

1 **MINUTES OF THE SPRINGVILLE CITY WATER BOARD**

2
3 Tuesday, February 10, 2015
4 6:30 a.m.
5 110 South Main Street
6 Springville, Utah 84663
7

8
9 **ATTENDANCE**

10
11 Councilmember
12 Richard Child

Secretary
Marcie Clark

13
14 Board Members
15 Alton Beck
16 Nile Hatch
17 Calvin Crandall - absent
18 Rollin Hotchkiss - excused
19 Rod Andrew
20 Bernell Hutchings - resigned
21

City Staff
Brad Stapley – Public Works Director
Shawn Barker – Water Superintendent

22 The minutes from the January 13, 2015 meetings were reviewed. Mr. Beck made the motion to approve the minutes.
23 Mr. Andrew seconded. All were in favor.
24

25 Mr. Stapley reviewed what happened at the Plat “A” Public Meeting held January 15, 2015. It was a long meeting,
26 but the residents were able to “talk”. Mr. Stapley went into the meeting with the idea to discontinue Plat “A”
27 Irrigation. But he left with the idea that it needs to continue, with a significant raise in the rates and help from the
28 users to help maintain the system. And, some sort of subsidy from the City to help make it work. Mr. Stapley
29 drafted a follow up letter to the Plat “A” users. He presented the letter to the board members.
30

31 We need to make a recommendation to City Council for the 2015-16 year budget. Cl. Child mentioned that we are
32 still charging less than what the irrigation company is.
33

34 Mr. Beck mentioned two issues that should go to City Council. The first is water rights. Mr. Harmer stated in the
35 meeting that the water belonged to the people, not the City. Mr. Beck made a motion to recommend the City have
36 staff or contract engineering research the water rights. Many people didn’t believe the document that Mr. Stapley
37 presented in the meeting.
38

39 Mr. Stapley recounted how the representatives of the Springville Irrigation Company have stood up in the past in a
40 public meeting setting and presented inaccurate information. The Irrigation Company had worked with Hansen,
41 Allen & Luce (HAL) Engineers on the Water Master Plan in 2006 and had spent a year going over things. When it
42 was presented in a City Council meeting, Albert Harmer, representing Springville Irrigation Company, stood up
43 during the meeting and stated he knew nothing about the Water Master Plan and had not had any input on it. There
44 have always been misunderstandings between the State and irrigation companies. Mr. Stapley mentioned that the
45 City has already started that kind of research. Mr. Beck pulled his motion.
46

47 Resident Art Johnson went home during the public meeting and returned with a book that stated he owned the water;
48 he showed it to Mr. Stapley, but he wouldn’t let him touch it. Mr. Beck talked about information that the county
49 should have in relation to each property. Mr. Stapley mentioned that Brian Andrew with HAL is working on it.
50

51 Ms. Clark will be sending out the bills for Plat “A” irrigation soon. There will be an increase in the rates this year.
52 Mr. Hatch asked for an explanation of how the billing is done. Ms. Clark explained that each user pays a base rate of
53 \$23.00, which goes to Strawberry Water. After that there is a fee for the first hour, then fees for each 15 minute
54 increments. It gets confusing when it is less than an hour.
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56 Mr. Beck explained how Strawberry Water originally worked with deeds and transfers.

March 10, 2015
Approved

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2 Mr. Stapley displayed and reviewed the Power Point presentation he showed at the meeting. Cl. Child asked if the
3 City was going to be the water master again this year. Mr. Barker said he is hoping to get a position approved
4 through the Wage and Personnel Committee so he can hire someone. Mr. Stapley talked about increasing the number
5 of users. Mr. Tyson Bartlett from the Irrigation Company stated that we didn't have enough water to add users, but
6 Mr. Stapley doesn't believe that. The City has 8 cubic feet per second. We could easily serve more customers.
7

8 Mr. Beck brought up the statement made in the public meeting that if irrigation users had to switch to culinary water,
9 the small water lines would burst. Mr. Stapley stated that they wouldn't burst, but there is the need to replace and
10 upsize the old 4" water lines in Plat "A", regardless of what happens to surface irrigation. He has asked the City
11 Engineer to look at this and model it.
12

13 Mr. Stapley stated that we need to go over all the issues and costs as a Water Board and take a recommendation to
14 City Council in the next few months, before the budget is approved. Mr. Beck was ready to make a motion to keep
15 the system going, but raise the rates to cover the costs. He also mentioned that he doesn't believe the citizens will
16 help maintain the system. Mr. Stapley would like Mr. Crandall and Mr. Hotchkiss to be present before a decision is
17 made.
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19 Mr. Stapley asked to switch gears and talk about water rates. Mr. Hatch is still working on the tiered water rate
20 analysis. Mr. Stapley displayed and distributed a hard copy of the power point presentation he showed to City
21 Council last week at the budget retreat. The City anticipates a decrease in water revenue of about \$250,000 when
22 pressurized irrigation begins. An increase in the base rate will probably happen. Mr. Stapley distributed a Water
23 Rate Comparison spreadsheet, showing what surrounding cities are charging for water. There are 27% of residents
24 that are in the first tier, 56% are in the second tier. Mr. Hatch explained that the tiered rates are encouraging
25 conservation, like we had hoped. Water use is better than it used to be. There will be about 1,000 users switch to
26 secondary water in 2016, out of about 9,000. Mr. Beck stated it would be most fair to raise the base rate for
27 everybody and leave the rest of the tiered rates alone.
28

29 Mr. Stapley had the City Engineer analyze the old water lines in the City. We need around \$22,000,000 to replace
30 water lines that are over 50 years old, which would include all of Plat "A". We don't want to take out a bond for this,
31 so we need to come up with a plan to fund it. The good thing is that we don't have to fix all the lines at once. Mr.
32 Barker talked about the old 10" water line starting at the High School, at 1200 E 900 S, jogging over to 1000 South
33 west to Main Street. It was installed in 1924; it's a lead joint cast iron line and it needs to be replaced. We also need
34 to look at other improvements that are needed while we're tearing up the roads. Mr. Andrew stated that we need to
35 look at long term issues and take care of the next generation. Mr. Barker mentioned that he has found that the 100
36 year old pipe is better quality than 70 year old pipe. So, both will be reaching the end of their life span at the same
37 time.
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39 Mr. Stapley stated the Water Board has two challenges – get something on Plat "A" irrigation to City Council and 2)
40 back up tiered water rates and take it back to City Council; some think it is unfair, and 3) how are we going to
41 address the \$22,000,000 issue to replace old pipes. In Public Works, we are looking at 5-10 years of improvements
42 that need to be addressed.
43

44 Mr. Andrew asked about the problem back in 2002-2003 when Nestle didn't have enough water. Mr. Stapley
45 explained that that problem should be solved with having another well at Canyon Road and two refurbished wells,
46 along with the new pipe along 1400 North. We also haven't had seven years of drought and there is some
47 redundancy now.
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49 Mr. Beck moved to adjourn. Mr. Andrew seconded. All were in favor.
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51 *Adjourn* – This meeting adjourned at 7:30 a.m.
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