



APPROVED

UTILITIES COMMISSION
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2014, 7:15 A.M.
Water Treatment Plant, 555 Lincoln St.
Large Conference Room

Members Present: D. Everhart, D. Grumman, M. Landis, D. Lanyon, J. Nieuwsma
Members Absent: E. Rosenberg, M. White
Staff Present: A. Price, D. Stoneback
Guests Present: M. Smith
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 SEPTEMBER 12, 2014 MEETING MINUTES

Mr. Grumman moved to approve the meeting minutes of September 12, 2014 as submitted, seconded by Mr. Everhart. A voice vote was taken and the September 12, 2014 minutes were unanimously approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS / COMMUNICATIONS

a. Forthcoming Utilities Department activities

There were no announcements or communications.

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

Ms. Hurley said that she will update her spreadsheet to include a column with gross square footage and e-mail it to the Commission members. Chair Lanyon said that he will talk to City Manager Bobkiewicz before the next Commission meeting to determine if the white paper should be presented to the A&PW or the full City Council first.

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 as Mr. Freeman was not present at the meeting to provide an update.

c. Work Plan Item 2.3 Develop long term needs for municipal sewer and water infrastructure – Mr. Stoneback will present the status of the recommended five-year plan and projects for the 2015 budget

Mr. Stoneback provided a presentation of the proposed Capital Improvement Program for 2015. He noted that several 2014 improvement projects will carry over to 2015. He said that the final report for the Finished Water Reservoir Study is due at the end of October. He also stated that a 10% water rate increase is proposed for 2015.

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

No action was taken as the differences between the city and Commonwealth Edison records have not been resolved.

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 were two power outages in September at the circuit level that affected over 200 residents. He also received six 311 notifications of power outages due to a rainstorm on September 5th that were not at the circuit level.
- There were no basement backups of any significance, and the City received only two calls of flooding during a rainstorm on September 10th.
- There was only one water main break in September.
- There are four projects currently in progress at the water treatment plant and they have all been challenging. The IEPA loan for the Large Diameter Sewer Rehabilitation project has been received, all of the original work on the AMI project is finished and they are over halfway finished with the additional work as well, and the final report for the Finished Water Reservoir Study is due at the end of October.

Comment [D1]: This same statement appears in Committee Reports (c) above.

b. Status of negotiations with potential new wholesale water customers

Mr. Stoneback reported that Des Plaines' City Council approved them becoming a customer of the NWC at their meeting on September 15th, and they have already hired a consultant to design a pipeline. He said that Lincolnwood contacted Evanston a month ago and has shown renewed interest but they are still processing the additional information that was provided to them. Niles, Morton Grove and Park Ridge have partnered together and requested additional information through a consultant hired by the group, and Evanston had a meeting with NSMJAWA and the NWC so, things are slowly moving along.

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

Ms. Hurley stated that she is finishing the final phase of the procurement of the water filling stations to be installed in city facilities. She said two key recommendations for the Water Conservation Initiative are the Low Flow Toilet Replacement Program and the Rain Barrel Program, which she and a Fellow have been actively working on to iron out the final details. She said that another important initiative that Mr. Stoneback's staff is working on, is giving residents the ability to login online to review their water usage and compare their usage to other single family homes.

Comment [D2]: Is this the proper job title?

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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. **Forthcoming Technical Review Group (TRG) Meeting**
Mr. Stoneback announced that there will be a TRG meeting on November 14th immediately following the Utilities Commission meeting. He said that he has also invited Nicor Gas to attend the January Utilities Commission meeting to discuss the projects that they plan to do in Evanston.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:48 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela Price
Executive Secretary
Utilities Department