



UTILITIES COMMISSION
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2015, 7:15 A.M.
Water Treatment Plant, 555 Lincoln St.
Large Conference Room

Members Present: D. Everhart, D. Lanyon, J. Nieuwsma, E. Rosenberg
Members Absent: R. Shure, M. White
Staff Present: K. Jensen, A. Price, D. Stoneback
Guest Present: J. Freeman, S. Kismohr
Presiding Member: D. Lanyon

DECLARATION OF QUORUM

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

APPROVAL OF THE NOVEMBER 13, 2015 MEETING MINUTES

Mr. Everhart moved to approve the minutes of the November 13, 2015 meeting, seconded by Mr. Nieuwsma.

A voice vote was taken and the minutes of the November 13, 2015 meeting were approved unanimously, 4-0.

ANNOUNCEMENTS / COMMUNICATIONS

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

Mr. Stoneback announced that the City has hired Darrell King as the new Water Production Bureau Chief. He will start work on Monday, December 14th.

B. Utilities Commission's vacant seat

Mr. Rosenberg said that he reached out to the Institute of Sustainability at Northwestern University to see if they know of anyone who might be interested in filling the vacant seat on the Commission. Chair Lanyon announced that Mr. Nieuwsma's term is up in July and he might decide not to take a second term due to personal obligations, and if that is the case, there will be two vacant seats on the Commission. Mr. Jensen said that he would mention the vacancy at the next working group meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Work Plan Item 1.1 Update on development of a building energy efficiency initiative – Discussion of results of the working group meeting on December 8 and preparation for the next stakeholders meeting January 21

Mr. Jensen reported that they had the 4th working group meeting last Tuesday and there were 14 people in attendance, which was a large turnout for the working group. He said that he worked with the Legal Department to provide a very rough first draft of a potential ordinance based on a template provided by Chicago's ordinance. They spent approximately two hours going through different sections of the ordinance talking about what would be appropriate terminology and thinking about which sections need more clarity. They talked about the

disclosure section and the legality around the information that can be provided to the public, and there was an issue brought up about how the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) relates to the City's ability to collect information from buildings and whether it is subject to a FOIA request. He will work with the Legal Department to make the determination before their next meeting. The other area they spent time talking about was the verification process. There is a lot of concern in the way that the verification portion was written, as it only allowed for a licensed engineer or a licensed architect to be qualified to verify data, and there was concern that it could drive up the cost of obtaining verification service for buildings, and delay the process. Montgomery County, Maryland, has a longer list of qualified professionals in their ordinance and this will be considered at the next meeting. He will be meeting with the Legal Department next week and hopes to have a more solid second draft of the ordinance before the next and probably final working group meeting on January 12th. He said that the next and final stakeholders meeting will be in February. He will try to have a final draft of the ordinance available for comment at that meeting and then move into the council process in early spring.

B. Work Plan Item 2.1 Investigate the potential for water conservation and wastewater reuse in city-owned buildings update – Discussion deferred until a future meeting

C. Dusk-to-Dawn Street Lighting – Status of efforts to select circuits for testing

No Action was taken.

STAFF REPORTS

A. Recent Electric System Outages, Basement Flooding Concerns, Water Service Interruptions, and status of 2015 improvement projects

Mr. Stoneback reported the following:

Most of the power outages during the month were scheduled. There was a big power outage that occurred on the 21st that he did not receive official notification of from ComEd because it was not at the circuit level. It lasted for 6 hours and 945 people were without power at the peak. He received twenty-three 311 calls that day about the power outage and that spurred him to call ComEd and get information from Carlo Cavallaro.

There were no basement backups this month. There were two water main breaks, both of which were on mains that did not have any breaks previously.

The South Standpipe painting is mostly complete and should go back into service next week, but they will have to come back to complete some minor punch list work next spring. Rehabilitation work of clearwell I has been completed without any issues. He has received three proposals from engineering firms for the replacement of the 1934 5 MG storage facility. CDM Smith ranked the highest, and he will be meeting with them to discuss the scope of work before taking it to council to recommend awarding the engineering services to them. The Sheridan Road Water Main Lining project was awarded to Bolder Contractors and construction is anticipated to begin early 2016. The Mulford Street sewer lining

project from Dodge Avenue west to the back end of James Park was awarded to Kenny Construction contingent upon receiving an IEPA loan. They have surveyed the combined sewer on the CTA's property on Mulford from the end of James Park to the canal, and found that it is not within the existing relief sewer easement. Therefore, they will need to work with the CTA to get the easement modified to include the combined sewer.

- B. Status of negotiations with potential new wholesale water customers**
Mr. Stoneback will be having a meeting on Monday, December 14th with Niles and Morton Grove, and is having PFM Group, a financial company, attend the meeting to demonstrate different financing options.
- C. Community-wide Water Conservation Initiative – Ideas on development of a city water use efficiency policy for city buildings**
No action was taken.
- D. Chloride water quality initiative status**
No action was taken.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. Inactive task: Work plan item 1.2 Develop a plan to reduce energy consumption at the water treatment plant – Item complete pending pump replacement schedule**
- B. Inactive task: Work plan item 1.3 Develop a baseline for energy consumption in municipal buildings update – Status of energy consumption database update and update of the Aukman report**
- C. Inactive task: Work plan item 2.2 Reduce the amount of stormwater entering the combined sewers in sandy subsoil areas of the City – Item complete pending the annual report of the Director of Public Works on the Complete and Green Network Approach for Construction Projects in the Public Right of Way**
- D. Inactive task: Work plan item 2.4 Evaluate the potential impact of pending USEPA sewer/water regulations on the sewer system and water treatment plant**
- E. Reorganization of the new Public Works Agency – Status report and future role of the Utilities Commission**

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Election of chair and vice-chair for 2016**
Chair Lanyon called for the election of chair and vice-chair for 2016 and indicated he would accept nominations. Mr. Rosenberg nominated Mr. Lanyon and moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Everhart.

A voice vote was taken and Mr. Lanyon was approved unanimously as new chair for 2016, 4-0.

Chair Lanyon made a motion to elect a new vice-chair for 2016, and nominated Mr. Nieuwsma. Mr. Everhart moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Rosenberg.

A voice vote was taken and Mr. Nieuwsma was approved unanimously as new vice-chair for 2016, 4-0.

B. Discussion of annual report

Chair Lanyon distributed a draft annual report and asked the Commission for their feedback. Mr. Freeman asked if the Commission wanted to list cost benefits of the Dusk-to-Dawn Street lighting reconciliation in the report. Chair Lanyon responded that he would like City staff confirmation of the 30% savings listed in Mr. Freeman's reconciliation. Mr. Stoneback said that he would work on getting a confirmation of savings and get back to Chair Lanyon so it could be included in the annual report. Mr. Everhart suggested including in the report that the Commission reviews, understands and makes recommendations for adoption of Capital Improvement projects. The Commission agreed with Mr. Everhart's suggestion.

Mr. Rosenberg made to motion to approve the draft annual report as amended, seconded by Mr. Nieuwsma.

A voice vote was taken and the draft annual report was approved unanimously as amended, 4-0.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Angela Price
Special Projects Assistant
Water Production Bureau