DISCUSSION WITH WEBER BASIN WATER REGARDING DROUGHT CONDITIONS

Scott Paxman, Weber Basin Water, explained Weber Basin Water was concerned with how the demand for water would be impacted by future population growth. He informed the Council it was Weber Basin Water Conservancy District’s goal to stay ahead of the population growth specific to water development. He announced the most important development project was conservation. He reported it was Governor Herbert’s goal, as well as the District’s, for twenty-five percent conservation per capita by the year 2025. He pointed out conservation criteria would differ depending on geographical location as well as whether the residents would accept more desert landscaping similar to Arizona.

Mr. Paxman informed the Council the second project would be converting agriculture water supplies to residential use once the agricultural land was residentially developed.
Councilmember Bush requested clarification if the District required the farmer to sell the water rights associated with the agriculture property to the developer. Mr. Paxman explained the District had agreements with municipalities which had a large amount of agriculture irrigation needs which had ordinances requiring a water allotment for the next use or development.
Mr. Paxman stated another area the District was studying was known as Aquifer Recharge and Recovery. He explained this was groundwater recharge in which reservoirs were built and filled with water taken from the Weber River which supplemented the groundwater. He explained the aquifer acted as a reservoir for the District. He emphasized it was the District’s responsibility to meet the demand for water as opposed to developing huge water infrastructure projects and believed the current supplies were sufficient until 2035.

He announced the next large water project would be the Bear River Project in Box Elder County which would be the next big importation project for drinking water. He reported the project would cost more than one billion dollars and stated it was necessary to conserve and reuse as much water as possible. He also pointed out discussions were taking place with the Division of Water Resources about several possible reservoir sites as well as possible pipeline alignments. He reviewed the water allocations designated by the Legislature and explained the challenges in capturing water from the Logan River. He mentioned the Willard Bay reservoir was shallow and experienced a significant amount of evaporation.

Mr. Paxman explained in addition to water development projects the District also needed to address water infrastructure projects. He stated the current infrastructure was over sixty five years old and reported the projected cost to complete the needed improvements was also approximately one billion dollars.

Mr. Paxman reminded the Council the previous winter was long and cold with a significant amount of snow; however, most of the snow was in the valleys and not in the upper elevations. He pointed out the snow pack in the Wasatch Back was less than seventy percent of normal. He explained the challenges associated with the public’s perception of the current drought and available water resources. He reported estimates of the amount of water stored in the reservoirs for this water year were less than what was used last year and added it had always been the goal of the District to have a fifty percent carryover of reservoir capacity following summer usage. He emphasized if the same amount of water was used this summer there would be nothing to carry over. He stressed the need for conservation and suggested a reduction in water use for landscaping and indicated residents watered landscaping twice as much as what was needed.

He reported the conservation efforts since the campaign was implemented in 2000 had recognized a significant decrease in water usage and figures estimated a reduction of approximately twenty percent. He expressed confidence the residents of Utah had responded positively to the conservation campaign. He stated it was the opinion of the District that most irrigation systems were poorly designed, operated and maintained.

Mr. Paxman reported there were conservation programs available to the public:
- The Learning Garden
- Public Education Component
- Secondary Water Metering
- Rebate Program
He pointed out a few of the handouts and programs available to the public:

- List of low water-use plants
- Turf management information
- Soil information
- Landscape products
- Irrigation hints
- Presentations specific to water conservation at the garden and indoor facility
- Water check program for residents

Mr. Paxman informed the Council the current water restriction enforced by the District was for no outdoor watering between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. He stated this was strictly being enforced and after three warnings of violation the water would be turned off. He informed the Council there were several links on the District’s website which provided water conservation suggestions. He also mentioned there were several classes advertised on the website specific to irrigation, design, pruning, plants, soils and gardening. He stated the District also sponsored Garden Fairs twice a year during which outdoor vendors were available for questions/answers and products. He commented tours of the Water Conservancy facilities were also available.

Mr. Paxman reported the District had been working towards a secondary water metering program for at least a decade and reported several prototypes had been tested with unsuccessful results. He shared the history of the devices and reported all new subdivisions approved after 2010 were required to install secondary water meters. He explained the challenges of installing them at existing homes and reported a sampling was installed in various areas with great success. He believed secondary water metering was essential to encouraging conservation. He stated the District had the capabilities to provide a water usage report reflecting water usage patterns compared to landscaping needs which was another tool to assist residents with conservation efforts.

Adam Lenhard, City Manager, inquired what the District’s recommendation for water conservation would be for Clearfield City since it didn’t have many secondary water users. Mr. Paxman responded the City should consistently encourage the residents to conserve water. Mr. Lenhard inquired if the City should implement strict measures to residents at this time. Mr. Paxman suggested the City continue with education and conservation efforts for the time being.

