

Board Meeting

Ash Creek SSD

October 24, 2024

Present: Nanette Billings, Joey Campbell, Justin Sip, Kelly Wilson, David Hirschi

Staff: Mike Chandler, Fay Reber, Kavyn Cox, Gary Wilcox, Logan Murphy, Kim Spendlove

Audience: Yvonne Spendlove, Craig Ashcroft

Prayer and Pledge: Mike Chandler

Public comments: None

David Hirschi declared he would not be voting on agenda item 6A regarding the possible renewal of the land use agreement between the District and himself.

David also asked the board to give Kim Spendlove a few moments to provide any advice or recommendation to the staff and board as he prepares to retire.

Kim commented on the issue of reuse and the use of green space near the district lagoons.

The minutes from the August 22, 2024 meeting were discussed.

Motion by Kelly Wilson to approve the August 22, 2024 minutes. Second by Justin Sip. Carried by unanimous vote.

Fay discussed the land use agreement between the District and David Hirschi originally entered in January 2020. Under the terms of the agreement David would do some work on a parcel of district property and use it for agricultural purposes so the district did not have to maintain it.

Staff recommendation is to extend the agreement for another 5 years. Terms and conditions the same as the previous agreement.

Motion by Justin Sip to renew the land use agreement between the District and David Hirschi for another 5 years. Second by Kelly Wilson. Carried by unanimous vote with David Hirschi abstaining.

Mike presented the 2024 third quarter financial report. The district is operating at 78.4% of total revenue, on schedule for the third quarter.

Nanette asked if the district budgets to zero. Mike explained that because the district operates like an enterprise, we do not budget to zero.

Mike presented the five-year comparison. Impact fees have stayed consistent and comparable with recent years.

Expenditures haven't grown at the same rate, but construction and operation of the treatment plant will result in a bump up in expenditures.

Nanette requested to schedule another field trip to the Confluence Park Treatment Facility in January 2025 to see progress being made to that point.

Mike presented the 2024 amended and 2025 preliminary budget.

Mike discussed sewer rates in other areas of the state. On average, the district has a monthly rate about \$10 less than the average for the state. The board adopted a 5% annual increase to the district's monthly sewer fee. The district will adopt the increase in 2025. The district will continue to monitor the rates. Mike expressed that the district does not want to increase rates every year if it is not necessary.

Justin asked if the budget considers any new employees the district needs to hire. Mike said the district has budgeted two entry level employees but that may change as the treatment plant comes online and staffing adjustments are made.

Mike discussed the capital budget for 2025.

The district is proposing a 3% cost of living increase for employees. Kelly asked if that was enough. Mike said that there are some employees who have passed tests which result in a raise as well as some who will be nominated for merit raises. He believes that 3% is enough for 2025.

Motion by Kelly Wilson to approve the amended 2024 budget and proposed 2025 budget.
Second by Joey Campbell. Carried by unanimous vote.

Nanette asked about the different city requirements when a property is not within 300 feet of a sewer line and must put in a septic system. Mike explained that Hurricane, LaVerkin, and Toquerville all have a 9 acre septic density requirement for a conventional septic system. If the property is less than the 9 acre requirement it will need a Level 3 system which provides more circulation. The reason for this is to protect surrounding ground water.

Motion to adjourn at 7:21 pm.