

Minutes of the Oil and Gas Advisory Committee
City of Aurora, Colorado
January 16, 2019

Meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m.

The following were present:

Susan McClain, Chairwoman, Citizen
Polly Page, Committee Member, Citizen
Brad Pierce, Committee Member, Citizen
Josh Reddell, Vice-Chairman, Citizen
Jim Rogers, Committee Member Chairman, Industry
Maxwell Blair, Committee Member, Industry
Philip Holmes, Committee Member, Industry
Marc Cooper, Committee Member, Surface Owner
Nicole Johnston, City Council Member
Jason Batchelor, Deputy City Manager, City of Aurora
Stephen Rodriguez, Local Government Designee, City of Aurora Planning and Development Services
Sarah Wieder, City of Aurora Planning and Development Services
Elizabeth O'Brien, City of Aurora Planning and Development Services
Christine McKenney, City of Aurora Attorney
Steve Fesch, Citizen of Aurora and Mineral Owner
David Schnabel, Axis Exploration
Debbie Bickmire, City of Aurora Planning and Development Services
Larry Quirk, Citizen of Aurora
Soledad Anda, City of Aurora Planning and Development Services
Aurora, Ogg, Citizen of Aurora
Steven Pott, Consultant
Tyler Shetterly, EIS Solutions
Philip Henke, Citizen of Aurora
Edith Henke, Citizen of Aurora
Cameron Ming, ConocoPhillips
Ryan Seastrom. COGA
Susan Chapel, City of Aurora Planning and Development Services

Absent:

Chad Polak, Committee Member, Surface Owner

1. Chairwoman McClain called the meeting to order at 4:04 p.m.
2. Chairwoman McClain introduced herself and asked those present to introduce themselves.
3. Polly Page commented that the minutes from November 1, 2018 do not show the designations for all of the committee members and asked for the changes to be made. Susan Chapel, Recording Secretary, stated the minutes would be updated.

Minutes of the Oil and Gas Advisory Committee
City of Aurora, Colorado
January 16, 2019

Brad Pierce noted that on Page 2 of the November 1, 2018 minutes it is not clear what John Dougherty, former committee member, was speaking of regarding the Finance Department. Ms. Chapel stated she would review the recording and bring the November minutes back to the Committee at the next meeting. Since corrections were needed it was decided to adopt the November minutes at the March meeting.

3. Sarah Wieder, gave an update on current Oil and Gas Permit applications:

There have been two new applications that have started the review process since November 2, 2018

- Reserve North Phases Two and Three is generally located at the Southwest Corner of 26th Avenue and Hudson Road. Four wells are proposed in phase two and four wells are proposed in phase three, one well was approved in phase one.
- Lone Tree North Phase Two is generally located at the Southwest Corner of Alameda Avenue and Hayesmount Road. Nine wells are proposed in this phase; one well was approved in phase one.

Application Approvals

- Jamaso was administratively approved and then Called-up by City Council. This application is generally located at the Southeast Corner of Powhaton Road and Colfax Avenue. City Council granted approval for sixteen well in one phase.

Updates on Other Applications: Due to confusion with naming staff worked with ConocoPhillips to better delineate oil and gas permit requests, the following permits follow the new naming conventions:

- Cottonwood Creek North generally located at the Southeast Corner of Jewell Avenue and Hayesmount Road, seven wells are proposed in one phase. Currently awaiting 2nd review comments to be released.
- Eastern Hills South generally located at the Northwest Corner of Powhaton Road and future Mississippi Avenue, eight wells are proposed in one phase. Currently awaiting 3rd review comments to be released.
- Lone Tree South generally located at the Northwest Corner of Hayesmount Road and future Mississippi Avenue, six wells are proposed in one phase. Applicant needs to submit a 3rd submission.
- Rush North generally located on Powhaton Road ½ miles south of Jewell Avenue, eight wells are proposed in one phase. Currently awaiting 2nd review comments to be released.
- Yellow generally located south of 38th Avenue between Watkins Road and Imboden Road, four wells are proposed in phase one and four wells are proposed in phase two. Once outstanding comments are resolved the application will be approved administratively.
- Grande North generally located at the Southeast Corner of Powhaton Road and Mississippi Avenue, four wells are proposed in phase one and four wells are proposed in phase two. Applicant needs to submit a 3rd submission.
- Eastern Hills North (Phase Two) generally located at the Southwest Corner of Powhaton Road and Alameda Avenue, seven wells are proposed in phase two, two wells were approved in phase one.

Minutes of the Oil and Gas Advisory Committee
City of Aurora, Colorado
January 16, 2019

- Grande South (Phase Two) generally located at the Northeast Corner of Powhaton Road and Jewell Avenue, seven wells are proposed in phase two, one well was approved in phase one. Applicant needs to submit a 3rd submission.
- Rush South (Phase Two) generally located on Powhaton Road approximately ½ mile south of Jewell Avenue, seven wells are proposed in phase two, two wells were approved in phase one. A Conditional Use approval is required at a Planning Commission public hearing due to platted residential lots (undeveloped) within 1,000 feet.

Max Blair stated that if anyone has questions regarding any of the ConocoPhillips wells, they can contact him directly and he will be happy to assist.

Jim Rogers asked for clarification on new well sites. Sarah Wieder provided the requested information.

