

MINUTES - ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETING 02/14/2013

The meeting was called to order @ 6:01 PM, Thursday, February 14, 2013, in the North Conference Room @ 21630 11th Avenue South, Des Moines with the following in attendance:

Council Members

Dave Kaplan, Chair
Melissa Musser
Dan Caldwell

City Staff

Tony Piasecki, City Manager
Dan Brewer, Acting PW Director
Loren Reinhold, Environment/Utilities
Engineer
Peggy Volin, Admin Asst

Guests:

John Ghilarducci, FCS Group

AGENDA:

1. Approve minutes of January 10, 2013
2. Draft 2013 Work Plan
3. SWM Rate Structure Study Update –
Issue Papers 1-5

MEETING:

1. Minutes of January 10, 2013, were unanimously approved.
2. Draft 2013 Work Plan – unanimously approved.
3. SWM Rate Structure Study Update, Issue Papers 1-5 and summary: Loren gave a brief introduction of how the rates are currently calculated then introduced John Ghilarducci, consultant with the FCS Group, hired by the City to perform a comprehensive stormwater rate structure study. John went over the summary of recommendations for the five issue papers which included the Storm Water Rate Structure, Stormwater Fees for Private Streets, Stormwater Rate Credits, Stormwater Multifamily Rates and Stormwater Public Institution Rates.

John mentioned that city staff has provided impervious area sampling of single family residents needed to do calculate a revised Equivalent Billing Unit (EBU). He also mentioned that the preliminary results indicate an EBU that is higher than the current EBU of 2,400 square feet. The Committee requested information on how other jurisdictions calculate their rates and the amount of the rates.

The Committee discussed Issue Paper #2, concerning stormwater fees for private streets. The study recommends that the city should continue to charge private streets as non-residential property but that the rate charged should be determined by quantifying the

offsetting contribution and benefits made by the private streets. A methodology for quantifying this contribution will be presented at the April meeting.

Currently, the Issue Papers are a working draft and staff will take the comments from the Committee back to the Consultant and have a 2nd draft ready for the April meeting.

Adjourned @ 6:55 PM

Submitted by: Peggy Volin, Administrative Assistant