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Options for a Separate Utilities Board

*Town Hall with District 5 Councilmember Jill
Gaebler*



Please join me on Thursday, May 26

6-8pm

Patty Jewett Golf Course Clubhouse

900 E. Espanola St., Colorado Springs, CO

Today, approval for Colorado Springs Utilities budget, rates and tariffs, issuing debt and other utility-related decisions is the responsibility of City Council.

To ensure Colorado Springs Utilities has the best Board structure in place to be successful now and in the future; City Council, in its Utilities Board role, is reviewing if a change in how the Board is established and operates could benefit citizen-owners, customers and the community. At their March 23 meeting on Governance, the Board voted to move forward with their review of a separate Utilities Board.

Potential options for municipal utility boards include members that are separately elected, appointed, or are combinations of elected and appointed. Each Board alternative, including the current structure, provides direction and oversight to assure the highest level of performance for Colorado Springs Utilities. A change from the current structure to any alternative would require a vote of Colorado Springs citizens,

which would most likely occur in April, 2017.

The Board is comparing potential options with the current structure and is using previous studies on utilities governance, peer utility examples, potential qualifications of board members, data-driven research, and public input to make the best recommendation.

Since the first of the year, the Board has developed an updated governance process around Board duties and responsibilities, conducted research, and has town hall and public meetings scheduled with the goal of sharing information and receiving input and new ideas.

The question at hand is: what is the best Board structure for the community to continue benefiting from owning Colorado Springs Utilities, now and into the future?

For a complete list of Utilities Board Governance and Town Hall meetings go to

www.csu.org or provide input to

gca@csu.org

Respectfully,

Councilmember Jill Gaebler