



Town of Belleair

901 Ponce de Leon Blvd.
Belleair, FL 33756

Meeting Minutes Infrastructure Board

Friday, October 30, 2020

2:30 PM

Town Hall

R.O. Discussion

Note

Welcome. We are glad to have you join us. If you wish to speak, please wait to be recognized, then step to the podium and state your name and address. We also ask that you please turn-off all cell phones.

Keith Bodeker opened the meeting at 2:33 PM.

ROLL CALL

Commissioner Kurey and Deputy Mayor Rettstatt were also in attendance.

Present 5 - George Mariani, John Hail, James White, Gayle Grady, and Joe Oder

Absent 2 - Chairman Doug Pace, and Shon Flaharty

CITIZENS COMMENTS

No Citizens comments

GENERAL AGENDA

20-0269 Discussion of Draft Reverse Osmosis Preliminary Engineering Report and Water Rate Study

Phil Locke-McKim and Creed, Engineer of Record-Provided high-level overview of preliminary engineering report; discussed regulations and water quality, total dissolved solids; Town has very hard water; discussed saltwater intrusion; RO needs to be online in 2024.

Discussion ensued regarding total dissolved solids with regulatory requirements; costs to residents if going with RO; water quality with RO.

Mr. Murphy commented on quality of service level and response with going with RO Vs County.

Mr. Locke spoke on rates and unknown rates should a switch to the County occur; provided a schematic of the water treatment plant, described filtration process; recommends pilot study period; phased implementation plan has been revised; suggests the Town make a decision on RO plant by end of 2020.

Nick Smith-Raftelis-provided overview of rate study; utilized updated PER to developed

a forecast; discussed assumptions regarding operating costs, payment to debt service for SRF loans; discussed change from originally projected rates based on new timeline necessary; changes to capital timeline will affect rates; rate comparison with other municipalities, Belleair currently lowest and below average; showed specific comparison with Pinellas County; there may be transfer and other associated fees incurred by the Town should a change to Pinellas County.

Discussion ensued regarding costs that the customer may or may not see; County costs that may be passed on from Tampa Bay water; other local entities that are RO.

Mr. Smith addressed questions regarding loans and rates through SRF program.

Mr. Murphy spoke on SWFWMD funding; previously rejected full scale plan; will provide cooperative funding for injection well; possibility for federal funds; will be working with lobbyist (Lee Moffit) on this project.

Discussion regarding funding and rates; reserves; potential for fund allocation if do not move forward with project.

Mr. Murphy questioned 30% contingency. Mr. Locke discussed comparison to similar project bid tabs; confident will not exceed presented budget; wells included in costs.

Mr. Smith stated pilot study costs are recognized in forecast; Mr. Locke noted should Town elect owner direct purchase, equipment would be tax exempt.

Mr. Locke feels presented costs are on conservative side of project; should Town decide to move forward, the sooner the better to avoid additional increases and inflation; discussed timeline for design and compliance.

Discussion regarding design build projects; availability and timeline of equipment; engineer recommendation of making a decision by end of the year. Mr. White stated he was in favor of going with RO.

Mr. Murphy spoke on injection well; waiting to see if RO will be done or not; Mr. Bodeker spoke on timeline of injection well completion.

Mr. Locke addressed question regarding upgrading current plant; RO is needed to meet regulations and compliance; DEP concerns.

Board discussions regarding options; wells and water quality; questioned next steps. Mr. Murphy would like a sense of the board's thoughts; upcoming community meetings for public input.

Further discussion regarding information to present to public; show rates comparing clear dollar for dollar increases and absolute amounts.

Mr. White left meeting at 4:14 PM.

Discussion ensued regarding reclaim water and shallow wells.

Mr. Murphy questioned direction from each board member; Mr. Oder in favor of RO, Mr. Hail in favor as well, Ms. Grady in support of RO, Mr. Mariani is also in support of RO.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned in due form at 4:19 PM.

Mr. Hail moved to adjourn. Seconded by Mr. Oder.

Aye: 4 - Mariani, Hail, Grady, and Oder

Absent: 3 - Chairman Pace, White , and Flaharty

APPROVED:

Chairman