



# Minutes

DEPARTMENT of PUBLIC UTILITIES  
ADMINISTRATION

## **Salt Lake City Public Utilities Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes January 23, 2025**

The Public Utilities Advisory Committee (PUAC) meeting was held at 7:30 am on Thursday, January 23, 2025. Committee members present were Kathryn Floor (Vice-Chair), Dani Cepernich, Tom Godfrey, Chris Shope, Ted Boyer and Roger Player. Salt Lake City Public Utilities employees present were Laura Briefer, Jesse Stewart, Jason Brown, Tamara Wambeam, Jason Draper, Jeff Grimsdell, Lisa Tarufelli, Audree Ketchum; Teresa Gray, Ali Gee, Rusty Vetter, Holly Lopez, Stephanie Duer, Tamara Prue, Michelle Barry, Jesse Killinger, Kristeen Beitel, Sydnee Brinton, Valerie Kenyon, David Esser, Lauralyn Whitte, Chloe Morroni and Janine Calfo. Others present were Carly Castle with the SLC Attorney's Office, Austin Kimmell, Salt Lake City Council Office; Megan Yuill from the Salt Lake City Mayor's Office; Karina Payne, Carollo Engineering; Clark Burbidge, Codale; Susan Spore with Brown and Caldwell. Gordon Cook, Morgan Lovato and Michael Ferro.

### **Welcome and Introductions**

Laura Briefer and Kathryn Floor welcomed everyone to the committee meeting.

### **Approve Minutes of December 11, 2024, Meeting**

A motion was made and seconded to approve minutes of the December 11, 2024, PUAC meeting. All members voted to approve.

### **Election of Chair for 2025**

Tom Godfrey nominated Kathryn Floor as chair, Chris Shope seconded. All members voted to approve.

### **Election of Vice-Chair for 2025**

Kathryn Floor nominated Chris Shope as vice-chair. Tom Godfrey seconded. All members voted to approve.

### **Approve 2025 PUAC Meeting Calendar**

A motion was made and seconded to approve the 2025 PUAC meeting Calendar. All members voted to approve.

**Monthly Financial Report**  
**Lisa Tarufelli, Finance Administrator**

Lisa Tarufelli gave the financial report October and November of 2024. A copy of the presentation is attached.

**October 2024**

Water Fund: Operating revenues are 63.44 percent of budget. Operating expenses are 30.14 percent of budget. Metered water sales are 62 percent of budget. Capital expenditures and encumbrances are 165.33 percent of budget. This number is unusually high due to some Workday issues and carryover of encumbrances. Bond funds at the end of October consisted of \$40.449 million in 2022 proceeds.

Sewer Fund: Operating revenues are 38.56 percent of budget. Sewer use charges are 35 percent of budget. Operating expenses are 30.36 percent of budget. Capital expenditures and encumbrances are at 63.83 percent of budget. Bond funds at the end of October consisted of \$12.867 million in 2022 proceeds.

Stormwater Fund: Operating revenues are 42.26 percent of budget. Storm drain fees are 37 percent of budget. Operating expenses are 29.83 percent of budget. Capital expenditures and encumbrances are 74.40 percent of budget.

Street Lighting Fund: Operating revenues are 37.95 percent of budget. Streetlighting fees are 34 percent of budget. Operating expenses are 42.38 percent of budget. Capital expenditures and encumbrances 16.73 percent of budget.

Overall, operating revenues are 52.13 percent, operating expenses are 30.5 percent and capital expenditures and encumbrances are 90.63 percent of budget. Delinquent billings are 0.97 percent. There are \$53.317 million in 2022 bond funds.

Customer service staff mailed nearly 5,900 delinquent notices and was able to collect \$1 million in delinquent bills over the phone and collection stops. No bankruptcies reported.

