

Water System Advisory Council Minutes
Weekly Water System Advisory Council Meeting

Call to Order

Weekly Water System Advisory Council Meeting was held on 8/20/21, through virtual setting utilizing Zoom Communications Software. It began at 5:30 pm and was presided over by Lottie Ferguson, City of Flint Chief Resilience Officer.

Attendees

Voting Members in attendance: Jamie Gaskin, Jaron Houston, Yvonne Lewis, Ben Pauli, Dr. L. Reynolds, Gina Smith, Sheryl Thompson

Member Location:

Flint, MI: Dr. Lawrence Reynolds, MD, Gina Smith, Ben Pauli, Sheryl Thompson, Jaron Houston
Fenton, MI: Jamie Gaskin

Guests in attendance: Lottie Ferguson, Chief Resilience Officer, Inez Brown, City Clerk Qiana Towns-Williams, Public Health Manager, Michael Brown, DPW Director, Arthur Woodson

Members not in attendance: None

Agenda Items

City Clerk, Inez Brown, introduced the weekly Water System Advisory Council Meeting and explained her role for this meeting was to oversee the election of officers. City Clerk called for attendance and asked for the location of all members.

Water System Advisory Council elected officers. Sheryl Thompson elected as Chair of WSAC, Ben Pauli elected as Vice-Chair of WSAC, and Yvonne Lewis elected as Secretary of WSAC.

Lottie Ferguson, City of Flint Chief Resilience Officer, read purpose of the council and responsibilities of officers within the Council.

Chief Resilience Officer opened the floor for public comment. Resident Arthur Woodson provided a public comment and expressed concerned about some residential properties and commercial buildings that had reported high lead levels within LCR testing. Water System Advisory Council Vice-Chairman Dr. Ben Pauli responded to Resident Woodson's concerns and spoke to the responsibility of the council and stated that he understands the concerns of the residents within the City of Flint. Water System Advisory Council Chairwoman, Sheryl Thompson, clarified the rules of public comment and stated that member responses will occur once all public comments have been heard.

Water System Advisory Council member Jamie Gaskin clarified purpose of WSAC and asked if the meeting schedule could be discussed to understand how the council can help the community and ensure community engagement. Water System Advisory Council Member Gina Smith shared quote from WSAC purpose to explain that the council will be providing a holistic view on water issues within the

community. Water System Advisory Council Secretary Yvonne Lewis highlighted key points of purpose for the council with a specific focus on community engagement and collaboration. Water System Advisory Council member Jaron Houston echoed the need for transparency within the council and upholding the responsibility as a member of the council. Water System Advisory Council Chairwoman Sheryl Thompson discussed frequency of meetings and opens the floor for suggestions from members.

Chief Resilience Officer clarified before suggestions begin by stating the frequency of meetings are necessary for public information, however if a meeting needs to be called a 24-hour notice must be provided.

Water System Advisory Council Secretary Yvonne Lewis motioned for meetings to be scheduled bi-monthly with the added suggestion provided by the Chief Resilience Officer that a special meeting can be called as necessary. Water System Advisory Council member Jamie Gaskin seconded the motion. Water System Advisory Council Vice-Chairman Dr. Ben Pauli asked if a meeting could occur in September since all preliminaries have been established and a formal meeting can occur. Water System Advisory Council Chairwoman Sheryl Thompson agreed with this suggestion and proposed that a meeting take place in September on possibly the 3rd or 4th Tuesday. Water System Advisory Councilmember Dr. Lawrence Reynolds proposed that with upcoming events regarding water transitions within the City of Flint that members allow special meetings to be called to order, in addition to the bi-monthly schedule.

DPW Director, Michael Brown, discussed that water transitions that will be occurring within the City of Flint and scheduling for the transition to GLWA water and welcomed his assistance to council members. Water System Advisory Councilmember Dr. Lawrence Reynolds proposed weekly reports be sent to all members about water transitions and updates. Water System Advisory Council Secretary Yvonne Lewis agreed with Dr. Reynolds's statement and believes that members should be alerted right away in a case of emergency. Water System Advisory Council Chairwoman Sheryl Thompson echoed the need for the council to be well informed.

Chairwoman stated a special meeting will be on September 7, 2021, and meetings will occur on the 3rd Tuesday of every other month. Meeting schedule will begin on September 21 and the next official meeting will be held on November 16. Sheryl Thompson called for motion.

Water System Advisory Councilmember Dr. Lawrence Reynolds motioned. Water System Advisory Council Secretary Yvonne Lewis seconds this motion. Chief Resilience Officer performed a roll call vote for the motion. Six councilmembers agreed: Jamie Gaskin, Yvonne Lewis, Ben Pauli, Dr. L. Reynolds, Gina Smith, Sheryl Thompson. One councilmember opposed: Jaron Houston Motion carried.

Water System Advisory Council member Jamie Gaskin motioned for meetings to be held from 5:30 pm until 7:00pm. Water System Advisory Councilmember Dr. Lawrence Reynolds supported this motion. Chief Resilience Officer performs a roll call vote for the motion. Six councilmembers agreed: Jamie Gaskin, Yvonne Lewis, Ben Pauli, Dr. L. Reynolds, Jaron Houston, Sheryl Thompson. One councilmember opposed: Gina Smith.

Water System Advisory Council Chairwoman Sheryl Thompson asked for volunteered for by law sub-committee. Chief Resilience Officer, Lottie Ferguson, stated that the subcommittee will have the support of the Mayor's Office and City of Flint Legal team. Water System Advisory Council

Vice-Chairman Dr. Ben Pauli and Water System Advisory Councilwoman Gina Smith volunteered to form the subcommittee for bylaws. Water System Advisory Council member Jamie Gaskin motioned for Water System Advisory Council Vice-Chairman Dr. Ben Pauli and Water System Advisory Councilwoman Gina Smith form by-law subcommittee. Chief Resilience Officer performed a roll call vote for the motion. All attending councilmembers: Jamie Gaskin, Yvonne Lewis, Ben Pauli, Dr. L. Reynolds, Jaron Houston, Sheryl Thompson, Gina Smith agree to this motion. Motion carried. Water System Advisory Council Chairwoman Sheryl Thompson requested that an update by the subcommittee be provided at the special meeting on September 7, 2021.

Water System Advisory Councilmember Dr. Lawrence Reynolds motioned to adjourn meeting. Water System Advisory Council member Jamie Gaskin supported motion. Chief Resilience Officer performed a roll call vote for the motion. All attending councilmembers: Jamie Gaskin, Yvonne Lewis, Ben Pauli, Dr. L. Reynolds, Jaron Houston, Sheryl Thompson, Gina Smith agree to this motion.

Meeting Adjourned: 6:31 pm

Minutes submitted by: Qiana Towns Williams

Minutes approved by: