

**SUMMARY REPORT
OF COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND DIRECTION AT THE JULY 14, 2009, WORK SESSION**

This summary is a statement of discussions and direction given by the Cottonwood City Council at a work session pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.02(D), and is being provided as required by A.R.S. § 38-431.01(D.).

Council Members Present: Mayor Diane Joens, Vice Mayor Karen Pfeifer, Council Members Tim Elinski, Duane Kirby, Linda Norman, Terence Pratt. Council Member absent: Darold Smith.

Mayor Joens called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

RESULTS OF THE COMPREHENSIVE WATER AND SEWER RATE STUDY PREVIOUSLY AUTHORIZED BY THE CITY COUNCIL ON AUGUST 12, 2008

Mr. Dan Jackson of Economist.com reported that the city's revenue for water and sewer services no longer cover its expenses. This was primarily due to inflation and costs of system upgrades and expansion which required financing. In order for revenue to match expenses and to plan for future growth, it was proposed that water and sewer rates be gradually increased over the next four years. Water rates would rise by eight percent immediately and for two more years, then at 2-3 percent for the following two years. Sewer rates would increase 21 percent immediately. Each successive year would see smaller increases.

Council direction was for staff to proceed with a final proposal for presentation to and approval by the Council.

RESULTS OF THE RIVERFRONT PARK RECLAMATION FACILITY FEASIBILITY STUDY PREVIOUSLY AUTHORIZED BY THE CITY COUNCIL ON OCTOBER 14, 2008

Mr. Ken Knickerbocker of Coe & Van Loo presented a report on the feasibility of locating a wastewater reclamation facility in Riverfront Park. The facility would be a small state-of-the-art facility capable of handling a third of the city's needs.

The Council's consensus was that it should not only provide water reclamation for Riverfront Park, but meet the highest standards for removal of all chemicals, including pharmaceuticals. It would be solar powered. While the site would be elevated above the floodplain, the Council requested flood barriers be included in a final proposal and the concerns of neighboring residents be addressed.

The Council's direction was to proceed with the preparation of a more complete proposal which included these requirements and for it to be presented to the Council for consideration.

POSSIBLE AMENDMENTS TO THE BASIN WATER ARSENIC WATER SERVICES AND EQUIPMENT LEASE AGREEMENTS

General Manager and Utility Director Dan Lueder proposed amending the contracts with Basin Water which would allow the city to reduce its cost of arsenic compliance operations by assuming some of the responsibility directly rather than continue to contract for services.

The Council's direction was for staff to prepare formal proposals for consideration by the Council.

UPDATE REGARDING CONSTRUCTION ISSUES WITH THE COURT BUILDING AND DIRECTION REGARDING THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW CITY HALL

City Manager Doug Bartosh described the physical deterioration of the current court building has accelerated the city's need to find a new facility as expeditiously as possible.

The Council's direction was to act immediately to acquire a new facility and alleviate the current situation.

The Council's consensus regarding a proposal presented for a new city hall complex was that further discussion regarding alternatives was needed and the matter should be discussed in more detail at a future meeting.

POSSIBLE RENAMING OF A CITY STREET AND/OR INSTALLING A DISPLAY AREA IN THE NEW RECREATION CENTER IN HONOR OF BRIAN MICKELSEN

The Council discussed the possibility of renaming a street for former City Manager Brian Mickelsen. The Council's consensus was that Paula Circle would be an appropriate choice because of its proximity to the new recreation center. Staff would study the procedure to accomplish that end. The creation of a special area in the recreation center in memory of Brian Mickelsen would be considered later when the facility was nearer completion.

ADJOURNMENT

The work session adjourned at 9:22 p.m.