

SOUTHWOOD PARK RATE COMMITTEE MINUTES
February 10.2021

Meeting called to order 7:04pm

Present: Sue Weston

Kelli Byrd

Eric Leatham

Helen Johnson

Whit & Michelle Middlecoff

Jenifer Daugherty

“Water customer”

Absent: KC Rogers

Began meeting with Powerpoint to explain:

Basic explanation of basic facts about water district, how we came to need so many basic maintenance items, and why rate increases are needed

Current water rates and income

Neighboring water district rate structure

Needed upkeep and maintenance projects

How much money we're likely to need to accomplish projects—around \$35,000 - \$50,000 dollar extra per year to start

Questions and discussion:

Will \$50,000 be enough?

Would it be used for debt repayment?

Current annual rate increases have raised base rate by \$1/month and 10c/CCF; that won't be enough

Do larger (1") service lines cost more to service?

Can we combine painting and pump replacement projects to avoid going onto Portland's very expensive water once?

Can we refurbish old pump to keep it as a reserve/backup?

How soon will we have enough money for first repair project?

How do customers at meeting react to proposed increases?

Jenifer—raise base rates somewhat, raise cost per CCF more substantially, higher rates for higher water users

Whit—raise base rate a little, higher increases for higher users, an extra charge for ADUs

Helen—prefers tiered system

Eric—prefers tiered system

Hiland has told KC that implementing tiered system won't cost more

Invited meeting attendees to join rate committee. Whit Middlecoff will join.

Further discussion and actions:

Discussed process of sending notices and implementing rate increases

Discussed timing of repairs

Discussed proposal from SUEZ for painting & relining water tank

Discussed generating more ideas for proposed rate restructuring by sending Powerpoint to attendees and to CPO email list, and posting it on website and on Nextdoor,

Kelli will post on website and Nextdoor; Michelle will email to CPO list

Water district can find information on two organizations we're members of: SDAO and OAWU

District's small size may make it difficult to find contractors to work with us.

Rate committee members, water board members and interested water customers can play around with proposals to structure rate increases, to discuss at next rate committee meeting.

Next meeting will be Wednesday March 10, 2021 at 7pm.

Adjourned at 8:11pm.

Minutes by Sue Weston