



City Council Report

Date: July 1, 2019
To: City Council
Through: Karolyn Kent, Assistant City Manager
From: Jake West, Water Resources Department Director
Subject: The Mesa City Code for Municipal Water System. (Citywide)

Purpose and Recommendation

Council is requested to approve the proposed Title 8, Chapter 10 of Mesa's City Code as presented.

Background/Discussion

Over the past several years, Mesa has dealt with some reoccurring challenges attributable to water service for a rapidly expanding community. One of these challenges lies with the lack of a Chapter of the City Code specifically addressing the City's Municipal Water System and water uses in the City. The proposed City Code addresses some of these challenges.

First, the new Chapter would consolidate some of the existing provisions and terms and conditions regarding water service that are currently in ordinances and located in unrelated sections of the Code. For instance, the existing Potable Water Use Restrictions regarding lakes and turf-related facilities are found in a Section of Title 4, Chapter 5 of the Mesa Plumbing Code (this will be repealed, with the provisions included in the new Chapter). Some of the requirements for obtaining city water services exist in the water rate schedules and under the Terms and Conditions for the Sale of Utilities. In particular, the new Chapter addresses the standards under which City provides service. By consolidating all the municipal water provisions into one section will aide city customers with a single source of reference.

The proposed City Code also incorporates new provisions that enable the City to manage the municipal water system and supplies. Included is a provision modeled after a City of Chandler ordinance that establishes a large customer sustainable water allowance. This ordinance addresses the potential impacts of a large customer on the utility and allows for receipt of additional water supplies. Also included in the Code are provisions that codify the Water Shortage Management Plan. This provides clear direction and authorities to implement the "Plan". The Plan was revised to include these sections of the proposed Code. Conforming revisions to the Water Shortage Management Plan adopted by resolution will also be forthcoming.

Alternatives

Council may choose not to approve the Proposed City Code. In this case, the City would not have a single source of authorities to manage and protect the municipal water system.

Fiscal Impact

The Water Resources Department does not anticipate the City will incur significant additional fiscal impacts from the City Code.

Coordinated With

The development of the City Code was coordinated with the City Attorney's Office.