

Minutes of the Veneta City Council Work Session September 28, 2015

Present: Sandra Larson, Tim Brooker, Thomas Cotter, Victoria Hedenstrom, Thomas Laing

Others: Ric Ingham, City Administrator; Shauna Hartz, Finance Director; Kay Bork, Community Services Director; Kyle Schauer, Public Works Director; Darci Henneman, City Recorder; and Joan Mariner, Fern Ridge Review

1. CALL TO ORDER THE VENETA CITY COUNCIL WORK

Mayor Larson called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.

2. TRANSPORTATION UTILITY FEE (TUF)

Bork said staff would like to review, with Council, the Transportation Utility Fee (TUF) ordinance and specific policies before staff brings it back to Council for adoption in November. She reviewed the 10 policies and said some will require more discussion than others.

In response to a question from Mayor Larson, Ingham said the result of previous discussions had the City zeroing in on improvements, maintenance, repair and reconstruction and staff needed to clarify what we meant by "improvements". He said improvements will not include expansion of any roadway but will increase the life and efficiency of the road surface. He said ODOT is requiring us to replace the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) ramps anytime we do maintenance on an existing roadway. He said work done on McCutcheon or Broadway will require removing and replacing the existing 10 year old ADA ramps to meet the new standards.

In response to a question from Thomas Laing, Schauer said the 8th St. Local Improvement District (LID) is a separate project but should be done before any road improvements are done. He said currently there are approximately seven homes on 8th St. that are not hooked up to City sewer.

Ingham said the 8th St. LID will come to the Council in the next month or so.

Hartz reviewed the six scenarios. She said she is trying to get away from the term "capital". She said we could budget some of those projects as capital but it doesn't mean that anything is being expanded because the TUF will not include road expansion.

In response to a question from Thomas Laing, Ingham said other than updating ADA ramps, sidewalks, bike lanes or anything that expands an existing roadway, is not included in the Pavement Preservation Plan or TUF projects.

Ingham said we have to be specific and clear what the TUF will cover and make sure it's justified. Improvements to 8th St. include preserving what we've invested in the existing road. It's our hope that we'll find other money but at this point, we're only talking about what the TUF will cover.

In response to a question from Thomas Laing, Schauer said our adopted street design are standards different from Lane County's standards. He said 8th St. is considered a connector so our standards require sidewalks, ADA ramps, bike lanes, etc. He said ADA is required in order to access facilities - if there's nothing to access we are not required to provide it.

Ingham said the Work Plan includes updating the Transportation System Plan (TSP) which will include reviewing the capacity and capital projects that need to be done and provide funding solutions. He said the advisory committee will assist Bork with the TSP update. He said during that time, we'll get estimates on those expanded or enhanced projects and by then we'll have an idea of what Perkins Rd. and 8th St. will look like.

In response to a question from Mayor Larson, Ingham said staff is concerned about over promising something and not knowing where the funding is coming from. He said we don't want to say the TUF will include bike lanes if we can't do that. He said when it comes to widening roads, providing more asphalt, bike lanes, etc. we need to complete the TSP process before we know what we can and can't do.

Victoria Hedenstrom said Scenario 4 is the best option and seems to be the most effective way to go.

In response to a question from Tim Brooker, Hartz said the TUF will provide about \$30,000 in FY 2015-16 because it will not become effective until January 1, 2016. She said by 2018 it should collect about \$80,000 to \$90,000 annually.

In response to a question from Mayor Larson, Bork said we'll have a better idea if the \$3 TUF needs to be increased or another TUF is needed once the TSP is updated.

In response to a question from Victoria Hedenstrom, Ingham said it was determined that we shouldn't ask for more than we need so the TUF was set at \$3 rather than \$4.

In response to a question from Victoria Hedenstrom, Ingham said the TUF fee would start January 1, 2016. He said the street assessment report provided us with the condition of our streets so we need to find a way to implement the report and fund improvements.

Hartz said waiting until 2021/22 to include large improvements in the model will give us ample time to get the TSP done which will give us a better idea of what those improvements will cost.

Ingham said we want to make sure that any improvements are 20 year improvements rather than only 10 years. He said if the Council wants to move forward, we need to be very transparent. He said we could do it without the TUF but if residents want us to do it the right way, scenario 4 is the best option.

In response to a question from Mayor Larson, Ingham said staff appreciates Council feedback so they can better prepare for the Open House on October 22, 2015.

3. **OTHER**
None

4. **ADJOURN**

Mayor Larson adjourned the Veneta City Council at 6:33 p.m.


Sandra H. Larson, Mayor

ATTEST:


~~Dani Henneman, City Recorder~~
(Minutes prepared by DHenneman)

Shauna Hartz, Finance Director