

RESOLUTION 1940

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF NORTH BEND, WASHINGTON, ADOPTING A DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM LEAKAGE PROGRAM, DIRECTING STAFF TO PROCEED WITH WATER METER REPLACEMENT; AND EXPEDITE WATER LINE CAPITAL PROJECTS ALL TO REDUCE DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM LEAKAGE IN THE CITY'S WATER SYSTEM

WHEREAS, the City of North Bend's water system has experienced an increase in water leakage during the past several years; and

WHEREAS, the City believes a large percentage of these leaks are occurring from old water meters that have exceeded their typical lifespans and old asbestos concrete watermains that have exceeded their typical lifespans; and

WHEREAS, the City has a goal to decrease leakage from 25% to 10% within 6 years; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has formed the North Bend Water Utility (Utility) for the purposes of delivering safe and reliable drinking water to North Bend Utility ratepayers; and

WHEREAS, water is a finite natural resource as the amount of water which existed when the Earth was formed is vastly the same amount of water which exists today; and

WHEREAS, the City Council wishes to promote public health, safety and welfare by ensuring the protection of water as a limited natural resource and by increasing water use efficiency; and

WHEREAS, by significantly reducing the distribution system leakage (DSL) of the Utility, the City Council will be ensuring water exists for current and future Utility customers; and

WHEREAS, DSL includes both real losses from leaking or broken valves and distribution lines and apparent losses from faulty or old meters failing to accurately record water consumption data; and

WHEREAS, in 2018 and 2019, the City conducted leak detection studies in order to locate real water losses in its water distribution system and repair the same; and

WHEREAS, Washington State Administrative Code sets a goal of ten percent (10%) or less of DSL for a water utility (WAC 246-290-820(1)(b)(i)); and

WHEREAS, the Utility has various water rights and the Centennial Well water right requires the City to mitigate low flows in the Snoqualmie River during certain times and this mitigation results in significant expenses to the Utility and adversely impacts rates to Utility customers; and

WHEREAS, implementing an aggressive DSL program may result in ultimate savings on Utility bills by reducing water loss; and

WHEREAS, leaky water systems are costly and inefficient because revenue is lost through such leaks including water treatment costs, energy costs for pumping water and water that could have been sold to customers is lost; and

WHEREAS, the Washington State Legislature passed Chapter 90 RCW to respond to the increasing demand on the state's limited water resources ("Municipal Water Law"); and

WHEREAS, the Municipal Water Law requires all water purveyors including the North Bend Utility to use water more efficiently in order to meet future demand; and

WHEREAS, the Municipal Water Law requires the North Bend Utility to meet a distribution leakage standard (DLS) based upon a 3 year rolling average in order to minimize water loss from the Utility's distribution system;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTH BEND, WASHINGTON, DOES HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. DSL Program and Goal. The City Council hereby creates a Direct Service Leakage Program (Program) for its water utility in order to reduce the water utility water leakage from in excess of twenty-five percent (25%) to ten percent (10%) or less. This Program shall be included in the City's Water Loss Control Action Plan consistent with Chapter 246-290 WAC.

Section 2. Water Meter Replacement. The City Council directs staff to expeditiously move forward with replacing all water meters which have exceeded its standard useful life. This work shall occur over the next two (2) to three (3) year period commencing on the effective date of this Resolution. The City Council approves the expenditure of up to Six Hundred Thousand Dollars and No/100 (\$600,000.00) from the Utility budget fund for such purposes. Council directs staff to use best efforts to complete the majority of this work over the next two (2) year period. Council directs staff to return with any proposed contracts for such meter work for Council's approval. Council directs the City Administrator and Finance Director to include this project in the 2021-2022 Biennial Budget as a top Council priority for new initiatives.

Section 3. Water Capital Projects. The City Council directs city staff to expeditiously move forward with the engineering, design and request for bids in order to repair and/or replace leaking water valves and distribution lines and replace asbestos watermains with ductile iron pipes during a ten (10) year period. Council directs the City Administrator and the Finance Director to include the highest priority water capital project(s) in the 2021-2022 Biennial Budget as a top Council priority for new initiatives.

Section 4. Water Manager. The City intends to create a Water Manager position to manage the above tasks, administer the pending Water Conservation Ordinance, and manage other pending water capital projects including the design and construction of a 4th reservoir, and several mitigation capital projects. The City Council will evaluate this new full time equivalent position in connection with the 2021-2022 Biennial Budget review.

PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTH BEND, WASHINGTON, AT A REGULAR MEETING THEREOF, THIS 2ND DAY OF JUNE, 2020.

CITY OF NORTH BEND:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Rob McFarland, Mayor

Michael R. Kenyon, City Attorney

ATTEST/AUTHENTICATED:

Effective: June 2, 2020

Posted: June 3, 2020

Susie Oppedal, City Clerk