



**PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, January 20, 2016**

The Public Utilities Committee convened in a regular meeting on Wednesday, January 20, 2016 at Austin City Hall, 301 W. Second Street, Council Chambers in Austin, Texas.

Chair Delia Garza called the Public Utilities Committee Meeting to order at 3:05 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: (19 Staff Members)

Denise Avery, Tina Bui, Natasha Goodwin, Patricia Campos, Laura Williamson, Greg Meszaros, Jane Burazer, Daryl Slusher, Bart Jennings, Susan Groce, Elaine Kelly-Diaz, David Anders, Kevin Critendon, Rick Coronado, Jason Hill, Chris Chen, Maria Sanchez, Rondella Hawkins, and Kevin Shunk.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approve the minutes of the Public Utilities Committee meeting of December 16, 2015.

The minutes from the Public Utilities Committee of December 16, 2015 were approved on Council Member Garza's motion, Council Member Zimmerman's second on a 3-1-0-0 vote. Council Member Troxclair was off the dais.

CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL

2. The first five speakers signed up prior to the meeting being called to order will each be allowed three minutes to address their concerns regarding items not posted on the agenda.

The following 5 speakers signed up to speak and were allowed three minutes to address their concerns:

Donald Conklin- Austin Water Rates

Brenda Richter- Austin Water Rates

Daniel Llanes- Zoning and Land Use Planning

Susana Almanza- Zoning and Land Use Planning

Angelica Noyola- Zoning and Land Use Planning

ITEMS FOR COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION

3. Approve an ordinance authorizing negotiation and execution of an amended wastewater cost reimbursement agreement with Club Deal 120 Whisper Valley, L.P., for the design and construction of a phased wastewater treatment plant and wastewater interceptor in an amount not to exceed \$18,194,779 (which represents an increase of \$3,394,779). This ordinance would supersede ordinances 20070607-004, 20100527-006, 20100826-004, 20130117-015, and 20140807-013 and would waive City Code Section 25-9-33, 25-9-62, 25-9-63, 25-9-64 and resolution 20080214-055.

There was a motion made by Council Member Zimmerman and second by Council Member Kitchen to move this item to the full Council. Motion was approved on a 3-0-1-0 vote with Council Member Garza abstaining.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

4. Briefing and public comment regarding telecommunication infrastructure.

Citizen Speakers:

Amanda Derr

Dave Anderson

City representatives Rondella Hawkins, Telecommunication & Regulatory Affairs and Susan Groce, Austin Energy gave a presentation to the Committee.

The committee did not make a motion or recommendation but asked staff to return to the Public Utilities Committee in 6 months with a policy recommendation.

6. Briefing and public comment regarding fire demand water charge practices.

Citizen Speakers:

Marcia Stokes

Gail Smith

Bob Parmelee

City representative David Anders, Austin Water gave a presentation to the Committee.

The committee did not make a motion or recommendation on this item.

5. Briefing and public comment regarding the schedule and status of floodplain map changes.

City representative Kevin Shunk gave a presentation to the committee.

The committee did not make a motion or recommendation on this item but would like this item to come back before the Public Utilities Committee in March. They also plan to discuss the results from the Upper Onion Creek Study.

STAFF BRIEFING

7. Briefing on Water Billing Audit.

City representatives David Anders, Austin Water and Elaine Kelly-Diaz, Austin Energy gave a presentation to the committee.

The committee did not make a motion or recommendation on this item.

City Staff will:

- **Follow up with vendor in regards to contract issues**
- **Follow up with Council Member Kitchen in regards to new policy changes**

FUTURE ITEMS

8. Discussion of future agenda items.

- **Results from the Upper Onion Creek Engineering Analysis- March**
- **Resolution to except the PUC's ruling in the mud water rate law suit**
- **Resolution to immediately move from Stage 2 to Stage 1- March**
- **Eliminate Austin Water's General Fund transfers in FY 2016-2017 for water bill reduction by 7%**

ADJOURN

Chair Delia Garza adjourned the meeting at 5:42 p.m. without objection.

The minutes were approved on this the 17th of February, 2016 on Council Member Zimmerman's motion, Council Member Kitchen's second on a 3-0 vote. Council Member Troxclair was off the dais.