

PRESCOTT WATER ISSUES  
COMMITTEE MEETING  
TUESDAY, MAY 11, 2010  
PRESCOTT, ARIZONA

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PRESCOTT WATER ISSUES COMMITTEE held on Tuesday, May 11, 2010 in the COUNCIL CHAMBERS located at 201 SOUTH CORTEZ STREET, Prescott, Arizona.

A. Call to Order.

Chairman Lamerson called the meeting to order at 1:18 p.m.

B. Roll Call.

WATER ISSUES COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Chairman Jim Lamerson  
Member Steve Blair  
Member Lora Lopas

All present, Member Lopas arrived late

C. Development Application Requiring Water Allocation/Water Service Agreement.

Project: Tenney Homestead Subdivision (Preliminary Plat PP09-002)  
Applicant: Tenney Homestead, L.L.C., and Jeanine Tenney Brown  
Location: East of Senator Highway/West of Summer Field  
Total Lots: 33 in two phases (Phase I Lots 1 through 5; Phase II Lots 6 through 33)  
Allocation: 11.55 acre-feet  
P&Z: April 29, 2010, meeting: Vote 5-1 to recommend approval of PP09-002  
City Council: June 8, 2010, meeting

Mr. McConnell introduced the item and showed an overhead map. He said that Carl Tenney was there for questions. Mr. McConnell noted that there were three wells on the property which would be abandoned as the property was developed one in Phase I and two within Phase II.

Chairman Lamerson asked how many feet of water the wells were allowed to currently pump. Mr. McConnell said that he understood them to be exempt wells which meant that they were capped at 35 gallons per minute.

Mr. McConnell said that the draft water service agreement did describe the phasing and identified the wells. The total amount of water for the entire subdivision, if

developed as described, would be 11.55 acre feet. That would be the allocation that the City would be making to the project if the Water Service Agreement (WSA) was approved.

Councilwoman Lopas arrived at 1:21 p.m.

Chairman Lamerson noted that the development was consistent with the neighborhood. He thought that it was a good trade off to leave three wells that could take water out of the aqua fir in exchange for 11.55 acre feet.

Member Blair said that he was glad to see that it was back and it was a great project.

Member Lopas was glad that it was going forward and it made more sense to have a cap on the water usage.

Member Blair asked how Arizona District of Water Resources credits for 0.5 when the well could be more. Mr. McConnell said that the .5 was specified by City of Prescott designation and order and did not equate to the maximum amount that could be pumped from an exempt well.

Member Blair asked if they were credited that amount to offset the 11.5. Mr. McConnell said that it would eventually be credited in a designation order. He also noted that Mr. Tenney was in agreement with the water service agreement.

- D. Water Conservation Incentive Program for Fiscal Year 2011; draft of tentative changes to Prescott City Code Section 3-10-8.

Mr. McConnell said that the suggestion for the discussion was to entertain the thoughts of the committee on what type of process should happen to bring the program changes to the public's attention to update the ordinance, not a detailed dialogue on the Water Conservation Program. There was now a provision of the City Code for water conservation. For the FY2011, the program reduced the total from \$80,000 to \$50,000 reduction due to general revenue. The second aspect was that the coordinator was making recommendations for changes. With the former committee being sunsetted, he asked them if they wanted to run it though a public process.

Chairman Lamerson noted that things had been brought to light and the water conservation had been successful. There were cause and effect consequences like the sewer plant. They should have a different type of water conservation that pays attention to some of the implications. He did not want to disregard water conservation. If they needed to go into the public that he would be fine.

Member Blair said that he was keener on incentives of irrigation and catchment systems. He would like to make an incentive for catchment systems to be lucrative

and very much advertised. He knew how much water he did not use, opposed to outside water because he had a catchment system.

Member Lopas agreed. The rain water catchment was so expensive to install and a \$500 credit did not really help. She would like to see commercial applications of rain water harvesting. She thought that the people who were interested in doing the Victory Garden should put tanks up on the rodeo grounds and move water from tank to tank. There would be no need for more water because there was so much roof line there. Commercial users could send water to neighborhoods. They should tie in an educational component for exterior water with the realtors.

Member Blair said that they should show people through the pamphlets about how much they will save on their monthly water bill. If they could show what the payback would be with various square footage of home and certain size tanks. The education was important.

Chairman Lamerson said that Shawn Rydell should have an idea of where to go next and part of it should be to include some of the people who were on the conservation committee with the landscaping industry.

Mr. McConnell suggested that the incentive program was driven by the annual budget. There was a recommendation that the Council would be looking at \$50,000, if improved that would fund incentives for FY 2011. Staff would prepare an ordinance for Council consideration. Ms. Rydell could contact her peers, during that process and alert them to an interest and focus in exterior catchment. They should not have to convene another committee. There was an issue of balancing the amount of the incentive with the amount of incentive that could be awarded. They would draft an ordinance after the budget process.

Member Lopas said that maybe the committee could bring in regular contractors. In Orange County they had to upgrade to low water use fixtures with the sale of a house. Maybe they could tighten up some of their codes in Prescott.

E. Future Committee meetings and agenda items.

Chairman Lamerson suggested June or July 2010. He asked if they would prefer to have their meetings on Tuesdays or another day. Members Blair and Lopas both agreed to Tuesdays. Chairman Lamerson suggested scheduling something in the first half of July.

Mr. McConnell asked if they would draft an ordinance and bring it to the committee in July. Chairman Lamerson said yes.

F. Adjournment.

There being no further business to be discussed, the meeting of the Water Issues Committee held on May 11, 2010 adjourned at 1:40 p.m.

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JIM LAMERSON, Chairman

ATTEST:

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KIM WEBB, Assistant City Clerk