

Minutes Public Meeting – Infrastructure Update & 0.2% TIB Sales Tax

January 27, 2022
Soap Lake School Library
527 2nd Ave SW, Soap Lake, WA 98851
& Online Virtual Council Chamber

Call to Order: 5:30 PM

Roll Call:

Council Members Present: Bratton, Bryson, Rushton, Taylor, Woodhouse, and Mayor Kovach

City Staff Members Present: Administrative Assistant Siebert

Agenda:

1. **Presentation by Gray & Osborne: Updates on city's Infrastructure – Water, Sewer, Storm, Mineral and Transportation.**

Representatives from Gray & Osborne gave updates on the City's Infrastructure Plans and funding options for each plan.

Water System – this plan covers water sources, reservoirs, telemetry system and distribution system. The plan was completed in 2019. Work on the distribution system, fire hydrants and water meter upgrades was done during 2020-2021. Phase III is starting now and will focus on the distribution system, telemetry system upgrade and the well house. Recommendations are to have well 1 evaluated, find a solution for the west reservoir leak and watch system pressure on the south side of town.

Waste Water System – this includes both collection and treatment of waste. General sewer plan was adopted in 2016. The treatment plant was built in the 1940's and has had some maintenance done through the years. Phase I in 2014 fixed some code issues. Phase II addresses expanding capacity. The lift stations need to be upgraded and the treatment plant is near capacity. A study is currently being done for cost estimates for funding. The planning should begin now as it takes 4-5 years to secure funding. Recommendation is to have Council consider rates for future expenses.

Mineral Water System – a study was completed providing the City with several service options and costs associated.

Storm Water System - a storm water management study was completed in 2019. Main focus was to maintain the health of the Lake. A Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) was created to help filter water run-off before it reaches the Lake. There is no funding for this. The City does not collect a utility fee, but could consider this option for the future. For CIP grants the City needs a 15% match.

City Parks – the plan to upgrade the basketball court is still in progress. The City is waiting on an electrical line to be moved.

Transportation System – this system includes streets, sidewalks/pathways and bike facilities. Recommendation for the sidewalks/pathways and bike facilities is to develop a plan for any future funding needs.

For Street Improvement Plan, several considerations are taken into account to prioritize streets for any improvements. Plans consider narrower streets which provide less off-flow of storm water and slower speed limits for traffic. A street is selected based on criteria such as safety, TIB condition, classification, what the roadway serves (a business area?) and traffic count.

Most funding comes through TIB grants with matching City funds. Since 2009, the City received roughly \$8 million in funding and had a match of \$307,000.00. Each year the City receives approximately \$32,000.00 from car tab fees and would receive approximately \$30,000.00 in revenue if the City's sales tax was increased by 0.2%. These monies are then used for the match on the grants that are received for street improvements within the City.

2. **Impacts of City's Ballot Measure for 0.2% TBD Sales Tax on Street Infrastructure** – Mayor Kovach encouraged everyone to vote on this ballot measure. There is information posted on the City's website and informational pamphlets have been mailed out.

Adjournment: M/Rushton, S/Bratton; motion to adjourn at 7:43 PM. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Kovach

Administrative Assistant Siebert