

**CITY OF WILLCOX
MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

• *STATEMENT OF LEGAL ACTIONS* * *

NOTE DATE: Wednesday, October 14, 2009

NOTE TIME: 6:00 p.m.

**City Council Chambers
300 W. Rex Allen Drive
Willcox, AZ**

(Mayor or Designee will read only **BOLD** print of each agenda item,
except for Public Hearings, Petitions and Communications.)

1. **CALL TO ORDER**-Mayor Gerald W. Lindsey called the work session meeting to order on Wednesday, October 14, 2009 at 6:00 p.m.
2. **ROLL CALL**- Mayor Lindsey called roll.

PRESENT

Mayor Gerald W. Lindsey
Vice Mayor Larry Schultz
Councilman Elwood Johnson
Councilman Jimmy Norris
Councilwoman Monika Cronberg
Councilman Stephen Klump
Councilman Christopher Donahue

STAFF

City Manager Pat McCourt
City Attorney Hector Figueroa
City Clerk Cristina G. Whelan, CMC
Public Works Director Dave Bonner
Finance Director Ruth Graham
Building Inspector Jeff Stoddard

3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG**-Mayor Lindsey.
4. **DECLARATION ON CONFLICT OF INTEREST**-There was no response from the Mayor and Council members or staff
5. **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**- It was moved and seconded to adopt the agenda as adopted. **Amend motion:** It was moved and seconded to move agenda item #8 regarding proposed Resolution No. 2009-61 relating to amount of septage accepted at WWTP before agenda item #7 proposed Resolution No. 2009-57 relating to increased rates and charges during specific times at the WWTP. **AMENDMENT: CARRIED. ORIGINAL AMENDMENT CARRIED.**

(Note: There was no Agenda #6 the number was skipped next agenda item numbered is #7.)

Consider #8 first per motion!

8. **DISCUSSION REGARDING PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 2009-61 APPROVING AND ESTABLISHING A MONTHLY SEPTAGE DELIVERY AMOUNT TO BE ACCEPTED FROM SEPTAGE HAULERS AT THE CITY OF WILLCOX WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY TO EXIST.**
Discussion was held by the Mayor and Council, City staff, Public Services & Works staff, City Attorney and septic haulers present K&K Stamback, Ted Zickert and Cook's Septic, John and Kathy Hernandez, regarding the amount of septage to be accepted by septage haulers at the City of Wilcox WWTP.

City Manager summarized need to do pre-treatment; sample testing was done and no difference accepting higher or lower amount of septage; staff is comfortable removing 30,000 gallon current cap; need to continue monitoring; need to know what is coming in, and monitor what is going out to see if something happens and if it does we can respond. Testing is costly and City would have to increase pumping charge 2-3 times more which is better than the alternative of the City not taking the septage at all. The costs needs to be paid by the people on septic that have their tanks pumped and it staff thinks it is reasonable to take that and treat it and haulers should be charged for that. The 30,000 should be lifted we

should continue to monitor, because all septage is not equal and other people bringing in "bad or not quite as bad" septage and we need to say okay but real bad have to stop and have to have pre-treatment system, sludge or mechanical and need to find what will work and handle what we are doing now and for future growth. Rates should be what it costs to take care of it. In order to trace septage staff needs to know the physical address of all septic coming in so that if something does happen staff can trace it back and we can say we can accept normal septage but can not accept it from them. If stored or blended in holding tanks before bringing to WWTP the haulers would still have the addresses of what went into that tank. Haulers would have to keep a log too. (Discussion ended at 7:08 p.m.)

7. DISCUSSION REGARDING PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 2009-57 APPROVING AND ADOPTING THE INCREASED RATES AND CHARGES DURING SPECIFIC TIMES FOR THE WASTEWATER SYSTEM OF THE CITY OF WILLCOX AND SETTING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

After discussion by those present City Manager stated what is proposed is instead of charging for service raise rate totally and provide service whenever the haulers want it and everyone has to pay. Both systems work for him. Staff believes that what we have seen from Notice of Violations the problems from the lab is due to lack of staffing. Do not have time to have him there because doing work elsewhere. Do not have person dedicated to lab or WWTP and it was suggested to staff the lab with partially or fully funded employee and paid by septic hauling. That is why proposed that during regular hours no fee but if called from other job, they have to stop what they are doing, accept it, and get back to job then lose 1-hour. If there are all 4-haulers calling at one time and if all show up at one time there is one charge shared by all three haulers. Concern by hauler is they have to tell customer in the morning one price and afternoon another charge. A hauler stated it is better to tell them that than to not being able to dump at all.

In summary City Manager said on this Resolution staff is to bring it back with restructure with times available and include some increase to current \$25/1,000 gallons because we do not know what that is at this time. It appears we can accept more than 30,000 and the 30,000 would be lifted and staff will continue to monitor to see if deterioration will cut that. Hours are 8-3 Monday-Friday except Holidays, weekends; and call outs would have extra charge. There needs to be a lot more thinking, discussion on whole septic and the City Manager's opinion is the rates are going to increase and dealing with 3-4 haulers and no reason to think that might not increase to 10 haulers in the near future. Other WWTP plants in our area have closed down or stopped accepting septic dumps and we could be accepting from septic from larger distances. Staff sees our primary obligation is to the citizens of Willcox and that does not mean we do not see damage to our environment. Mayor Lindsey stated he thinks this was a good session and all of us learned something from it and hopes those here have had opportunity to discuss that with the Council.

9. ADJOURN -8:07 p.m.

NOTE: People with disabilities may request reasonable accommodations. Requests must be made 48 hours prior to the meeting by contacting City Hall at 384-4271, ext. 4204, during regular business hours 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.