

**MINUTES
FAIRVIEW CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION
FAIRVIEW CITY HALL
1300 NE VILLAGE STREET
FAIRVIEW, OREGON 97024**

September 3, 2003 -- 5:45pm

**I. CALL TO ORDER/
ROLL CALL**

Council President Steve Owen called the meeting to order at 5:45pm.

PRESENT: Councilor Darrell Cornelius
 Councilor Sherry Lillard
 Councilor Steve Owen
 Councilor Len Edwards
 Councilor James Raze
 Councilor Jim Trees

ABSENT: Mayor Mike Weatherby

STAFF PRESENT: Mary Jo Briggs, City Administrator
 Bob Cochran, Public Works Director
 Caren Huson, City Recorder

**II. WATER DISINFECTION
WORKSHOP**

Bob Cochran, Public Works Director, stated that the purpose of the Work Session was to describe the chlorination process which the City was undergoing. Five issues will show that Fairview is a big city now and that it is time to chlorinate its water continually. The five issues are: system size and complexity, resident's confidence in the City's water, government regulations, vandalism, and hydrogen sulfide. Director Cochran introduced Mary Howell of BMI Inc. And David Stonin of CH2M Hill.

Director Cochran reported that in terms of the water system size and complexity, there are currently 23 miles of water pipe in the City, 1500 customers, and 3 million gallons of water being stored; it is difficult to maintain pure water through this technical system. In terms of coliform bacteria, the City samples ten sites every month for the presence of coliform bacteria, which is basically dirt and an indicator that other bacteria may be present. Sampling is very sensitive with only minute amounts of dirt resulting in a positive result for coliform, which in turn results in a violation of water quality standards.

Director Cochran stated that City residents must have confidence in their water supply. When Well 8 was drilled, it emitted a sewer smell in resident's homes; hydrogen sulfide produces the gassy scent when it contacts the air, and chlorine prevents this off-gassing. Regarding governmental regulations, the Safe Drinking Water Act only required surface water systems to disinfect; however, very soon, disinfection will be required for groundwater systems. Ms. Howell commented that once the new requirements are approved, all groundwater systems will have to chlorinate or disinfect unless the jurisdiction

receives a waiver; however, a waiver will require the jumping through of many hoops, will be very expensive, and if there is a record of bad samples, will not benefit the jurisdiction. Ms. Howell explained that old pipes have natural occurring coliform bacteria, and in speaking to the Director of Water Quality, with the amount of water storage that Fairview has, it will throw Fairview into the disinfection regulation.

Director Cochran mentioned that after the attacks on 9/11, staff made great strides in protecting the water system from vandalism, and disinfection is the first prevention for the problem. Director Cochran stated that from now on, the City will be using chlorine to disinfect the water supply.

Ms. Howell stated that there are other forms of disinfection, including Ozonation and UV, but they will be of no use to Fairview and are extremely expensive.

Councilor Trees questioned if two types of disinfection could be used simultaneously so that the water would taste better. Mr. Stonin responded yes, but in the end it would probably cost the City considerably more. Mr. Stonin added that CH2M Hill had conducted a study of odor and taste problems in the water, and that resident surveys will continue.

Councilor Cornelius asked if there was a water filter which the consumer might purchase to remove the chlorine from the water. Mr. Stonin responded yes, but it would require the customer to treat the water with a chemical. Ms. Howell added that there are filters that run from \$100 to \$1,000 and that there is an approval process for those filters; cities have gone to manufacturers to obtain the filters at cost and then pass them on to the citizens for the same price. It is important to keep in mind that the filters must be installed properly or the customer could run into problems. Mary Jo Briggs, City Administrator, stated that the City's consultant will make a recommendation on the approved filters; but it was the City's goal to have the water at the same place it was before chlorination in terms of taste.

Council President Owen commented that the water system needs to be where it was before chlorination in terms of taste, and then look into providing fact sheets for residents with possible filter options. Councilor Lillard added that when the consultant looks at disinfection options, that Council would like to see the cost for each option.

Ken Quinby, Fairview, suggested that staff look into the possibility of adding colloidal silver into the water system as his concern was with the chlorine and the dangers it offers to the human body, including its effect on acidophilous cultures in the body.

Council President Owen thanked staff and the consultants for their presentation.

III. ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Edwards moved and Councilor Raze seconded the motion to adjourn. Council President Owen adjourned the Work Session at 6:45pm.

AYES: 6
NOES: 0
ABSTAINED: 0

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Council President Steve Owen

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Dated:

Caren C. Huson Quiniones
City Recorder