**DISCUSSION ON THE AWARD OF BID FOR THE FREEPORT E STREET SEWER PROJECT**

Scott Hodge, Public Works Director, reported the sewer improvement project was located at the western portion of the Freeport Center. He explained a sewer outfall line was installed about five years ago from the Freeport area to 1000 West. He continued the project would be taking that outfall sewer line and continuing it further east in Freeport Center. He stated the current sewer line was flowing at capacity and the new larger line would accommodate more volume. He informed the Council future projects would continue the larger line even further east.
He announced five bids were received and the lowest responsible bid was received from Brinkerhoff Excavation. He stated the proposed cost of the project was within budgeted parameters and indicated the item was on the Council’s Agenda.

Councilmember LeBaron inquired how the two different sized lines would accommodate the velocity changes. Mr. Hodge explained that as more pipe was installed farther up the line that problem was reduced because the larger pipe could easily accommodate the flow.

**DISCUSSION ON THE AWARD OF BID FOR THE BARLOW STREET STORM DRAIN PROJECT**

Scott Hodge, Public Works Director, explained the storm drain project would take place on the northern portion of Barlow Street near 600 North and end at Barlow Circle. He continued the subdivision had minimal storm drains and the project would tie into a connection which emptied into Steed Pond.

He informed the Council seven contractors had bid on the project and Leon Poulson submitted the lowest bid. He mentioned the company had completed projects for the City in the past and informed the Council the cost for the project was within the budgeted parameters.

He explained the pipe for the project would begin with an eighteen inch pipe continuing to a fifteen inch pipe size and reviewed specifics of the project with the Council.

**DISCUSSION ON STREET LIGHT PURCHASES AND LED CONVERSION**

Bob Wylie, Administrative Services Director, reported he had been involved in previous discussions regarding the replacement of street lights with new LED lights. He was informed of study results which indicated a return of investment and savings for the new LED lights. He had requested a copy of the study and reviewed the results with the Council.

He informed the Council 146 street light poles were owned by the City and 641 were owned by Rocky Mountain Power (RMP) and explained the poles owned by RMP had a different billing schedule from those owned by the City. He reported he had contacted Lewis Young Robertson and Burningham (LYRB) to inquire about the study because they were responsible for completing the study and requested it research Clearfield’s street lights to determine the best course of action for the City. He pointed out the study would be conducted at no cost.

He mentioned the study also included the interior and outside lighting at City Hall and the Aquatic Center to determine if any savings could be recognized. He reported Scott Hodge, Public Works Director, and Eric Howes, Community Services Director, were also involved with LYRB representatives.

Mr. Wylie briefly reviewed the study. He stated the cost to replace the poles currently owned by RMP as well as those owned by the City with LED lights was approximately $500,000 and the savings in energy costs to the City would be approximately $141,000 per year. He summarized the return on investment would be approximately four years with an annual savings to the
General Fund after that time of $141,000. He reported the estimated life expectancy for the LED lights was twenty years which equated to a life savings of $3,086,000.

Councilmember Shepherd clarified the proposed costs included the cost for converting the lights to LED. Mr. Wylie responded in the affirmative and explained the costs included purchasing the light poles from RMP, replacing lights with LED fixtures, and the inclusion of a rebate by RMP. A discussion took place regarding shared usage of light poles from other utility companies with RMP.

Councilmember Bush announced both Syracuse and Layton cities had recently approved such a conversion. Brian Brower, City Attorney, reported Syracuse City’s return on investment had been greater than anticipated.

Mr. Wylie reported the net cost to convert the lights to LED at the Aquatic Center was approximately $90,000 with the first year’s electrical savings of $42,817. Eric Howes, Community Services Director, reminded the Council of previous discussions regarding humidity issues specific to systems at the Aquatic Center. He emphasized the humid environment had affected the lighting fixtures and believed the investment in replacing the current fixtures with LED fixtures would be recognized within two years. He explained the current challenges associated with replacing the lights at the Aquatic Center. Mr. Wylie emphasized the return on investment at the Aquatic Center would be recognized much more quickly. He suggested the expenditure be addressed during the reopen of the budget.

Councilmember Murray inquired if the project would have to be completed all at once. Mr. Wylie suggested completing the Aquatic Center first. Mr. Howes reported the Community Arts Center had not been included in the study because the City had already used energy grant funds to replace the lighting during the remodel. Mr. Wylie stated LYRB would work directly with RMP to obtain the rebates for the City.

The Council directed staff to move forward with the LED light replacement.

The meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED
This 20th day of August, 2013
/s/Don Wood, Mayor

ATTEST:
/s/Nancy R. Dean, City Recorder
I hereby certify that the foregoing represents a true, accurate, and complete record of the Clearfield City Council meeting held Tuesday, July 9, 2013.

/s/Nancy R. Dean, City Recorder