

Tuesday, 7 P.M.

April 8, 2002

**UTILITY RATE REVIEW COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

City Hall

Newberg, Oregon

Members Present:

Ernie Amundson
Rebecka Ratcliffe

Matson Haug

Dan Schutter

Members Absent:

David Maben

Barry Babin

Others Present:

Dan Danicic, City Engineer
Mike Soderquist, Community Development Dir.
Kathy Tri, Finance Director
Shaun Pigott, Consultant

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chair Dan Schutter.

2. Roll Call

Roll call was noted by Kathy Tri.

3. Continued Business

Shaun Pigott reviewed key points in the Storm Sewer Master Plan. These included the hydraulic capacity of the pipes and culverts, identified projects and costs, and the possibility that the City will be a Phase II city for the NPDES permit requirements. He further discussed the NPDES requirements with regard to water quality. He indicated that a monthly service charge is becoming the common way to fund storm sewer maintenance and capital. Mat Haug asked about what would happen if the City did not meet the NPDES standards. Mr. Pigott responded that the City would be fined.

Shaun Pigott then reviewed the various funding options. He indicated that a monthly charge is a generally accepted way of financing a storm sewer system. Dan Schutter asked about properties that drain directly into the creeks and are not using the system in the streets. It was indicated that the property is still part of the bigger system and the City is responsible for the quality of water in the streams.

Shaun Pigott then reviewed seven different rate structures. He stated that the goal is equity and fairness. He added that the rate should be based on impervious surface area; however, single family customers are generally charged a uniform rate. The topic of credits was raised. Mr. Pigott indicated that credits can create incentives to encourage property owners to do the right design. Rebecka Ratcliffe asked if credits would apply to monthly rates or SDCs. Mr. Pigott indicated they could apply to both.

The Committee then reviewed a preliminary budget and revenue projections. Members asked if streets were included in impervious area. Mat Haug asked about private streets. He also wanted to be sure the staff would update any pertinent codes to comply

Utility Rate Review Committee
April 8, 2002
Page 2

with the necessary quality and quantity storm water requirements. Dan Danicic stated that standards were in place for quantity but not quality. Mat Haug requested that new language be adopted concurrent with this process. Shaun Pigott indicated that development standards are part of the NPDES process and will be developed over time but that there is a commitment to review the standards.

The next meeting date will be April 22, 2002. The meeting was adjourned.

Approved by the Utility Rate Review Committee on this 24th day of June, 2002.