

SOUTH DAVIS SEWER DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
PUBLIC HEARINGS
7 December 2023

The Board of Trustees of the South Davis Sewer District, Davis and Salt Lake Counties, met in regular session at 6:00 p.m. at the District Office located at 1800 West 1200 North, West Bountiful, Utah, with the following members present:

Howard Burningham	Chair
Mark Preece	Vice-Chair
Len Arave	Trustee
Gina Hirst	Trustee
Brian Horrocks	Trustee (via Zoom)
Kendalyn Harris	Trustee
Ryan Westergard	Trustee

Others meeting with the Board:

Matt Myers	General Manager/Treasurer
Mark Katter	Accounting Manager/Clerk
Lanese Hendrickson	Assistant General Manager
Susanne Monsen	Administrative Asst/Asst Clerk
Jake Scott	Resident, Centerville
Ron Mortensen	Resident, Bountiful
Ed Bartling	Resident, Bountiful
Mike Moore	Resident, North Salt Lake
Thomas Brown	Resident, West Bountiful
David Turpin	Resident, West Bountiful
Sue Noorda	Resident, Bountiful
Patsy Womack	Resident, Bountiful
John Murphy	Resident, Bountiful
Blane Roskelly	Resident, Centerville
Kathleen Roskelly	Resident, Centerville
Kes Armstrong	Resident, Centerville
Craig Preston	Resident, Centerville
John Armknecht	Resident, North Salt Lake
Charlotte Maxwell	Resident, North Salt Lake (via Zoom)
Gayle White	Resident, Centerville (via Zoom)
Kevin Boardman	Resident, Bountiful (via Zoom)
Dean Collinwood	Resident, Bountiful (via Zoom)
Phil Walker	Resident, Bountiful (via Zoom)

1. OPEN MEETING:

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

2. OPEN PUBLIC HEARING TO RECEIVE PUBLIC INPUT WITH RESPECT TO A PROPOSED TAX INCREASE:

Motion was made by Gina Hirst seconded by Ryan Westergard to open the Public Hearings. Motion carried unanimously with Trustees Burningham, Arave, Hirst, Preece, Horrocks, Harris and Westergard voting "aye".

A. PRESENTATION.

A PowerPoint presentation was reviewed by the District's General Manager, Matt Myers, giving a background on recent regulatory issues that require the District to construct new facilities for the removal of nitrogen and phosphorus and the costs associated with construction of the new facilities. The presentation is available on the District's website.

B. PUBLIC COMMENTS.

The following is a synopsis of the questions and comments from community members regarding the proposed tax increase:

Blane Roskelly: Blane expressed his opinion that there should be an equal split between taxes and fees.

John Armknecht: John noted his concern about the cost to the middle class.

Edward Bartling: Edward indicated he had issues with letter sent out to all residents and the presentation and was concerned with the property tax increase. He didn't feel the costs were fair. A smaller house with fewer inhabitants pays the same as a larger house and larger household. He didn't want the Board to vote in favor of a tax increase and stated that it is not affordable.

David Turpin: David expressed concern about the G&A cost increase and asked what the Water Quality Group is.

Kes Armstrong: Kes asked what bonding has been done and what it covered. He stated that the District needs to communicate better with residents and asked if federal funds were available.

Sue Noorda: Sue asked what the cost of the proposed administration building is. She also asked how many employees the District has and what happens if an earthquake occurs.

Craig Preston: Craig asked how assessments are calculated and, regarding the monthly fee, what the cost is per gallon.

John Murphy: John asked how the District came up with the 50% increase.

Edward Bartling: Edward noted that he works for the federal government and wants the District to push back.

Mike Moore: Mike asked if any grant money is available. He explained that his home is not occupied during the winter months and he wants the District to look into charging by the gallon based on water usage.

Charlotte Maxwell: Charlotte agreed with previous comments that the District should push back the State.

Kevin Boardman: Kevin asked if the District had reviewed the increase with the Utah Taxpayers Association. He also asked if the impact fee could be increased to cover the cost of new construction.

Dean Collinwood: Dean told the Board that he is opposed to the increase.

Phil Walker: Phil expressed concern about the higher cost to middle income earners.

Tom Brown: Tom asked if the District could sell the biosolids.

RESPONSE:

All concerns were heard and acknowledged by the Board and all questions were answered in full. (Audio is available upon request for a more detailed record).

Mr. Ron Mortensen (resident) attends many public meetings of other governmental entities and commented he felt the sewer district was one of the best operated facilities. He is generally not in favor of tax increases, but feels this one is necessary. He recommended those in attendance contact their state legislators and let them know of their concerns.

3. PUBLIC HEARING TO RECEIVE PUBLIC INPUT WITH RESPECT TO THE 2024 TENTATIVE BUDGET:

A. PRESENTATION.

Matt Myers presented the final draft for the 2024 Budget. Line item summaries of projected revenues and expenditures were reviewed. One correction regarding the debt service amount has been made since the tentative budget was approved in October.

B. PUBLIC COMMENTS.

Edward Bartling: Edward asked what the District's computer costs are and what the cost benefit is to rate payers. He expressed his opinion that District employees shouldn't make more than the average resident.

4. CLOSE PUBLIC HEARINGS:

Motion was made by Ryan Westergard seconded by Gina Hirst to close the Public Hearings. Motion carried unanimously with Trustees Burningham, Arave, Hirst, Preece, Horrocks, Harris and Westergard voting "aye".

5. CONSIDER RESOLUTION NO. 107-24 - ADOPTING 2024 BUDGET:

Motion was made by Gina Hirst seconded by Mark Preece to adopt the 2024 Budget as corrected through Resolution No. 107-24. Motion carried unanimously via a roll call vote with Trustees Burningham, Arave, Hirst, Preece, Horrocks, Harris and Westergard voting "aye".

6. CONSIDER RESOLUTION ADOPTING FINAL TAX RATES AND BUDGETS FOR 2024 - REPORT 800C:

Motion was made by Gina Hirst seconded by Ryan Westergard to approve the Resolution Adopting Final Tax Rates and Budgets for 2024-Report 800C as presented. Motion carried unanimously via a roll call vote with Trustees Burningham, Arave, Hirst, Preece, Horrocks, Harris and Westergard voting "aye".

7. NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED:

The next meeting has been scheduled for Thursday, 18 January 2024, 5:00 p.m.

8. ADJOURN:

The Chairman declared the meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.


Chair, Board of Trustees


Clerk