

CITY OF GILBERT
MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 28, 2017
COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Mayor Milos called the meeting to order at 5:44 p.m.

Present: Mayor Milos, Councilors Pontinen and Robich.

Absent: Councilors Vertachnik & Bol (w/Notice).

Staff Present: City Engineer Jamnick, Public Works Operations Director Lautigar and City Clerk/Treasurer Sakrison.

Staff Absent: Chief Techar (w/Notice)

The purpose of this work session is to review the report prepared by Stantec regarding the water plant, and to discuss the AOE A Request for Support for Live Well at Home Program.

Ryan Capelle, of Stantec, introduced himself. Capelle stated that Gilbert has a unique situation with the water make-up and lime treatment and he enjoys working in these types of situations. He has reached out to others within his company regarding softening.

Councilor Pontinen asked Capelle if he has a preferred solution for Gilbert. Capelle stated that he thinks there are 2 options.

- (1) Stay with lime softening, but improve upon it.
- (2) Try to do oxidation of high manganese and move away from lime softening.

It is too early for him to tell which option to go with, without getting further information. This is the highest level of manganese that he or anyone at Stantec has seen. Gilbert is at 2.4 parts. Potentially operating costs could be reduced if option 2 was chosen. But the water quality could be compromised. The alternatives need to be explored. Is it significant enough to make the change?

Would not do option 2 unless they knew they could get all of the manganese. The oxidation of the manganese will leave the hardness and affect the "quality" of the water. But Gilbert has three tanks and the water really isn't that hard. There would be a 35% difference.

Capelle leans towards staying with the tried & true lime softening, but that does come at a cost, premium process. This is a good quality water.

The oxidation route is an attractive option, if it works. A pilot study could be done.

Robich asked if he knew what the difference in operating costs would be. The trucking of the sludge for option 1 would be about \$50,000 every other year. Public Works Operations Director Lautigar stated that a dewatering process could be done and hauled internally, and that could save money.

Mayor Milos asked which way Lautigar was leaning. He is not leaning a certain way. He would like to know what the operating costs difference would be. Mayor Milos doesn't want to spend money on a study

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that could show that Gilbert should stay the way they are doing things. Doesn't want money to be wasted. Capelle said that if the city could provide information for them to use the study would not be a major study.

Councilor Pontinen asked about the elimination of surface water alternative. Capelle stated that it was not a viable alternative. With surface water there is a new set of challenges.

Options 1 and 2 are what is truly being debated.

Water rate study could be beneficial, regardless of what option is chosen.

Robich would like start-up costs compared, as well as long term and operational costs.

There are two problematic constituents:

1. Hardness – This is calcium & magnesium. Current system deals with the calcium, but not the magnesium.
2. Manganese – This is a black staining element. This has to be removed to be tolerable for the customers. Secondary aesthetic standard is 0.3 parts/million. (non-health concerning) Target would be to get below that. A trial run would want that to be reduced. The chemical added would be a sodium permanganate, it binds to manganese to form a solid to either be filtered out or drop to the bottom of the tank. This would be similar to how the current lime sludge collects. Would be much less volume than lime. Should be a pumpable slime, without the need for trucking. The manganese sludge is a more gelatinous texture. A sludge pump would be used to pump it to the sewer.

Another well would probably run into the same issue with manganese.

Jack Bradach stated that the current wells are in the perfect place as far as quality & volume.

Mayor Milos wants to look at both options, but wants to know the cost of looking before moving forward.

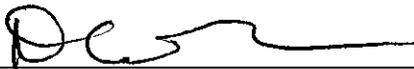
Capelle stated that they want to continue working with the City of Gilbert, and maybe could look at on an hourly basis as long as the data could be collected efficiently. A pilot study would also need to be done, which would be a bigger cost.

Motion by Robich, second by Pontinen to close the work session at 6:22 p.m.



Debra Sakrison, City Clerk

ATTEST:



Dorothy Elizabeth Milos, Mayor