**November 2024**

Water Fund: Operating revenues are 69.99 percent of budget. Metered water sales are 70 percent of budget. Operating expenses are 36.25 percent of budget. Capital expenditures and encumbrances are 166.03 percent of budget. This number is unusually high due to some Workday issues and carryover of encumbrances. Bond funds at the end of September consisted of \$39.215 million in 2022 proceeds.

Sewer Fund: Operating revenues are 46.20 percent of budget. Sewer use charges are 42 percent of budget. Operating expenses are 36.94 percent of budget. Capital expenditures and encumbrances



are at 63.83 percent of budget. Bond funds at the end of September consisted of \$11.826 million in 2022 proceeds.

Stormwater Fund: Operating revenues are 50.66 percent of budget. Storm drain fees are 46 percent of budget. Operating expenses are 35.32 percent of budget. Capital expenditures and encumbrances are 102.42 percent of budget.

Street Lighting Fund: Operating revenues are 45.07 percent of budget. Operating expenses are 49.97 percent of budget. Capital expenditures are 18.93 percent of budget. There is still a high amount of copper theft that is causing expenses to be high.

Overall, operating revenues are 59.23 percent, operating expenses are 36.70 percent and capital expenditures and encumbrances are 92 percent of budget. Delinquent billings are 1.23 percent. There are \$51.042 million in 2022 bond funds. Series 2025 bonds priced in early January and are scheduled to close February 4.

4,700 delinquent notices were mailed during November. There were 420 shut offs, 322 reconnects, and 9,200 calls were taken/made in Customer Service.

The Rate Study for water, sewer, and stormwater was presented to City on January 7, 2025. Impact Fee and facility plans are in progress.

FY 2025 budget – work continues for the year end obligation roll forward.

WIFIA - a quarterly report is due January 30<sup>th</sup> and a loan draw has been submitted.

Revenue Bonds - Series 2024A closed in late December for the State loan for the lead service line replacement.

### **PUAC Budget Subcommittee Report**

Kathryn Floor gave a brief synopsis of the two meetings that have been held by the PUAC Budget Subcommittee. The subcommittee members from the PUAC are Kathryn Floor, Chris Shope and Roger Player. These meetings are open to the public. Laura Briefer discussed the budget priorities and challenges.

### **Development Services Division Update Kristeen Beitel, Development Services Administrator**

Kristeen Beitel gave a presentation for the Development Services Division Update. A copy of her presentation is attached.

Kristeen explained the function of the Development Services Division and some of the large projects that are handled by the Division. Utah Code Section 10-6-160 requires cities to review housing projects within 14 days. To comply with the law, the Division has hired more staff, streamlined processes, and is planning for future hires.



The new Division provides permitting and review services with a team of permit technicians, engineering technicians, and review engineers. Kristeen introduced the members of her team to the Committee.

**Rate Study and Budget Public Engagement Plan  
Chloe Morroni, Communications and Public Engagement Manager**

Chloe Morroni gave a presentation on the outreach being conducted regarding the proposed new rate structure. A copy of that presentation is attached.

Chloe explained the goals of public engagement: Inform the public of proposed rate changes, increase awareness about how rate changes will impact community members, and educate the community about how revenue is used and why rate changes are needed. Tom Godfrey asked if dollar amounts are discussed in communication to the public. Chloe responded that there are some instances where those amounts are given, but not in all instances.

Chloe spoke about the outreach methods that are used that include traditional media, social media, traditional mailers and online presence and gave examples of communications that are being made.

Several videos have been recorded regarding the water rate changes. The Public Utilities Webpage has detailed information for the public to consume that will include links to videos of the television spots.

**Public Comment**

There were no public comments during this meeting.

**Other Business**

Laura Briefer mentioned that the 2025 Legislation Session has started. There is one piece of legislation that involves fluoride. The new legislation proposes prohibiting agencies adding fluoride to the water system. There may be some legal jeopardy involved and some adverse public outcomes.

**Meeting adjourned at 8:58 am.**

**Next meeting will be February 27<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 am**

