



**MEETING MINUTES**

**UTILITIES COMMISSION**

FRIDAY, AUGUST 11, 2017, 7:15 A.M.  
Water Treatment Plant, 555 Lincoln St.  
Large Conference Room

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

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**1. DECLARATION OF QUORUM**

A quorum being present, Chair Lanyon called the meeting to order at 7:17 a.m.

**2. APPROVAL OF THE JULY 14, 2017 MEETING MINUTES**

Mr. Shure moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Mr. Bova. All approved.

**The minutes were approved unanimously, 5-0.**

**3. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

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

Mr. Stoneback stated that he does not have any new information because Mr. Jensen has been on vacation. Mr. Nieuwsma reported that he spoke with Mr. Jensen briefly before he left for vacation, and he said there were a number of round one buildings that have not complied yet, which makes them technically pass the deadline. He said Mr. Jensen believes that the low initial compliance is due to inaccuracies in the City's contact information for those buildings and he is now making a direct effort to reach out to each individual building owner and manager.

**b. Street Lighting Study – report on the July 18 meeting of the advisory committee**

Chair Lanyon reported that Mr. Shure and he attended the July 18<sup>th</sup> kick off meeting. Mr. Shure said the committee consists of two Aldermen, and representatives from the Age Friendly Task Force, the Environment Board, the Plan Commission, the Utilities Commission, a 7<sup>th</sup> Ward resident, Director of Community Development, Police Department representatives, and Public Works Agency staff. He found it very reassuring that everyone was in attendance and thought it was a very positive meeting. The consultant was in attendance and outlined twelve different locations where they are going to take measurements of the lighting at the ground level, and test the light pollution to determine if that is a factor. He said both Alderpersons Wynne and Simmons have different areas that they want to check, and brought up change order issues. The consultant shared their one year timeline, and they

will be presenting to the public and the advisory committee several times throughout the year.

**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:

Most of the power outages that occurred in July were scheduled to perform improvements. However, four 311 requests were received from residents on July 12<sup>th</sup> notifying the city of power outages. Since these outages were not at the circuit level he did not receive notification from ComEd therefore, he is unsure of the cause. Chair Lanyon said there was a severe rainstorm that day which was probably the cause of the outages.

There were five water main breaks in July. Four of the breaks occurred near Lincolnwood and Thayer, and were determined to have been caused by a restoration contractor for Nicor using a fire hydrant that did not work properly causing the breaks to occur. The fire hydrant was taken out of service and the contractor was made to use a different hydrant.

There was one Water Service Repair permit obtained in July, and a fairly low number of Sewer Service Repair permits have been obtained so far this year compared to previous years.

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

An engineer has been hired for the 30" Downtown Feeder Main Rehabilitation project. The kick-off meeting was held on July 14<sup>th</sup> and survey crews have been out collecting data.

Under the Water Main Replacement project the water main on Grant Street is fully installed with completion is scheduled for September. Replacement of five drinking fountains with high lead content was also completed under this project.

The Retail Water Meter Replacement Program was awarded to a vendor at the end of July, and they will begin to replace water meters in September.

The CMMS Software Implementation project is moving along well, migration of Cityworks should be complete in August. The first draft of the CMMS for the Water Plant is in development.

Under the Sewer Repairs on Street Improvements project, Sheridan Road should be complete in October. The project was delayed due to Northwestern University's commencement and a two-week state shutdown. The two-way bike lanes will continue on Sheridan Road to north of Central Street.

Chair Lanyon asked Mr. Stoneback to prepare a list for public distribution of city projects where green infrastructure has been included for stormwater management. Mr. Stoneback will provide the list at the next Commission meeting.

**b. Status of negotiations with potential new wholesale water customers**

Mr. Stoneback reported that the City had a good meeting with Lincolnwood. They indicated that their staff is going to their board on August 15<sup>th</sup> to seek authorization for the Village Manager to negotiate and execute a water supply agreement with the City of Evanston. He recently received a phone call saying Morton Grove and Niles have formed their commission and that they have awarded the design of the transmission main to an engineering firm. The City should receive an official letter very soon saying that we can move on to full design of the wholesale meter at Emerson Street and McCormick Boulevard.

**5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**a. Report on review of six postings of city caused basement backups in June reported at the July 14<sup>th</sup> meeting**

Mr. Stoneback reported that all six of the basement backups occurred when there was over two inches of rain and were due to surcharging of the combined sewer system due to very intense rainfall.

**6. NEW BUSINESS**

**a. Climate Action Plan update**

Mr. Nieuwsma reported that Mr. Jensen has finalized the 2016 greenhouse gas emission inventory. He said the target goal was 20% by the end of 2016, the City made it to 18.8%. The 20% goal would have been achieved if there had been better participation in aggregation. He said Mr. Jensen feels with the quarterly rollover with new residents being able to opt-in to aggregation the City will achieve that 20% goal. Mr. Nieuwsma said the City is operating without a Climate Action Plan right now and moving forward over the next year will be putting together a new Climate Plan. He said the Mayor has indicated that Evanston will adhere to the Paris Climate Accord and also reiterated support that the previous Mayor had committed for the Global Compact of Mayors now known as the Global Covenant of Mayors, and under that umbrella the new Climate Action Plan will meet those globally established criteria and the inventory calculation will follow those formulas. He stated a working group will be put together and will have slots for various stakeholders, one of which will be somebody from the Utilities Commission.

**7. ANNOUNCEMENTS / COMMUNICATIONS**

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

Mr. Rosenberg announced that the MWRD will host public tours of the first phase of the McCook Reservoir on Sundays, August through October.

Mr. Stoneback announced that he will present the proposed Capital Improvement Program for the Water and Sewer Funds at the September Utilities Commission meeting. Chair Lanyon informed the Commission that he

**APPROVED**

will not be in attendance at the September meeting. Mr. Nieuwsma will chair the meeting in his absence.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Nieuwsma moved to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Shure. All approved.

**The meeting was adjourned at 8:37 a.m.**

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