

The special meeting of February 12, 2013 was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Present were Commissioners Charlotte Haines and Ron Ricker; Diane Pottinger, District Manager; Denny Clouse, Operations Manager; Barb Shosten, Finance Manager and Jaime Placencia, Executive Assistant.

NEW / OLD BUSINESS:

Commissioner Haines introduced herself and the Board as well as District staff to the public. Ms. Pottinger provided the attending public a brief history of the District.

Mr. Adam Schuyler and Ms. Valerie Tokumoto of BHC Consultants to discuss the North City Pump station project.

A member of the public inquired as to the timeline of construction. Mr. Schuyler informed the public that the project is scheduled to go out to bid in June or July, 2013 and that the construction period will take approximately 14 months.

Another member of the public asked whether the tank is safe in the case of an earthquake. Mr. Schuyler explained that there is an automatic shutoff system that will activate in the case of an emergency. Mr. Schuyler also informed the public that there is a valve that is available for residents to fill containers of water in the case of emergency.

Ms. Pottinger informed the public that the District is considering a name change in order to avoid being misidentified as the City of Shoreline and to establish that the District provides service to residents in both Lake Forest Park and Shoreline.

Ms. Pottinger discussed the water rates and informed the public that a scheduled rate increase has been adopted so that large increases do not have to be implemented all at once.

Ms. Sue Walker, Shoreline School District Superintendent discussed the rate increase that occurred in 2012. She stated that the School District has been paying their bills under protest because they do not believe that the rate increase was unfairly distributed and she believes that the School District was being charged more than their fair share.

A resident asked what it was about the supply of water to the schools that makes it more expensive and asked if a reasonable comparison has been made between the schools and single family residences. Ms. Pottinger stated that the District is governed by requirement and standards set by the Department of Health. Because the school is a gathering place, the requirement is 3500 gpm as opposed to 1500 gpm for a single family home. Ms. Pottinger noted that a meeting is scheduled with the Shoreline School District for February 13, 2013 so that they can discuss their billings more specifically because she believes that the numbers the school has presented are inaccurate.

A few residents stated they would be willing to have a higher water bill in order to lower the School District's bill because they support the schools and don't want their budget negatively impacted.

Mr. Mike Jacobs, Shoreline School Board member commented that he believes the District should look at reducing its administrative costs.

Commissioner Haines stated that the Board looked at the rates extensively and how they would affect each rate class. She went on to state that for years the single family residences were subsidizing the other rate classes. The cost of service study that was completed in 2011 more accurately identified where the water was being used and therefore, the costs should be allocated. She also stated that legally the District is not able to bill customers using preferential treatment.

Ms. Pottinger thanked the public for attending.

NEXT MEETING: February 19, 2013 at 3:00 p.m.

ADJOURN: The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

COMMISSIONERS