

Minutes of the Special Workshop of the City Commission of the City of Auburndale held November 20, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. in the Commission Room of City Hall, after having been properly advertised, with the following members present: Mayor Dorothea Taylor Bogert, Commissioners: Keith Cowie, Richard Hamann, Jack Myers, and Bill Sterling. Also, present were: City Manager Jeffrey Tillman, City Attorney Frederick J. Murphy Jr., City Clerk Brandon Henry, and Police Chief Terry Storie.

City Manager Jeffrey Tillman has called a Special Workshop of the City Commission of the City of Auburndale for Monday, November 20, 2023 to consider the presentation of the 2023 Utility Rate and Impact Fee Study and proposed Utility Rate and Connection Fee Changes and to review the extraordinary circumstances experienced by the City which support the increases for the City's Water and Wastewater Utility Connection Fees.

1. PRESENTATION OF 2023 UTILITY RATE AND IMPACT FEE STUDY AND PROPOSED UTILITY RATE AND CONNECTION FEE CHANGES

City Manager Tillman said in May 2023, the City Commission authorized Raftelis Financial Consultants, Inc. to update the 2021 Water and Wastewater Rate Study to determine the adequacy of the user rates, fees and charges taking into consideration the significant growth and cost increases to provide the necessary wastewater treatment and collection facilities. Raftelis also conducted an update to the water and wastewater connection fees to ensure they are based on recent and local data, as well as put the City in a position to collect adequate fees from growth that reflect the current cost of providing utility service.

Finance Director Christopher Reeder presented slides summarizing the scope of the project. He presented a slide outlining key forecast assumptions and notes. He presented a table of the Capital Improvement Program over the next five years. He presented the recommended rate adjustments, and the combined bill effective rate change for a typical 6,000-gallon residential customer inside City limits.

He presented the current and proposed rate structures for residential and commercial customers of water and wastewater. He presented a table depicting the proposed customer bill effect for a variety of residential customer types inside City limits. He presented a chart depicting a local comparison with other neighboring municipalities as it relates to a customer with a 6,000-gallon consumption.

Finance Director Reeder presented details regarding the Utility Connection Fee Update. He presented a discussion of primary factors and extraordinary circumstances of both water and wastewater. He presented existing and calculated connection fees. He presented a chart depicting a local comparison with other neighboring municipalities as it relates to connection fees. He presented a chart depicting a local comparison with other neighboring municipalities as it relates to the total impact and connection fees.

City Attorney Frederick J. Murphy Jr. said the Study is replete with references to the extraordinary circumstances that we are facing, that would justify the recommendations that our consultant is making. We want to make sure that aspect of the Study is emphasized in this workshop, so the Commission has a good understanding of why the recommendation is the way it is.

City Manager Tillman said the second reading of the ordinances is coming before the Commission during the November 20, 2023, City Commission meeting at 7:00 p.m.

The Meeting was adjourned at 6:41:18 p.m.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing Minutes are true and correct.



Brandon Henry, City Clerk