Stephen Rodriguez discussed the Energy Symposium that will take place in Rifle Colorado in April. He stated that it is a good educational and collaborative conference. He added that he will send the committee members an email with information regarding the symposium. He asked for members to reply to the email indicating if they are interested in attending. Typically, the Planning Department will cover the cost of lodging for two nights and the cost of the conference, but he will confirm this with the Director and inform the committee. Christine McKinney suggested that if members are interested to sign up quickly as the hotels in the area are rather small and rooms will be taken up quickly.

Susan McClain stated she attended last year and found it to be very informative and encouraged members to go if possible.

5. Public Comment Period

Edith Henke, t resident of the Traditions neighborhood, commented that at a public meeting, a resident in the Adonea neighborhood stated that they were invited on a tour of a well pad site. She would like to have the same opportunity extended to residents in Traditions. She also stated that the applicant for the Jamaso application indicated that they had reached out to the residents of Foxridge Farm Mobile Home Park, but according to the residents that she spoke with, they did not speak with any one personally; flyers were left on doors. She suggested that a meeting be held with the residents of the mobile home park. She also asked about the Highway 30 Landfill located at Gun Club and 6th and what may be going on at that site. She stated that she has seen dumping at the site. She voiced concern that waste from fracking operations might be dumped at the site. She also voiced concerns regarding the lack of emergency response for the Traditions neighborhood.

A general discussion took place regarding the Fire Department's involvement in meetings regarding oil and gas permits and what fire departments in the metro area would respond to emergencies.

Sarah Wieder noted that there is an application under review for the corner of 6th and Gun Club and there has been moving of dirt on the site. A neighborhood meeting was held recently regarding the retail development proposed for the site. She offered to share the plans with any who requested them.

Minutes of the Oil and Gas Advisory Committee
City of Aurora, Colorado
January 16, 2019

Max Blair assured those present that there will be no dumping of fracking waste on the site in question. He explained that any waste materials from the drilling of the holes, called cuts, for fracking must be disposed of at a certified facility. He also explained how any waste water is disposed of.

David Schnabel, Axis Exploration, indicated that two employees from Axis Exploration did go door to door at the Foxridge Mobile Home Park regarding the Jamaso application.

Steve Fesch, Citizen of Aurora and Surface Owner, voiced his frustration with the city regarding property that he owns at 56th Avenue and E-470, which is the DIBC pad site.

Larry Quirk, Citizen of Aurora, stated that he is on the Adonea Neighborhood Board which will be meeting in the evening. He asked for an update on any permits that might be in the area that is adjacent to his neighborhood so he could report back to the neighborhood association regarding the mineral rights lease that was signed in 2018.

6. Councilmember Nicole Johnston and Deputy City Manager Jason Bachelor gave an overview of The Aurora Highlands project.

There was a general question and answer period.

Councilmember Johnston added that there was a new Comprehensive Plan for the City of Aurora implemented in this year and it is the desire of City Council to be very strategic in the placement of oil and gas pad sites.

7. Oil and Gas website recommendations.

Susan McClain explained that there has been concern on the ease of use of the webpage for Oil and Gas within the city and she indicated that she will be meeting with city staff to see what capabilities the webpage may have and how to make it easier to use.

Committee Member, Brad Pierce, suggested than an Oil and Gas map be added to the gallery of maps that is already available to the public on the Planning and Development Services Department website. A link could also be added on the Oil and Gas Committee's webpage that would send visitors to the map gallery.

A discussion took place regarding the public being able to comment on specific well sites.

Susan McClain, Josh Riddell and Brad Pierce agreed to participate in a sub-committee to make recommendations for improvements to the website.

Minutes of the Oil and Gas Advisory Committee
City of Aurora, Colorado
January 16, 2019

8. 2019 Proposed Meeting Schedule

The following meeting dates were proposed

Wednesday, March 20th at 4:00 p.m. in the Aspen Room

Wednesday, May 15th at 4:00 p.m. in the Eagle Room

Wednesday, July 17th at 4:00 p.m. in the Aspen Room

Wednesday, September 18th at 4:00 p.m. in the Aspen Room

Wednesday, November 20th at 4:00 p.m. in the Aspen Room

Sarah Wieder indicated that notices of future meetings will be sent out via email.

Jim Rogers brought up that there are vacancies on the committee that will need to be filled. He indicated that direction from City Council is needed on how the committee should proceed to fill the vacant seats since there are new guidelines for the selection and interviewing of applicants.

Brad Pierce stated the City Clerk's Office is responsible for the advertising of the vacancies and collecting any applications that come in for all boards, commissions and committees. He noted that when the advertising is done, a deadline should be set for accepting applications and it should be also be clear what vacancy they are applying for. (i.e. surface owner, industry or citizen)

Jim Rogers reminded the Committee that the surface owner/developer vacancy has not been filled for almost two years and encouraged the members to put the word out to try and generate interest for that particular vacancy.


A general discussion ensued on fulfillment of vacancies. Stephen Rodriguez stated that he will work with the Clerk's Office regarding the vacancies and if any guidelines were adopted by City Council regarding recruitments.

9. Public Comment

Larry Quirk stated that he did apply the last time there was a vacancy and that he was told that he was not able to be interviewed because of his past involvement in the oil and gas industry. He indicated that he would be interested in applying since the rules seem to have changed regarding who may apply.

The meeting was informally adjourned at 5:25 p.m.

Minutes Approved



Susan McClain, Chairwoman