

GREATER MAPLE VALLEY UNINCORPORATED AREA COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING – December 4, 2023

The monthly regular meeting of the GMVUAC held at the Maple Valley Fire Station and virtually via Zoom was called to order by Hiester at approximately 7:00 PM on Monday, December 4, 2023.

Roll Call: Present: Hiester, Rimbos, Buchanan, Harvey, Neuner, Haynes, Iverson, and Hansen.

Absent, But with Designated Proxy: N/A

Absent: N/A

Resignation: N/A

Logistics Note: The meeting was held in person and virtually over Zoom.

Agenda Items:

Addition agenda item:

- Iverson: 5 minutes to discuss Tahoma School District.
- Hansen: Approval of the November 6, 2023 meeting minutes.
- Hiester: Postpone the 9:00 KC permitting agenda item to the next meeting.
- Haynes: Seattle Times Salmon articles (November 19, 2023 and November 30, 2023) at end of meeting.

Motion: Iverson- Move to approve agenda as amended. Second: Rimbos, Approved – All.

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1. Public Comments (7:07): N/A.

2. Water Services and Private Wells—Daniel Cardwell (DLS Permitting) (7:11):

- Daniel Cardwell: Chair of the KC Utility Technical Review Committee.
- PowerPoint presentation on water service in unincorporated King County.
- Water System Overview:
  - Group A - 15 or more homes (professionally managed).
  - Group B – 2-14 homes (managed by the homeowners).
  - Private Well – 1 home, permit exempt, typically put in when a home is developed.
- Seattle Public Utilities provides water to about 80% of KC.
- 1.9% - Private System.
- 0.7% - Group B.
- Types of permit exempt wells:
  - Domestic use (up to 5,000 gallons per day (GPD)).
  - Irrigation of lawn or non-commercial garden.
  - Industrial use up to 5,000 GPD.
  - Stock water for stock animals- unlimited.

- A water user may “stack” the exemptions.
- Rural area of preference:
  1. Designated utility through direct service.
  2. New public water system.
  3. Existing Group A or Group B.
  4. A new Group A or Group B.
  5. A new private well.
    - A new private well would be “conditioned on execution of a certificate of future connection” (If a water service becomes available you would have to connect).
- Private WELL Application:
  - Public Health Seattle KC reviews for:
    1. Well Construction.
    2. Water Quality.
    3. Pump Test.
  - Lots created after May 18, 1972 must be 5 acres or greater.
- 2018 Streamflow Restoration Act:
  - Response to 2016 State Supreme Court decision (HIRST).
  - Sets withdrawal limits.
  - Requires streamflow restoration and enhancement plans.
    1. Identify mitigation projects to:
      - Offset new permit exempt wells.
      - Provide net ecological benefit.

#### Council Business (7:57)

1. Cedar Hills Regional Landfill (CHRLF)—Janet Dobowolski (7:57)
  - CHRLF Arsenic Discussion:
    - Continued harmful substance violations from leachate and landfill gas.
    - Bio Energy Washington (BEW) stopped landfill operations in June 2023.
    - To avoid methane gas buildup CHRLF started flares.
    - Arsenic is the 20<sup>th</sup> most abundant element in the earth's crust.
    - Arsenic and inorganic arsenic is classified as Group 1 Carcinogenic.
    - Annual source testing is required by Puget Sound Clean Air Agency (PSCAA).
    - They do not test for arsenic.
    - Arsenic can't be destroyed by the high heat of the flares, where is it going?
    - Arsenic in water:
      - Leachate ponds, goes to waste water, goes to Duwamish River or Loop Fertilizer in the cascades or eastern Washington.
    - Arsenic in the air:
      - Acceptable source impact is 0.049 lbs./year.
      - Arsenic in landfill gas is 0.0011 lbs./24hrs.
  - CHRLF quarterly reports and BEW's data are different.
    - PSCAA allows CHRLF to exclude active and dangerous areas for testing and emissions.
    - King County Solid Waste Division (KCSWD) contracted Wood Environmental to do testing of CHRLF.
    - Wood Environmental tested over areas that CHRLF does not normally test.
    - Wood Environmental and CHRLF data conflicts.

- BEW surveyed landfill in 2021 using a special drone to identify areas of methane gas escapes across landfill.
- Dept of Ecology (DOE) proposed methane emissions rules WAC 173-408 similar to WAC 70A.540
- Summary:
  - Is there a health risk from the arsenic?
  - CHRLF not required to test.
  - Exposure is unknown.
  - PSCAA has issued an order to test for airborne arsenic November 3, 2023.
- Key Dates:
  - DOE's new methane rules hearing December 6, 2023.
  - Deadline for DOE's methane rules public comment December 13, 2023.

2. Horse Park—Joan Burlingame:

- Friends of Rock Creek.
- 1998 to 2000 a 4 to 1 was used to create several open areas around Ravensdale. 5% (20 acres) of open space allowed for active recreation.
- KCC voted that the 5% would be used for equestrian center- horse arena and parking.
- Rock Creek Equestrian Center raised \$50,000 to make plans and \$200,000 grant that they may lose if they don't move forward with the plans.
- Building Department denied permit that would allow this to be done because it is not recorded that the 5% was to be used for equestrian center.
- Joan has been talking to parks/ Regan Dunn/ will reach out to Ivan Miller.

3. KCHO Audit:

- Rimbos:
- Independent audit of the DLS permitting.
- November 28, 2023 Joint Team members gave testimony.
- We did not like the audit. It did not look at everything.
- Lot of concerns about permitting.
- Lot of changes needed.

4. 2024 KCCP:

- Rimbos:
- Postponed.

5. KC Permitting:

- Rimbos:
- Postponed.

Updates to Committee Reports:

Executive: N/A

PR: N/A

Joint Team: N/A

Growth Management: N/A

Environment: N/A

Transportation: N/A

Hiester adjourned the meeting at approximately 9:28 PM.

Minutes by Hansen.