

Utility Departments of Hildale/Colorado City

Utility Board Meeting Minutes

320 East Newel Ave, Hildale Utah

Tuesday, February 26, 2019 6:00 P.M.

Present: Utility Board

Board Members:	Present	Absent	Excused
Haven Barlow	X		
Sterling Jessop, Jr.	X		
Ralph Johnson	X		
Arvin Black	X		
Jason Black	X		
Nathan Burnham	X		
JVar Dutson	X		
Stacy Seay	X		
Michael Cawley	X		

Staff Present:

Weston Barlow, Vincen Barlow, Harrison Johnson, Mariah La Corti, Vance Barlow, Mayor Joseph Allred, Mayor Donia Jessop

Public Present:

Lawrence Barlow, Glynn Jones, Tonja Holm, Milton Holm (this list may be incomplete)

#1 Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 6:00 pm. Roll was taken, quorum present.

Arvin made the Board aware of John Barlow's deployment to Cuba. He wanted to let him know that his service is appreciated, and his safe return is looked forward to.

#2. Prayer & Pledge of Allegiance

Michael offered a prayer, the crowd joined in the pledge of allegiance.

#3. Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting

A few corrections were noted.

JVar Dutson moved to ratify the minutes of the January 29, 2019 Meeting.

Nathan Burnham seconded. Roll call vote:

Board Members:	Yes	No	Abstain
Haven Barlow	X		
Sterling Jessop, Jr.	X		
Ralph Johnson	X		
Arvin Black	X		
Jason Black	X		
Nathan Burnham	X		
JVar Dutson	X		
Stacy Seay	X		
Michael Cawley	X		

Motion carried.

#4. Public Comment

Glynn Jones addressed the Board about his support of the Water Surge Remediation Program. He encouraged the Board to approve this program, pointing out that almost every other city in the nation has something similar.

#5. Consideration of Utility Waiver Requests

Harrison Johnson presented. The request is something that is asked a lot. A customer is asking that the base rates between the time that they initially requested service and the first time there was actual usage (3 months) be refunded. Harrison pointed out that, per the water service regulations, the customers are required to pay base rates because of the immediate availability of services. He recommended a denial of this request, as the customers services were connected in line with their request. Tonja Holm addressed the Board about the reason for the request.

Stacy explained a similar experience that she is currently going through. Jason pointed out that according to the way sewer is calculated, the customer is actually benefiting from having base rates, but no usage during these months. Ralph explained that everybody that has requested to have their water turned on has to pay the base rates for such.

Jason Black moved to deny the waiver request.

Nathan Burnham seconded. Roll call vote:

Board Members:	Yes	No	Abstain
Haven Barlow	X		
Sterling Jessop, Jr.	X		
Ralph Johnson	X		
Arvin Black	X		
Jason Black	X		
Nathan Burnham	X		
JVar Dutson		X	
Stacy Seay	X		
Michael Cawley	X		

Motion carried.

Harrison was directed to work with the customer on a payment arrangement and look into a policy addressing this issue in the future.

#6. Manager Report

Harrison presented. There has been a net increase in customer accounts for several months. The Rural Water Association has an annual conference hosted in St. George he, Weston and the operators are attending. Harrison is trying to be proactive with regulatory agencies, and has meetings scheduled with several of them.

JVar asked that we make sure we are going overboard on making sure the public is aware of any water quality issues. Harrison agreed, and he is collecting research to distribute any information in a knowledgeable manner. There was brief discussion about the radium contamination in the well water and spring water expansion idea.

Because of the potential of requests for installation rising in low pressure areas, and the State law associated with this, the Department is actively working on a solution to provide adequate water pressure in these areas. Disclosure has been given to the public that there are areas of the city we simply cannot provide water to at this time because the infrastructure does not allow for it.

#7. Financial Report

Vincen Barlow presented. Revenues with comparison to budget and an invoice register were provided.

#8. Consideration of Approval to Pay Bills

JVar Dutson moved to pay the bills as they become due and the funds become available.

Ralph Johnson seconded. Roll call vote:

Board Members:	Yes	No	Abstain
Haven Barlow	X		
Sterling Jessop, Jr.	X		
Ralph Johnson	X		
Arvin Black	X		
Jason Black	X		
Nathan Burnham	X		
JVar Dutson	X		
Stacy Seay	X		
Michael Cawley	X		

Motion carried.

#9. Consideration and Possible Action on Water Surge Remediation Program

Harrison presented. The program is recommending the water service regulations be amended to reflect an allowance for a water surge billing adjustment once every 36 months.

Glynn Jones was invited to address the Board once more. He spoke about the benefit of this program for the customers. He made a few recommendations to the policy regarding the requirement of being in good standing, and the billing cycle. Harrison agreed to look into applying these suggestions. The sewer rate recalculation verbiage was briefly discussed.

Mayor Jessop reiterated the need for this program to help individuals. Mayor Allred used his experience with the Utility Department to express his concern about the City bearing this burden when the customer may have a leak due to using inferior materials or being poorly constructed. He would not vote for the program. Harrison answered this by pointing out that all leaks can be inspected and verified by the Water Superintendent. He feels the customer service and benefits would outweigh the financial burden.

There was discussion on the 36-month timeline. Haven felt that this amount of time addresses Mayor Allred's workmanship concerns.

Jason Black moved to recommend that the city councils adopt the resolution to the water service regulations following approval from the Department of Justice.

Stacy Seay seconded. Roll call vote:

Board Members:	Yes	No	Abstain
Haven Barlow	X		
Sterling Jessop, Jr.	X		
Ralph Johnson		X	
Arvin Black	X		
Jason Black	X		
Nathan Burnham	X		
JVar Dutson	X		
Stacy Seay	X		
Michael Cawley	X		

Motion carried.

Ralph felt he was not given enough time to research this.

#10. Consideration and Possible Action on Non-Discrimination of Public Services Policy

The personnel policy manuals of both cities discuss non-discrimination of fellow employees but does not address non-discrimination of customers. It would be beneficial to have this added to the employee manuals, so employees are aware of the repercussions of such actions.

Christian pointed out that he has reviewed the policy and feels it is very thorough.

JVar Dutson moved to approve the Non-Discrimination of Public Services Policy.

Nathan Burnham seconded. Roll call vote:

Board Members:	Yes	No	Abstain
Haven Barlow	X		
Sterling Jessop, Jr.	X		
Ralph Johnson	X		
Arvin Black	X		
Jason Black	X		
Nathan Burnham	X		
JVar Dutson	X		
Stacy Seay	X		
Michael Cawley	X		

Motion carried.

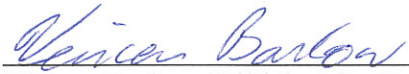
#11. Adjournment

JVar would like commercial water sales at Maxwell Park to be added to the agenda, and asked Board Members to think about their stance on this issue.

Jason also made a note about the lack of timeliness in receiving the packet. The meetings would go smoother and Board members would be more informed if information was received sooner. Centennial Park Water District will meet Saturday and Michael will communicate their plan for going forward.

With no other business, meeting adjourned at 7:32 pm.

Minutes were approved at the meeting on March 26, 2019.



Vincen Barlow, Hildale City Recorder



Vance Barlow, Colorado City Town Clerk

Summary of Board Actions:

Approval of Minutes of 1-29-19 Meeting

Recommendation to City Councils Regarding Adopting Water Surge Remediation Program

Adoption of Non-Discrimination of Public Services Policy.