

Working Meeting Minutes January 27, 2025

The Arco City Council met on Monday, January 27th at 6:00 p.m. for a work meeting with Idaho Attorney Stephanie Bonney and representatives from Forsgren Engineers to discuss and ask questions about bond election process in Idaho

City Clerk Jensen, Deputy Clerk Smith, Mayor Grady Parsons, councilmembers Ben Tesmer, Danny McCurdy, Amanda Darland attended the work meeting. City maintenance supervisor Tony Chisham and zoning chair Rebecca Lange also attended. Camille Miller, Rick Miller and Stephanie Bonney attended via Teams.

At 6:05 PM, Mayor Parsons called the work meeting to order. Mayor Parsons asked Forsgren engineer Camille Miller to start the discussion. Ms. Miller introduced Rick Miller and Stephanie Bonney and then summarized the need for a bond election or judicial confirmation for a Local Improvement District bond regarding the discovery process and replacement of lead water service lines in the city of Arco. Just as other cities across the nation are being required to do, the City of Arco must meet DEQ requirements to inventory all water lines in the city water delivery system to determine if any lines are lead. The discovery aspect of the inventory of pipes in Arco of unknown composition will identify both city and private lines in the water delivery lines from the city meter box to the structure it serves. DEQ is offering a grant for the discovery process excavation, and loan funds for residents to replace any lead delivery lines that are discovered. The city would use the loan funds to offer residents, or businesses, a 10 to 30 year payback program, with only 1% interest, for residents or businesses to replace any lead water lines. Attorney Stephanie Bonney is experienced in writing LID bonds and has experience in the judicial confirmation process necessary for city utility bonds. There was detailed discussion about whether to complete only the discovery process, or whether to attempt to replace any lead lines as part of the discovery process excavation. The question that will be brought to the City Council will be whether to engage Ms. Bonney to prepare bond and LID documents and assist in moving the process along. The city will need to pass a City Ordinance requiring replacement of all private lead water delivery lines. There is a question about whether to pass the ordinance before establishing the LID or afterwards. The question about whether to engage Ms. Bonney to assist in drafting the LID and an Ordinance will be put on the City Council agenda. Also discussed at the work meeting was the probability that another LID bond will be needed for the sewer plant replacement project. The city has Altura development searching for grant funds, but even with several grant sources the total cost for the proposed sewer plant replacement will not likely be covered. The remaining funds would be sought through another LID bond, the council again discussed the process of requesting the services of Ms. Bonney to write the needed necessary documents. Bond elections can be scheduled for either May or November, the work meeting concluded at 6:48 p.m.



Mayor Grady Parsons



City Clerk Dana Jensen