UTILITIES COMMISSION
FRIDAY, JULY 10, 2015, 7:15 A.M.
Water Treatment Plant, 555 Lincoln St.
Large Conference Room

Members Absent: D. Grumman, E. Rosenberg
Staff Present: K. Jensen, A. Price, D. Stoneback
Guest Present: J. Freeman
Presiding Member: D. Lanyon

DECLARATION OF QUORUM
A quorum being present, Chair Lanyon called the meeting to order at 7:15 a.m.

APPROVAL OF THE JUNE 12, 2015 MEETING MINUTES
Mr. Everhart moved to approve the minutes of the June 12, 2015 meeting, seconded by Mr. Shure.

A voice vote was taken and the minutes of the June 12, 2015 meeting were approved unanimously, 5-0.

ANNOUNCEMENTS / COMMUNICATIONS

A. Forthcoming Utilities Department activities
Mr. Stoneback reported that for Streets Alive 2015, Citizens’ Greener Evanston is partnering with the Evanston Environmental Association to bring Evanston Green Living Festival in September, and the Utilities Department will be there with the Mobile Water Station.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Work Plan Item 1.1 Update on development of a building energy efficiency initiative – Discussion of preparation for the first meeting of the work group on July 14
Mr. Jensen said that he has been reaching out to and following up with some of the people that were at the June 9th stakeholders meeting, and pulling together lists of different information from different sources to ensure that they have a good building stock list when they start to propose who will be affected by the ordinance. He has identified thirteen large city facilities that he has information on and has benchmarked three of them in Energy Star Portfolio Manager. He provided a run-through of the slide show presentation that he will provide at the July 14th working group meeting to help begin discussions of the ordinance scope and components. The Commission provided recommendations of some changes to the presentation. Mr. Nieuwsma said that he would invite a representative from Citizens’ Greener Evanston to attend the July 14th working group meeting.

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**

Mr. Stoneback said that he will send Mr. Freeman a copy of the list he received from ComEd of the lighting changes that the City has made.

**STAFF REPORTS**

A. **Recent Electric System Outages, Basement Flooding Concerns and Water Service Interruptions, chloride water quality initiative and status of 2014/15 improvement projects**

Mr. Stoneback reported the following:

There were two power outages in June. One was scheduled to allow for tree removal, the other one was unscheduled and occurred when a large tree branch fell on a power line. ComEd representative, Jeff Batara, was promoted and he has met with the new ComEd representative, Carlo Cavallaro.

There were the normal number of basement backups in June, and they were all determined to be private lateral issues.

There have been 65 Sewer Service Repair Permits obtained so far this year, which is a normal amount.

There were two water main breaks in June, and both were repaired without having to shut the water down. One of the breaks was on Lee Street, which was the fourth break and it is now moving up on the list of water mains to be replaced.

The 48” Intake Improvement project is moving along well and should be wrapping up soon. The City Council awarded the engineering services for the Plant Reliability Improvements project to CDM Smith. Work was delayed on the Standpipe Painting & Repair project due to rain but they are back on schedule now, and work should be completed this year. Rehabilitation of clearwells 1 & 2 is out to bid on the Finished Water Reservoir Improvements project. Work on the Pitner Avenue Water Main Lining project is anticipated to begin the first week of August.

There was a conference call with the MWRD two days ago regarding the Chloride Reduction Initiative, and Public Works representatives will be attending a meeting with the MWRD on August 4th.

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

Mr. Stoneback reported that negotiations with the potential new wholesale water customers remain ongoing. He noted that the City’s current contract with the Village of Skokie will expire in 2017, and Skokie is now deciding whether they will either renew the contract or join the consortium of new water customers.

C. **Community-wide Water Conservation Initiative – Ideas on development of a city water use efficiency policy for city buildings**

Mr. Stoneback reported that Ms. Hurley and he have made a water conservation and efficiency scorecard. He said that they will meet every three months to check
the status of the items listed on the scorecard. The City’s website Data Portal software is now able to convert water usage from cubic feet to gallons to make it easier for customers to understand their water usage.

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. Work plan item 2.3 Develop long term needs for municipal sewer and water infrastructure – item pending proposed 2016 budget

NEW BUSINESS
A. ComEd Franchise Agreement Renewal
Mr. Stoneback reported that the ordinance granting an extension of the electricity franchise agreement with ComEd is on the schedule for the July 13th City Council meeting and he expects it to be approved.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Angela Price
Executive Secretary
Utilities Department