



APPROVED

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

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

DECLARATION OF QUORUM

A quorum being present, Chair Lanyon called the meeting to order at 7:16 a.m.

APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 13, 2015 MEETING MINUTES

It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes of the March 13, 2015 meeting. A voice vote was taken and the March 13, 2015 meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS / COMMUNICATIONS

a. Forthcoming Utilities Department activities

Mr. Stoneback said that May 3rd through May 9th is National Drinking Water Week; the theme is Drinkability – the ability to have clean, safe, reliable water whenever it is needed, and the City has the following events and activities scheduled:

Art and photo contests, Sunset Paddle down the North Shore Channel, afterschool drop-in programs at the Ecology Center, film screenings excerpts of Tapped and Story of a Water Bottle at the Levy Center, Green Drinks: Drinking Water Panel at the Farmhouse restaurant, where Mr. Stoneback will be speaking, and two public tours of the Water Treatment Plant.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Work Plan Item 1.1 Update on development of a building energy efficiency white paper and update on status of city database

Chair Lanyon said the he provided the slide show presentation on benchmarking and building energy tracking for existing commercial and large residential buildings at the March 16th council meeting. He said that it was well received by the council and that two citizens made comments in favor of it. The Commission decided that the first stakeholders meeting will be scheduled for June 9th at the civic center to provide information and get feedback from the stakeholders. Mr. Jensen said that he will compile a spreadsheet of building owner's management contact people, prepare a revised list of things to include in the benchmarking building spreadsheet, assist Chair Lanyon is drafting a stakeholder group invitation letter, and act as the Commission's contact person. Chair Lanyon said

that he will invite Lee Kulman of School District 65 to the May 8th Commission meeting so he can share what his experience has been using the Energy Star database for all of the District 65 school buildings.

- b. Work Plan Item 2.1 Investigate the potential for water conservation and wastewater reuse in city-owned buildings update – Status of draft report on water conservation at five city facilities**
No action was taken.
- c. Work Plan Item 2.3 Develop long term needs for municipal sewer and water infrastructure –**
No action was taken.
- d. 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 and Water Service Interruptions, and status of 2014 improvement projects**

Mr. Stoneback reported the following:

There was only one power outage in March, which was a scheduled outage to relocate a cable.

There were seven basement backups, which were all determined to be private lateral problems.

There was one water main break in March on Harrison Street. It was the fifth break on this water main so it is moving up on the list to be replaced.

The Standpipe Painting and Repair project has been awarded to American Suncraft Construction Company. They have already begun preliminary staging at the north standpipe. Staff will be recommending hiring a consultant to oversee the rehabilitation of the clearwells to the city council on April 13th. The Water Main Replacement bids came in extraordinarily high because contractors are busy working on relocating utilities and water mains for the Jane Addams Memorial Tollway (I-90) Rebuilding and Widening Project at this time. The water main work on the Sheridan Road redesign is complete, they will be going out to bid very soon and construction will begin in the second quarter of the year. There are currently five contractors doing sewer rehabilitation work in town.

- b. Status of negotiations with potential new wholesale water customers**
Mr. Stoneback said that negotiations with the potential new wholesale water customers are still ongoing, and noted that NSMJAWA executive director indicated that he will make a recommendation to the board later this year.
- c. Community-wide Water Conservation Initiative – Ideas on development of a city water use efficiency policy for city buildings**

Mr. Jensen reported that the last RFP for the Low Flow Toilet Replacement Program did not receive any proposals therefore; he is reassessing his next steps.

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. **Technical Review Group Meeting**
Chair Lanyon said that there will be a TRG meeting immediately following May's Utilities Commission meeting, and that he would like to put benchmarking on the agenda of items to discuss with ComEd. Mr. Kismohr said that he will email Mr. Jensen the names of the contacts at ComEd and Nicor to invite to the meeting.
- b. **New Water Quality Standard for Chloride**
Chair Lanyon reported that the IEPA has asked the MWRD to form and administer a stakeholder group and reach out to municipalities to come up with some management strategies for the reduction of salt usage and runoff in the Chicago Area Waterways.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:46 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela Price
Executive Secretary
Utilities Department