



UTILITIES COMMISSION
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2014, 7:15 A.M.
Water Treatment Plant, 555 Lincoln St.
Large Conference Room

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

DECLARATION OF QUORUM

A quorum being present, Vice-Chair Grumman called the meeting to order at 7:14 a.m.

APPROVAL OF THE AUGUST 8, 2014 MEETING MINUTES

Mr. Nieuwsma moved to approve the meeting minutes of August 8, 2014 as submitted, seconded by Ms. Landis. A voice vote was taken and the August 8, 2014 minutes were unanimously approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS / COMMUNICATIONS

- a. **New Utilities Commission Member**
Vice-Chair Grumman introduced and welcomed new Commission member, David Everhart.
- b. **Forthcoming Utilities Department activities**
Mr. Stoneback announced that the Utilities Department will have a booth at the Green Living Festival on September 27th, and there are two tours of the Water Treatment Plant scheduled for October 11th. One of the tours is for adults and the other is a child friendly tour.

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**
No action was taken
- 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 Chair Lanyon and Mr. Freeman were 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 – Item is inactive until consideration of 2015 budget**
Mr. Stoneback stated that the biggest projects being proposed for 2015 are the Masonry Evaluation and Tuckpointing Project, the Water Plant Reliability Project, the Reservoir and Clear Well Study, Master Meter & Chemical Feed Improvements, and North and South Standpipe Painting & Repair. He noted that

the AMI Replacement Program and the Chlorine Equipment Replacement Project may carry over to 2015 as well.

d. Dusk-to-Dawn Street Lighting – Status report on ComEd billing street lighting circuits and selection of 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 several power outages in August. Two of the outages were due to ComEd's equipment failure, and one was due to a branch hitting wires while trimming a tree. Another outage occurred when the Evanston Fire Department requested the power be turned off in order to put out a fire at North Shore Towing & Auto Wrecking on August 31st. There was also a large power outage affecting 1600 customers on September 5th due to a rainstorm.
- There were no basement backups of any significance.
- There were six water main breaks (blowouts) in August, three of which occurred on Dodge Avenue on August 20th. Since there have been six previous water main breaks on Dodge Avenue the water main is scheduled to be replaced next year.
- All of the improvement projects are moving along well, but he noted that the North and South Standpipe Painting and Repair project has been rescheduled for next year due to high cost, and the contractor for the AMI Replacement Program has been having difficulty with residents allowing them to enter their homes to replace the MTU/meters.

b. Status of negotiations with potential new wholesale water customers

Mr. Stoneback said that negotiations are ongoing. The Village of Lincolnwood has contacted the City and is interested in talking again. The Northwest Water Commission (NWC) Board of Commissioners has approved the City of Des Plaines as a new member and it is slated for vote at Des Plaines' City Council meeting on September 15th. After that, the agreement will go to the four respective village boards that make up the Commission for their concurrence. The NWC is also interested in forming a new partnership with NSMJAWA and Evanston.

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

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**

NEW BUSINESS

- a. **The Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative (GLSLCI) Sustainable Municipal Water Management Scorecard**
Mr. Stoneback stated that he and Ms. Biggs will give a presentation at the September 22nd City Council meeting recommending adoption of Resolution 72-R-14 accepting the Sustainable Municipal Water Management Scorecard evaluation of Evanston's integrated water management policies.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:26 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela Price
Executive Secretary
Utilities Department