



STUDY SESSION MINUTES

Tuesday September 11, 2018

1. Call to Order Time:6:01pm
2. New Business
 - A. Yakima County Development Association

Note: this item was skipped and returned to after Visitor's Comments. We heard from Jonathan Smith the CEO he gave us a brief history and explained many of the places in the association. He also explained that he could probably help in bringing business into the old high school. He said one of the major resources is chooseyakima.com. Their main goal is to promote local business and also to create networks of people who are interested in them.

- B. YVCOG Solar Group

This meeting is for anyone who would like to attend. It is scheduled on the 20th of September from 12pm-3pm at the Sunnyside Community Center. Council Members Sophia and Vera will attend this meeting with Mayor Vazquez.

- C. YVCOG General Membership Meeting

The YVCOG Meeting will on the 19th of September. Council Members Arturo, Sophia, and Mark will all attend as well as Mayor Vazquez. Council Member Vera is unsure if she will be able at this time.

D. New Employee- Public Works Wastewater Operator II:
Gordon Harris (Monday hired date 9/10/2018)

The new Waste Water Treatment Operator started on Monday. He is licensed to be certified.

3. Visitor Comments

We heard from Rachel Ruelas 309 Maple St. wanted to know what was going on with the water and why it was brown and had a bad smell. It was explained to that the bad smell came directly from the aquifer and gets worse when the temperature goes up. This is something that all cities in our area have a problem with; it is a bigger problem for us because this is our biggest producing well. The other wells do not give us enough water to provide to the city.

Rachel also had a question about the new Waste Water Treatment Operator. It was explained that he started on Monday and the mayor would no longer have to be helping at the treatment plant.

Rachel also had questions about the park and when it would be completed. The mayor explained that there would be a community day on September 22nd to put in some benches etc. but that we do not have the funding at this time for a new sprinkler system; a necessity because the old one was messed up during the construction of the water tower. Rachel wanted to know why we would not wait on the other installation until the spring also and it was explained that

the other things need to be in before the sprinkler system and they are sturdy enough they should weather fine.

We heard from Janice Alaniz of 202 Jefferson St. was wondering why her water had a very strong smell of Chlorine; she said that she had noticed it much more in the past couple days. It was explained that they were doing some adjustments to the Chlorine system and that may be the difference but the level is tested daily and it was still within the allowable range.

We heard from Gaye Vandermyn of 330 5th Ave just wanted to say that her water was fine and she was grateful for that. She also said that the alternative to high water rates is no drinking water because the improvements were necessary. She mainly wanted to say that she appreciates the council for making these hard decisions and especially the mayor for stepping to help take care of the city.

Sara Parasol of 811 George St. came in because she was concerned about the quality of the water and the price. It was explained to her that the price was an unfortunate necessity of the improvements and those loans would take 20 years to pay off. She also wanted to know what was going on with the police department because she said that she noticed a lot of graffiti and speeding in her area. It was explained that the contract with Yakima County should be finished by the end of the month.

We heard from Tammy Rehms of 123 7th Ave came into complain about several things. Firstly she wanted to say her water smells bad and has smelled bad for weeks; we said we would flush the lines by her house two weeks ago and we did not until after she called KIMA to get the media involved. She also said that the mayor said that the City of Selah was doing our water

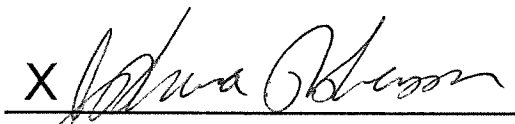
testing and the City of Selah says they tested it once but are no longer taking care of it. She also said that she wanted to know what was happening with the people cutting the locks off of their water meters that is a gross misdemeanor and they should be prosecuted. Her main concern was that we have a police officer who is out acting without a police chief; this is unlawful and something she mentioned months ago. She gave the ultimatum that we could make him chief and back pay him or she would go to the state and report us.

We heard from Maria Alvarado 117 Rose St. who wants her water checked. She says it is dirty and brown. The mayor said she would have someone go out and check in the morning.

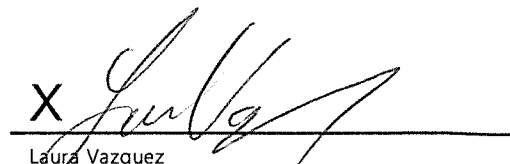
We heard from Beatrice Campos 319 N. 3rd Ave who wants something done about the cars parking on her street; she stated that they are parking out too far into the street making it hard to pull out of her driveway. She also wanted to mention the little racing cars with big loud exhaust going way to fast on her street.

4. Adjournment:

Time:6:42pm

X 

Joshua Roberson
Deputy City Clerk

X 

Laura Vazquez
Mayor