



## **MEETING MINUTES**

### **UTILITIES COMMISSION**

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2018, 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, L. Sparrow  
Members Absent: R. Shure  
Guest Present: M. Kerr  
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 7:14 a.m.

#### **2. APPROVAL OF THE OCTOBER 12, 2018 MEETING MINUTES**

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

**The minutes were approved unanimously, 6-0.**

#### **3. ANNOUNCEMENTS / COMMUNICATIONS**

##### **a. Welcome and Introduction**

Chair Lanyon introduced Mike Kerr, Executive Vice President and Project Manager, from the consultant team of Christopher B. Burke Engineering to the Commission and welcomed him to the meeting.

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

There were no announcements or communications.

#### **4. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

##### **a. Building energy efficiency benchmarking initiative – progress report on second year ordinance implementation**

Chair Lanyon directed the Commission's attention to Mr. Jensen's Benchmarking Ordinance Update. He said that the update shows a fair degree of compliance from Type 2 Buildings and that Type 3 Buildings will be added next year.

##### **b. Street Lighting Study – results of the November 1 public meeting and discussion of the study report**

Mr. Kerr reported that the public meeting on November 1<sup>st</sup> was generally positive and went better than the first public meeting. Chair Lanyon added that is because residents understand now that the City is not going to tear

down the Talmadge fixtures. Mr. Kerr provided a shortened presentation of the presentation provided at the public meeting. He explained the study report in detail stating that there have been five steering committees, existing conditions light readings have been performed, public meetings have been held and residents have been reassured that the City is not tearing down the Talmadge light fixtures. He said that Union Metal manufactured the Talmadge light fixtures and they went out of business in 2017, but there are several manufacturers that are willing to recreate the mold. He said there was also a Northwest Municipal Conference Survey to see what other communities are doing, and result is none of them are doing any one thing except that they are all going to LED lights. About 700 survey respondents went out to different streets with different lighting levels and there was a consistent majority in the 50% range that all of the street lighting was too dark, about 40% thought street lighting was just right and about 10% thought street lighting was too bright. He noted that Evanston's lighting standards are less than the IESNA lighting standards. He said recommendations are to standardize lights and equipment, moving forward going with LED luminaires that are dark sky compliant with frosted lenses and a color temperature of 3000 or lower. Minimum spacing between trees and poles should be 25', discontinue using cast iron poles, and explore using smart metering. He said Talmadge lights will be maintained at all existing locations, Davit Arm lighting at all major roadways, Shepard Hook type lights in parks and Shoe Box type lighting in parking lots. He said the study report will go to the Preservation Commission next Tuesday, the Parking and Transportation Committee on the 28<sup>th</sup> and then to the full Council for consideration sometime in December or January. Mr. Kerr asked for the Commission's support of the study report.

Chair Lanyon entertained a motion to endorse recommendation of the study report. Motion moved by Mr. Everhart, seconded by Mr. Nieuwsma. All approved.

**The Utilities Commission unanimously approved to endorse recommendation of the study report, 6-0.**

## **5. STAFF REPORTS**

### **a. Recent Electric System Outages, Basement Flooding Concerns, Water Service Interruptions, and status of 2018 improvement projects**

Mr. Stoneback reported the following:

There were quite a few unscheduled power outages in October. The causes are still under investigation.

There were very few basement backups in October and they were all determined to be private lateral issues.

There was one water main break in October on Custer Avenue. There were previously six water main breaks on Lawndale and that water main has been replaced this year. There have been five water main breaks on Ridgeway now and that water main is scheduled to be replaced in 2020.

There was a slight increase in Sewer Service Repair Permits obtained in October and no Water Service Repair Permits were obtained.

2018 Capital Improvement Projects Update:

**30" Downtown Feeder Main Rehabilitation**

Construction is planned to begin in April 2020 when IEPA funding is expected to become available.

**Water Main Replacement**

All work is complete for 2018.

**Inspection of Large Diameter Water Mains**

The full draft inspection report was received on October 31<sup>st</sup> and is being reviewed by City staff.

**Retail Water Meter Replacement Program**

Work is 98% complete and the last 2% will be done in-house.

**Emerson Wholesale Meter**

The meter vault is installed. The MGNWC contractor will start excavating to connect to the meter vault. There is still hope to provide water to Morton Grove/Niles in December.

**Lincolnwood Connection and Meter Vault**

The City is currently crafting the RFP for engineering and design of the water main and meter vault.

**2018 Sewer CIPP Rehabilitation**

Contract B was awarded to Kenny Construction. One high-priority sewer segment will be lined in November, and the remaining will be completed in the spring of 2019.

**Treated Water Storage Replacement**

Recommendation to award project to Thieneman Construction contingent of IEPA loan will be made at Monday night's council meeting.

**South Standpipe Pump Station MCC and Building Improvements**

This project is approximately 90% complete.

**Door Improvements**

Work is currently underway and expected to be complete by the end of the year.

**Laboratory Expansion – Engineering Services**

The engineers developed a plan that would repurpose existing space to provide the functionality needed without an expansion. The architect is working out cost estimates to inform a final decision.

**b. Status of the Skokie rate litigation, update on Lincolnwood water contract, and update on Morton Grove Niles Water Commission water main connection and pumping station construction**

Mr. Stoneback reported that the federal judge should make a determination within the next 30 days on whether Skokie's case will be pursued in federal court or go back to state court.

**6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**a. Climate Action and Resilience Plan (CARP) – consideration of a letter of support for the plan by the Utilities Commission**

Chair Lanyon entertained a motion to approve the revised draft letter of support for the Climate Action and Resilience Plan by the Utilities Commission. Motion moved by Mr. Rosenberg, seconded by Mr. Bova. All approved.

**The letter of support for the Climate Action and Resilience Plan by the Utilities Commission was approved unanimously, 6-0.**

**7. NEW BUSINESS**

**a. Proposed change to the Utilities Commission – for discussion. Per memo dated September 21, 2018 to the Rules Committee**

Chair Lanyon directed the Commission's attention to the memo from the City Manager and Johanna Leonard, Community Development Director, proposing the refocus and alignment of Boards, Committees, and Commissions to STAR principles and metrics. He asked the Commission to be prepared to discuss the memo at the December meeting.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:36 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Angela Price, Administrative Lead  
Public Works Agency