



UTILITIES COMMISSION
FRIDAY, JUNE 12, 2015, 7:15 A.M.
Water Treatment Plant, 555 Lincoln St.
Large Conference Room

Members Present: D. Grumman, D. Lanyon, J. Nieuwsma, E. Rosenberg, R. Shure
Members Absent: D. Everhart, M. White
Staff Present: K. Jensen, A. Price, D. Stoneback
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 MAY 8, 2015 MEETING MINUTES

It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes of the May 8, 2015 meeting.

A voice vote was taken and the minutes of the May 8, 2015 meeting were approved unanimously, 5-0.

ANNOUNCEMENTS / COMMUNICATIONS

A. New Utilities Commission Member

Chair Lanyon welcomed new Commission member, Richard Shure to the meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Work Plan Item 1.1 Update on development of a building energy efficiency initiative – Discussion of June 9 stakeholders group meeting agenda and initiation of the ordinance work group

Chair Lanyon reported that the June 9th stakeholders group meeting went well. Mr. Grumman agreed, adding that there were no negative remarks or objections from anyone present. Mr. Nieuwsma noted that representatives from Northwestern University and St. Francis Hospital were very supportive. Mr. Jensen said that he will create a list of people who expressed interest in participating in the working group and representatives for commercial and residential buildings to invite to the working group meeting scheduled for July 14th. He will prepare a structured agenda for the meeting and post information about it on the City's website. He will also start entering information collected for City buildings into Energy Star Portfolio.

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 stated that he has received a list back from ComEd of the lighting changes that the city has made. He said that it appears to be correct but he and Mr. Freeman have not had a chance to carefully review it yet.

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 a couple of power outages in May, but they were not of great significance. Chair Lanyon commented on the short-term interruption, not an outage, in south Evanston caused by the downed transmission line along the CTA Yellow Line on May 17. The ComEd distribution system automated restoration devices efficiently isolated the failed line and rerouted power supply in a matter of a few seconds.

There were a lot of basement backups in May, and they were all determined to be private lateral issues. Some, but not all were wet weather related.

There were no water main breaks in April or May.

The 48” Intake Improvement project is moving along well. Staff has reviewed the proposals for the engineering firms for the Plant Reliability Improvements project and will be making a recommendation to award at the June 22nd Council meeting. The contractor is working on the first contract for the Water Main Replacement project. Bids were received for the second contract, but bid prices were extremely high and over budget. Staff will make a decision on how to proceed. The Sheridan Road Water Main project will be re-bid, with work anticipated to begin in February and completed before Northwestern University’s commencement next June. Contractors have completed all work on the CIPP Sewer Rehabilitation project, but after viewing the post-construction video tapes they will have to go back and reheat the water main lining on Howard Street.

The Public Works Department provided a survey for the Chloride Reduction Initiative to the MWRD, but they have not heard anything back from them yet.

B. Status of negotiations with potential new wholesale water customers

Mr. Stoneback said that negotiations remain ongoing. He continues to have meetings with Morton Grove, Niles and the Northwest Water Commission (NWC), and has provided additional information requested by NSMJAWA and the NWC’s new Interim Executive Director.

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

Mr. Jensen said that he will reach back out to the MWRD to check if they have revised the requirements for municipalities to be able to receive free rain barrels for the Rain Barrel Program. He said that he has had numerous conversations

about ways to repackage the Low Flow Toilet Replacement Program, but has not had a chance to follow up on it yet.

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**

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Summer Meeting Schedule**
Chair Lanyon announced that enough Commission members have indicated that they will be able to attend the summer meetings as scheduled to ensure there will be a quorum at each meeting.

- B. ComEd Franchise Agreement Renewal Memo**
Chair Lanyon presented a draft ComEd Franchise Agreement Renewal Memo recommending that the City Council authorize a five year extension of the current Electric Franchise Agreement with ComEd. It was moved and seconded to approve the ComEd Franchise Agreement Renewal Memo.

A voice vote was taken and the ComEd Franchise Agreement Renewal Memo was unanimously approved with a minor change, 5-0.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:38 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela Price
Executive Secretary
Utilities Department