



**PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMITTEE  
MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING  
Wednesday, April 15, 2015**

**The Public Utilities Committee convened in a regular meeting on Wednesday, April 15, 2015 at Austin City Hall, 301 W. Second Street, Boards and Commission room in Austin, Texas.**

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:** Chair Delia Garza called the Public Utilities Committee meeting to order at 3:08 p.m.

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Council Member Delia Garza, Chair, Council Member Don Zimmerman, Vice Chair, Council Member Ann Kitchen, and Council Member Ellen Troxclair

**STAFF IN ATTENDANCE: (28 Staff Members)**

Leeanne Pacatte, Craig Bell, Mike Personett, Chuck Lesniak, Kelly Gagnon, Greg Meszaros, Bart Jennings, David Anders, Dave Juarez, Susan Delgado, Daryl Slusher, Patty Campos, Alice Flora, Phillip Jaeger, Cole Huggins, Alberto Ramirez, Colleen Kirk, Natasha Goodwin, Tina Bui, Denise Avery, Kristi Fenton, Robert Rowan, Christine Perez, Maria Sanchez, Mitzi Cotton, Rondella Hawkins, Sara Hensley, Kevin Gomillion, Victoria Li, Robert Goode, Chastity Hodges

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. There are no meeting minutes to approve

**CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL**

2. List name of speaker(s) and brief description of topic.

Barbara Scott – Decker Lake Golf Course Process

David King – Storm Water Fees

Girard Kinney – Sub-metering costs and rules for Apartment Dwelling Units/Garage Apartments

Sabina Daly – Fees for Apartment Dwelling Units/Garage Apartments

**STAFF BRIEFINGS**

None at this time.

**ITEMS FOR COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION**

3. Briefing, public comment, and possible Committee action relating to a proposed Service Extension Request No. 3524 for water service to a 1.93 acre tract at 6720 Vaught Ranch Road located within the Drinking Water Protection Zone, the City's 2-mile extraterritorial jurisdiction and Austin Water Utility's service area. Related to Item #4.

**There was a motion by Council Member Zimmerman and seconded by Council Member Troxclair to refer this item to the full Council with the recommendations presented by staff. Motion was approved unanimously on a 4-0-0-0 vote.**

4. Briefing, public comment, and possible Committee action relating to a proposed Service Extension Request No. 3525 for wastewater service to a 1.93 acre tract at 6720 Vaught Ranch Road located within the Drinking Water Protection Zone, the City's 2-mile extraterritorial jurisdiction and Austin Water Utility's service area. Related to Item #3.

**There was a motion by Council Member Zimmerman and seconded by Council Member Troxclair to refer this item to the full Council with the recommendations presented by staff. Motion was approved unanimously on a 4-0-0-0 vote.**

5. Watershed Protection Department briefing, public comment, and possible Committee action on proposed amendments to City Code Chapter 15-2 relating to the drainage charge.

**There was a motion by Council Member Garza and seconded by Council Member Troxclair to return this item to the full council to conduct the public hearing on May 21, 2015 with the following conditions:**

**City Staff will:**

- **Have additional discussions with Council on the impact of the billing methodology**
- **Clarify and present changes to language in Chapter 15.2.8c of the Drainage Utility City Code**
- **Provide options on allocating drainage fee charges**

**Motion was approved unanimously on a 4-0-0-0 vote**

6. Briefing by Texas Gas Service (TGS) Company on services provided; staff briefing, public comment, and possible Committee action relating to a Gas Reliability Infrastructure Program interim customer surcharge proposed by Texas Gas Service Company.

**City Staff and Rate Consultants will return to the Public Utilities Committee on May 20<sup>th</sup> with the following:**

1. **Staff recommendation on 2015 TGS GRIP filing**
2. **Plant investments and the financial impact of the lag between when TGS makes investments and when it begins to recover those investments through rates.**
3. **Trend Analysis to include last rate case through this GRIP filing; TGS will provide the following by year:**

- a. **Date of Filing**

- b. Customer Count**
- c. Increase in Net Investment**
- d. Revenue Increase**
- e. Rate by Customer Class**
- f. Rate Increase by Customer Class**

- 4. Reasons for the increase (this came up during the discussion of the mandated safety-related replacements).**
- 7. Briefing, public comment, and possible Committee action on issues related to Decker Golf course.**

**There was a motion by Council Member Kitchen and seconded by Council Member Zimmerman to refer this item to the full Council with no recommendation. Council Member Garza will create a report and post it on the message board. Motion was approved unanimously on a 4-0-0-0 vote.**

#### **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION**

#### **FUTURE ITEMS**

- a. Look at recommendations that come from the task force (Water Resource Management) – possibly diversification options.**
- b. Water Wells and associated fees**

#### **ADJOURN**

**There was a motion by Council Member Troxclair and seconded by Council Member Zimmerman to adjourn the meeting. Council Member Garza adjourned the meeting at 6:48 p.m. on a 4-0-0-0 vote.**

**The minutes were approved on this the 20<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2015 on Council Member Troxclair's motion, Council Member Kitchen's second on a 3-0-0-1 vote. Council Member Garza, Chair was absent.**