

**City of Champaign, Illinois**  
**Minutes of Meeting**

---

**Stormwater Utility Fee Advisory & Technical Committees Meeting**

**May 9, 2011**

**Advisory Committee Members Present:** Charles Allen, Eliana Brown, Steve Cochran, James Creighton, Karen Foster, Jim Jesso, Vic McIntosh

**Advisory Committee Members Absent:** Donald Agin, Jim Bustard, Clif Carey, Jim Spencer, David Tomlinson, Anna Marie Watkin

**Technical Committee Members Present:** Lorrie Pearson, Leslie Lundy, Mark Toalson

**Technical Committee Members Absent:** Shawn Luesse

**City Staff Present:** Dennis Schmidt, Jamie Vermillion, Roland White

**Consultants Present:** Greg Kacvinsky – Foth Infrastructure & Environmental, Doug Noel– AMEC Earth & Environmental

---

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 4:04 p.m.

**Minutes**

The minutes from April 11, 2011 were approved.

**Member Inquiries/Staff Follow-up**

There were no member inquiries or staff follow-up items.

**Stormwater Management – Revenue Plan**

Noel made a presentation discussing the revenue plan for the stormwater utility fee.

Jesso asked if an annual stormwater utility fee rate increase based upon CPI will occur after the first year of the program. Schmidt indicated any rate increases would be discussed with and approved by City Council.

McIntosh asked if the figures provided on the rate models take into account a credit or incentive program. Schmidt explained both the \$2.2 million and \$3.2 million expenditure plans dedicate \$100,000 for credit and/or incentive programs and the rate models do take into account such programs.

Foster asked what the term “iterative process” means. Noel explained that the consultant completes a process which utilizes trial and error calculations to determine a rate that will keep a positive fund balance for ten years.

Brown asked if the City would be responsible for paying a stormwater utility fee for City-owned parking lots. Schmidt explained the City would be required to pay a stormwater utility fee for all City-owned lots. He noted the slanted parking spaces outside of the City Building are part of the right-of way and not a City-owned lot. There would be no charge to the City for this particular area.

Foster asked why there are several parcel numbers for the property depicted in the “Scott Park Apartments” slide. Noel explained there are multiple parcels because the parcels have not been combined and the assessor still considers them separate parcels.

Foster asked if the Champaign Park District would be charged by each property or would all properties be combined together. Schmidt explained the initial bill would have a breakdown of billing showing calculations for each property. Following the initial billing, the monthly invoice would show an aggregate sum owed for all properties owned by the Champaign Park District.

Foster asked how Kraft Foods would be charged since their property is not technically within the City limits. Schmidt explained that he is not sure how and if Kraft will be charged at this time. There will be a discussion with Council concerning whether a property outside of City limits which contributes stormwater to City infrastructure would be charged a stormwater utility fee. Additionally, if a property within the City’s corporate limits does not drain into the City’s stormwater drainage system, they may not be required to pay.

Brown asked what the rationale is for making right of ways and streets exempt from the stormwater utility fee. Schmidt indicated that those property types are typically exempt from a stormwater utility fee because these are commonly used by everyone. Additionally, many streets in newer subdivisions not only serve as transportation thoroughfares, but also as conveyors of stormwater.

Jesso asked if there has been any consideration to provide discounts or exemptions for elderly residents. Schmidt indicated there was not anything like that under consideration. He further explained that through media and other publicity, residents will be given notice that a stormwater utility fee is impending, so they will be able to plan and budget for this additional cost in advance.

Noel noted that some communities provide assistance to residents for utilities. Brown asked if that type of program is available in Champaign. Schmidt indicated he does not think that any bills payable to the City are included in those programs.

Jesso asked if there will be a collections process for property owners who do not pay their stormwater utility fee bills. Schmidt explained that if the City partners with the Urbana-

Champaign Sanitary District (UCSD) to provide billing services, they will send past due balance notices. Following that, the City would file liens on the property.

**Surveys**

McIntosh encouraged Committee Members to complete the surveys found at the end of the meeting packet.

**Public Participation**

There were not questions or comments made by the public.

**Next Meeting**

McIntosh announced the next meeting will be held June 13, 2011 at 4 p.m. in Council Chambers of the City Building.

**Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:54 p.m.