



MEETING MINUTES

UTILITIES COMMISSION

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2017, 7:15 A.M.
Water Treatment Plant, 555 Lincoln St.
Large Conference Room

Members Present: C. Bova, D. Everhart, D. Lanyon, J. Nieuwsma, E. Rosenberg,
R. Shure, M. White
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 SEPTEMBER 8, 2017 MEETING MINUTES

Mr. Everhart moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Mr. White. All approved.

The minutes were approved unanimously, 7-0.

3. COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

Chair Lanyon directed the Commission's attention to Mr. Jensen's Benchmarking Ordinance update memo. He noted that the memo shows there are four properties that the City has had no response from. Mr. Stoneback said he will work with Mr. Jensen to make sure that they get the correct contact information for those properties. Chair Lanyon said that Mr. Jensen indicated that he will have a draft report ready for the November meeting that will eventually go to Council. Mr. Everhart noted that the memo indicates an almost 80% full compliance rate which is very impressive.

b. Street Lighting Study – update on consultant progress and preparation for the next meeting of the advisory committee

Mr. Shure reported that the existing conditions and review analysis are ongoing. The second advisory meeting will be held on November 11th, which he will attend, and the first public meeting is scheduled for November 30th. Mr. Stoneback said staff met with the consultant yesterday, and they have completed their investigation at all of the different sites. The consultant prepared a detailed report for each specific site and then a summary of all of the different sites. Staff identified things that they want the consultant to correct or improve on to provide better information so it will be more understandable for the advisory committee.

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 four power outages in September due to equipment failure and two scheduled outages to perform improvements. There was also a power outage on the September 21st that was not at the circuit level but the City received several 311 requests about. The TRG will be meeting with ComEd immediately following next month's Utilities Commission meeting to review the report for the first six months of 2017.

September was a fairly dry month and all basement backups that occurred were determined to be private lateral issues.

There were four water main breaks on the 2100 block of Lincolnwood Drive in September, and this section of water main has now been put on the watch list for replacement. Overall there has been a relatively low number of water main breaks this year.

There were the normal amount of Sewer Service Repair permits obtained and one Water Service Repair permit obtained in September.

Capital Improvement Projects Updates:

Staff will be taking a recommendation to City Council on October 23rd to award the Inspection of Large Diameter Mains project.

Over the next year 5,900 water meters will be replaced throughout Evanston as part of the Retail Water Meter Replacement Program. Meter change-out has begun in the northern third of the City. Workers are coordinating with residents during extended work hours to gain entrance into their homes, and approximately 900 meters have already been changed out. Residents are given a notice at the time of the meter change-out on how to flush their water service as recommended by the AWWA. This notice is currently being revised by staff, and he will provide the Commission with a copy of the revised notice.

A second contract has been awarded for the Sewer CIPP Rehabilitation project. A kickoff meeting was held on October 5th. Sewer cleaning and inspection will begin on Monday, October 9th, with lining expected to begin later in the month.

Staff will need to go out for rebid at this time for the Emergency Sewer Work project at 2750 Lincolnwood Drive due to cost to meet City requirements.

b. Status of negotiations with potential new wholesale water customers

Mr. Stoneback reported that Evanston and Skokie were unable to mutually agree on a reasonable rate to pay Evanston for water. Evanston had no choice but to seek a judicial determination that the equitable and reasonable rate chargeable to Skokie is \$2.06 per 1,000 gallons of water supplied, and

they are now in litigation. He has not heard back from Lincolnwood since their Village Board directed their Village Manager to negotiate with Evanston.

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. List of Best Management Practices a/o Green Infrastructure projects implemented by the PWA

Mr. Stoneback stated that he is currently working on revising the list of where porous pavement was put in at different locations across the City, and will provide the Commission with a copy as soon as it is complete.

6. NEW BUSINESS

a. Mayor's Climate Action and Resilience Working Group, discussion of Utilities Commission representation on working group and/or as a technical advisor

Mr. Nieuwsma reported that the Mayor has nominated and the City Council has approved 15 members of the Working Group with a possible 16th member to be added. Nobody from the Utilities Commission is officially represented although as a group the Commission will be on stand-by as technical experts. Mr. Stoneback said former Utilities Commission member, Joel Freeman, will sit on the Working Group. Mr. Nieuwsma added that Mr. Freeman has been asked to be Co-Chair of the Group along with a member of the CGE Board.

b. Cancellation of November 10th Utilities Commission Meeting

Chair Lanyon informed the Commission that the Utilities Commission meeting scheduled for November 10th will need to be canceled because it will be a City furlough day and City offices will be closed. Chair Lanyon proposed rescheduling the meeting for Thursday, November 9th. Mr. Everhart moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Shure. All approved.

The Utilities Commission meeting scheduled for November 10th was canceled, and rescheduled for Thursday, November 9th.

c. Election of a new Utilities Commission Chair

Chair Lanyon informed the Commission that his second term will expire in February 2019, and since he has acted as Chair for several years he would like for the Commission to start considering who they might want as Chair for 2018 to make for an easy transition.

d. Municipal Aggregation Ordinance

Mr. Stoneback said the Plan of Operation and Governance for the Municipal Aggregation Ordinance currently would not allow for the City to perform a sweep of new customers that would put them in the aggregation program with the option to opt out although the City's current supplier indicates that they will do the sweeps. Therefore, he is working with the Legal Department to modify the Plan of Operation and Governance to allow the City to do the sweeps, which will go to City Council on November 13th. He would then have to work with ComEd to get the list of new customers, provide that to the utility and the supplier will perform the first sweep in February 2018.

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS / COMMUNICATIONS

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

Mr. Stoneback announced that there will be two Public Tours of the Water Treatment Facility this Saturday, October 14th.

8. ADJOURNMENT

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

The meeting was adjourned at 8:16 a.m.

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