and added that catchments would be good for the

ramada area as well.

Ms. Graser responded that these items will have to follow city codes and added that additional requests could be included if the Subcommittee and Council desired to have that.

Chairman Blair stated that when this goes to Council he would like to request that the installation of a catchment be part of the approval.

Administration Support Services Manager Gwen Rowitsch stated that this requirement could be added as a condition of approval.

Chairman Blair said that he would like to ask that they use the catchment water somewhere other than the turf, and that the condition should also include utilizing catchment water from the ramada as a secondary source to water landscaping and vegetation.

Member Sischka added that there is confusion regarding the water being paid for vs. it being allocated. They do still have to pay for the water so limiting their use is in the applicant's best interest.

MOTION BY MEMBER ORR TO RECOMMEND WSA20-007 TO COUNCIL FOR APPROVAL; SECONDED BY MEMBER SISCHKA: [PASSED 3-0].

C. Infrastructure Topic - Pumping vs. Recharge January to September 2020 Update

Ms. Graser provided a presentation to the Subcommittee on this standing item. Due to dry summer additional information has been added to also include reservoirs. In September 783 acre feet of water was pumped and the City received 143 acre feet in return.

Chairman Blair asked if it is treated sewage that was moved?

Ms. Graser said that staff will look into that and report back. She added that year to date 5,778.28 acre feet have been pumped and 4,785.24 recharged.

Chairman Blair commented that it is good to see this information regularly and it is important to continue keeping the public informed.

Member Sischka added that these numbers are just the numbers.

Member of the Public Leslie Hoy asked asked how much volume recharge has been pumped to

Antelope Hills due to extraordinary drought conditions.

Ms. Graser responded that is unknown at this time, but it is typical to do this during dry conditions and staff can get those numbers.

Member Sischka asked if Prescott Lakes would also be included with those numbers.

Ms. Graser confirmed.

Member Orr commented that she is happy to see how many people are out playing golf and said that it is a great city amenity.

Member of the Public Peter Krupnick asked if it would be possible to include what portion of the recharge is surface water in the graphs so the public knows how much is available.

This item was for presentation only, no formal action was taken.

D. Focus Topic – Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR) Management Plans Workgroup Update.

Ms. Graser provided a presentation and reminded the Subcommittee that the information is available on the state website. The Fifth Management Plan will be effective Jan. 1, 2025. This group looks at all sectors and has multiple subgroups within it so the meetings have quite a few people participating and involved in reviewing the information to decide the future of management plans. All of the data helps everyone involved to stay on the same page.

Outflows vs inflows numbers fluctuate based on rainfall, etc. and most of the AMAs in Arizona are in overdraft with the exception of Tucson. The outlook is narrative about potential future issues that may impact the achievement or maintenance of safe-yield and the Prescott AMA focus is suggested to be absence of imported water supplies. This is all the management plan's assessment of the state of the Prescott AMA as well as the other AMAs in the state. Staff is tracking this and participating in meetings. This group is required by statute to come up with the Fifth Management Plan.

Member Sischka commented that it is unfortunate this is "Prescott AMA" because it leads people to believe that we have a majority of the influence on what goes on within the AMA. We have an outside source but we don't have a way to get it here and that is a difficult position to be in.

Chairman Blair stated that he has had people ask about Prescott Valley and whether or not they are in the AMA, he asked staff to confirm.

Ms. Graser confirmed and added that they pump primarily out of the Upper Aqua Fria in Prescott Valley and Dewey-Humboldt, while Prescott, Chino Valley and the unincorporated County mostly utilize the Little Chino. Our AMA includes everyone in the Quad city area. And added that staff will continue to provide updates as they come in.

Member Sishka asked if there are any rumblings regarding moving past importation sources and looking at exempt wells within the AMA.

Ms. Graser responded that this is part of the Governor's group review.

Chairman Blair stated that he would like to have an hour long study session for Council on this item as a review for all of 2020.

City Clerk Sarah Siep responded that there would be availability after the first of the year and she will work with Water Resources staff to schedule for March 2021.

This item was for discussion only, no formal action was taken.

5. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, Chairman Blair adjourned the meeting at 10:27 a.m.



STEVE BLAIR, Chairman

ATTEST:



SARAH M. SIEP, City Clerk

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Regular Subcommittee Meeting of the Council Subcommittee on Water Issues of the City of Prescott, Arizona held on November 3, 2020. I further certify the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Dated this 1st day of December, 2020.



Sarah M. Siep, City Clerk