



MEETING MINUTES

UTILITIES COMMISSION

FRIDAY, July 14, 2017, 7:15 A.M.
Water Treatment Plant, 555 Lincoln St.
Large Conference Room

Members Present: D. Lanyon, E. Rosenberg, R. Shure, M. White
Members Absent: C. Bova, D. Everhart, J. Nieuwsma
Staff Present: A. Price, D. Stoneback
Presiding Member: D. Lanyon

1. DECLARATION OF QUORUM

A quorum being present, Chair Lanyon called the meeting to order at 7:16 a.m.

2. APPROVAL OF THE JUNE 9, 2017 MEETING MINUTES

Mr. White moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Mr. Shure.

The minutes were approved unanimously, 4-0.

3. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Work Plan Item 1.1 Building energy efficiency benchmarking initiative – progress report on ordinance implementation plan

Mr. Stoneback reported that the compliance deadline was June 30 for buildings that are 100,000 square feet, of which there are 107 properties. Data was submitted for 63 of those properties, and was fully complete for 34 of the 63 properties. The rest of the properties had some data missing, the majority of which were Northwestern University properties who said that they would have the data completed by July 14. No data was submitted for 44 properties, and they received a notice of violation explaining that they have 20 calendar days to meet the ordinance requirement. Property managers of the buildings that were missing some of the data, such as Northwestern's buildings, were informed of what data was missing and asked to complete it. He said that Mr. Jensen believes that the low initial compliance is due to inaccuracies in the City's contact information for those buildings as they have not had anyone refusing to comply. Mr. Stoneback said staff will continue to pursue correct contact information. A complete summary of the benchmarking information for City buildings will be ready for review at the August Utilities Commission meeting, and he will have another update at that time on their progress finding correct contact information for the noncompliance buildings. He said that the City will assist and cooperate with the non-respondent building owners to enable their compliance.

4. STAFF REPORTS

a. Recent Electric System Outages, Basement Flooding Concerns, Water Service Interruptions, and status of 2017 improvement projects

Mr. Stoneback reported the following:

There were a rather high number of power outages in June. Two of the outages were cable fault incidences, one on June 5 and one on June 16, which he believes were ComEd maintenance problems. Several outages were due to weather on June 14 and June 30, and the rest of the outages were scheduled to perform improvements.

The report shows that there were six basement backups in June that were contributed to the City but Mr. Stoneback is suspicious of that number and wants to recheck it. He will report back to the Commission at the August meeting.

There was one water main break in June, which occurred on Greenwood Street. He noted that this water main has only had one previous break.

There were the normal amount of Sewer Service Repair permits obtained in June and no Water Service Repair permits were obtained.

All of the Capital Improvements Projects are moving along well. He provided the Commission with a report detailing the updates on each project, and noted the following:

City Council approved award of engineering services to Crawford, Murphy & Tilly for the conceptual design for the Emerson Wholesale Meter project.

The Water Plant Reliability Improvement project is moving along very well. He will be going to Council with a \$35,000 change order for some additional work that is proposed on the shore wells.

There was a schedule set back on the Treated Water Storage Replacement project due to difficulty finding the steel sheeting used to install a sheet pile wall between Northwestern University's new dormitory and the proposed reservoir, but they are back on schedule now.

An independent contractor has been hired for a 3-year contract as a contact point for the CMMS Software Implementation project. There have been several meetings with Data Transfer Solutions, manufacturer of the VUEWorks product, and everyone seems to be very excited about the project.

b. Status of negotiations with potential new wholesale water customers

Mr. Stoneback reported that negotiations with Skokie remain ongoing, and their current contract has been extended for another 3-month period. He said that Lincolnwood has made a counter proposal listing four different items, one of which looked reasonable and the City is revising the proposed cost based on that one modification.

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. Report on City Council approval of the contract for community aggregation

Mr. Stoneback reported that City Council approved a 3-year contract with Dynegy Energy Services. Since Dynegy will begin to supply energy in August, during the first 2 months of the agreement the Dynegy price will be above the ComEd price to compare. However, beginning in October, the Dynegy price for 100% renewable energy will be slightly lower than the ComEd price to compare with only 10% renewable energy. He said that he will need to go back to Council to change the Plan of Governance to do automatic sweeps to find out who the new residents are and have them opt in to the aggregated group. Mr. Stoneback stated that he would find out the legality of residents from other communities joining Evanston's aggregated group and whether Dynegy would agree to it.

b. Street lighting study advisory committee initial meeting on July 18

Chair Lanyon said that the first Steering Committee meeting will be held next week and Mr. Shure is the designated point man for the Utilities Commission, but he will be in attendance as well. Mr. Stoneback said he will have the Scope of Work available at the meeting. He reported that the Committee consists of Alderman Wynn and Alderman Simmons, Susan Cherco from the Age Friendly Task Force, Scott Osborne from The Environment Board, Andrew Pigozzi from the Plan Commission, Rich Shure from the Utilities Commission, a 7th Ward resident, Johanna Leonard, Director of Community Development, Police Department representatives, and Public Works Agency staff, Lara Biggs, Tom Twigg, Rajeev Dahal, and himself, as well as Christopher B. Burke Engineering, Ltd. staff, Mike Kerr and John Caruso.

c. Revised Complete and Green Streets Policy

Chair Lanyon asked if the revised Complete and Green Streets policy had passed the City Council in June and how it differed from the policy that passed in 2014. Mr. Stoneback responded that it had passed, and that the report now goes to the Transportation and Parking Committee rather than the A&PW Committee. He said other than that there is not much difference in the policy.

6. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS / COMMUNICATIONS

a. Forthcoming Public Works Agency activities relative to the Utilities Commission

There were no announcements or communications.

8. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:11 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Angela Price
Special Projects Assistant, Public Works Agency