

CITY COUNCIL REPORT

DATE: January 10, 2020

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers

Cc: Jerene Watson, City Manager, Dawn Prince, Deputy City Manager
Peter Gardner, City Planner, Leadership Team

FROM: Kraig Fullen, Chief of Police

SUBJECT: BAY ACRES ANNEXATION UPDATE

This is an overview on the Bay Acres Annexation and Sewer Project Community Meeting held January 9, 2020.

Attendees: Approximately 50 residents; contractor KE&G Staff (4); Cochise County – Christine McLachlan, Ann English; City – Councilmember Huish, Dep. City Manager Dawn Prince, Luis Pedroza, Chief Lomeli, Peter Gardner, Miguel Arvizu, Rene Molina, Rene Rios, Joel Camacho, Edgar Altamirano, Eddie Gonzalez, (Ward 3 Candidate – Danya Acosta), Chief Fullen.

Special thanks to Elizabeth Daniel and Recreation Staff for setting up the chairs and tables.

DISCUSSION:

Sewer Project – Staff from KE&G Construction and City Staff held this Community Information meeting at the Sunnyside Fire Department on 1/9/2020. KE&G shared their timeline for the project, with work to begin on 24th Street and Eddie Avenue and progressing towards the Bay Acres area. The work is planned in numerous stages with the main sewer line to be installed first; followed by feeds to the individual property lines, connection to the residence and final stage being the collapse and backfill of existing septic tanks. The project begins on Monday 1/13/2020 and is slated to be completed by the end of December 2020.

Cochise County will complete the roadway improvements following construction in two stages: the first involves the use of AB material after the mainline is installed and the second includes the actual chip-seal once all construction in the area is completed. Chip-seal will only be applied where it is currently, 24th Street will not receive chip-seal as part of this contract. There were a number of questions posed by residents and fielded by KE&G staff. Information boards with timelines of the project and the contact numbers for project supervisors will be installed next to the mailboxes at the entrance to Bay Acres. Overall the residents were grateful and receptive to the information presented.

Annexation – City staff came in at the back end to share our message on the benefits of annexation as suggested by Peter Gardner, City Planner. The same PowerPoint presentation was given as the previous community meeting to keep the information consistent which was beneficial as there were a number of new faces in attendance. Staff also fielded a few questions on the annexation process.

Damian Dorame, Assistant to the City Manager, will complete the draft for a door hanger survey on 1/17 for staff review. The survey will be finalized for staff to distribute the final week of January. The intent is to gather information on their support for the annexation proposal as well as identify their priorities for City services. Luis Pedroza has nearly completed the cost/benefit analysis which we will share with Council at a work session later in January or the February regular council meeting.

There were questions regarding the grandfathering of farm animals within the proposed annexation area. Residents expressed concerns that the grandfathering exception requires them to maintain the specific farm animal for a period of twelve (12) continuous months and thereafter following annexation. If there is a break at any time where the animal is absent, the allowance will no longer be valid. A resident explained that he raises a beef cow every other year and under this requirement he would no longer be able to do so.

Christine McLachlan, County Planner, shared off-line that there are potential remedies to satisfy the concern, one being a change to the City Ordinance that restricts the keeping of such animals (likely reserved to the annexed area) or the re-zoning of the annexed area to conform to the similar zoning standard existing in the County.

RECOMMENDATION / CONCLUSION:

This report is for information only.