



MEETING MINUTES

UTILITIES COMMISSION

Friday, December 13, 2019, 7:15 A.M.
Water Treatment Plant, 555 Lincoln St.
Large Conference Room

Members Present: C. Bova, J. Nieuwsma, E. Rosenberg, R. Shure, C. Skey
Members Absent: D. Everhart
Guests Present: J. Freeman T. Partel
Staff Present: B. Giroux, K. Jensen, A. Price, D. Stoneback
Presiding Member: J. Nieuwsma

1. DECLARATION OF QUORUM

A quorum being present, Chair Nieuwsma called the meeting to order at 7:15 a.m.

2. APPROVAL OF THE NOVEMBER 8, 2019 MEETING MINUTES

Mr. Skey moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Mr. Bova, all approved

3. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. Net Zero Energy Resolution

Mr. Jensen continued the conversation from last month's meeting regarding what type of guidance staff is looking for, the language to be used and defining the scope a little bit more. He thinks this will take a little longer than initially anticipated. He just submitted the Zero Strategy RFP to the Purchasing Department to be released next week, and thinks it would be useful information to track the processes moving forward particularly reframing of the scope of the RFP. The City will hold a pre-proposal meeting and the contract will be awarded by the end of February. Chair Nieuwsma would like the contractor to attend a Utilities Commission meeting once they have been chosen. Mr. Jensen will continue to update the Commission on the procurement process and once the contract has been awarded he thinks it would make sense to have one or two assigned advisors from the Utilities Commission. Chair Nieuwsma said the Commission will keep this resolution on their radar and pick it back up in the spring.

b. Municipal & Aggregation Electricity Supply Next Steps

Mr. Jensen reported that staff met with Dynegy on Wednesday to discuss a short term extension and a longer term agreement which for both would take the form of an RFP therefore, the new agreement would not necessarily be with Dynegy. Mr. Skey said since the City is looking at a longer contract he would suggest thinking about using outside expertise to assist.

c. ComEd Franchise Negotiations

Mr. Jensen said the City is seeking a six month extension of the current agreement, and will issue an RFP in August 2020. He is seeking one or two Commission members to work with staff in early quarter 2020 to develop a negotiation strategy for the new agreement. Mr. Skey and Mr. Tucker volunteered to assist.

d. Storm Water Management Plan

Mr. Stoneback said the guide was adopted by City Council on December 9th, the RFP for hydraulic analysis is out now and a pre-proposal meeting is coming up very soon. He will provide an update at the January meeting.

e. Street Lighting Study

Mr. Stoneback said the street lights have not come in yet.

f. Historic District Solar Permitting

Mr. Shure reported that the task force's first meeting will be held on December 19th, and it will be open to the public.

4. NEW BUSINESS**a. IECC 2021 Voting**

Mr. Jensen said the International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) is a building code created by the International Code Council. It is a national model energy code that many cities and states use as the basis for local adoption that is under development in 2019 that culminated with a final vote by International Code Council members this fall. It is developed every 3 years, and 2021 is the next release. Evanston is on a nine year adoption cycle and is on schedule to adopt the next one in 2021. This year there has been a very organized effort among dozens of different energy efficiency and environmental organizations to educate local government and voters on this code development process. A few City staff was able to vote and participate this year.

b. CARP Coordination

Chair Nieuwsma reported that Mr. Jensen convened a meeting in November with various stakeholder groups in Evanston in an attempt to ensure that CARP goals are met not just at a City government level but at a community level as well. If Evanston is going to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050 everyone will have to be involved. The Environment Board will have a sub-committee that will keep an eye on CARP and how the City of Evanston and the community of Evanston are progressing towards those goals. He said the previous Utilities Commission Chair is on the sub-committee and current members can be added as well.

5. STAFF REPORTS

Mr. Stoneback reported the following:

a. Monthly utility reliability report (electric system outages, basement backups, water main breaks, service repairs)

There were two very small power outages and one larger power outage that lasted an hour in November. The cause is still under investigation. There were no water main breaks in November. There were no Water Service Repair permits obtain in November and the normal amount of Sewer Service Repair permits were obtained. All basement backups that occurred in November were determined to be private later issues.

b. Water & sewer fund capital improvement project status

30" Downtown Feeder Main Rehabilitation

The City held a meeting with the consultant on December 3rd to address 90% design comments and incorporate an alternate bid for open-cut water main replacement in areas where it may be cheaper than CIPP lining rehabilitation. A change order will be prepared to authorize finalization of the bid set. The project will be bid in the fall of 2020 with construction beginning in early 2021.

Main Street Commons

Sewer improvements related to Main Street Commons are complete, and construction is being closed down for the winter. Street lights and traffic signals will be completed next spring by April 30th, weather permitting.

Drainage Structure Lining

Work is complete, with punchlist items remaining.

Treated Water Storage Replacement

All demolition of the existing reservoir is now complete. Formwork and steelwork continue in preparation of pouring the floor slab in Zones 4 and 5, as well as the roof slab in Zones 2 and 3. These two major pours are scheduled for the week of December 16, after NU finals and once students are away for winter break. At the water plant, the floor and walls of the new electrical room for the new high lift pump components are complete.

West Filter Rate Controller and Master Meter

The west filter rate controller and master meter have been installed and is operational. Final SCADA integration will be completed by January. Installation of the 20" meter, valves, and fittings went smoothly thanks to the planning and preparation by City staff.

c. Skokie rate litigation status

Mr. Stoneback reported that he met with Skokie in mediation as well as outside of mediation. Litigation is still ongoing.

d. Lincolnwood water project status

The watermain is being constructed at this time. Construction is well underway, with watermain installed along Hartrey Avenue and progressing west down Oakton Street. Work will continue through December 20th, weather permitting, with the contractor then shutting down until January 13th.

e. Morton Grove/Niles water main/pumping station status

Morton Grove/Niles Water Commission is getting the final inspection, and will be ready to start receiving their full daily requirement of water from Evanston by the end of this month.

6. ANNOUNCEMENTS / COMMUNICATIONS

a. 2020 Meeting Calendar

Chair Nieuwsma entertained a motion to approve the proposed 2020 meeting calendar. Motion moved by Mr. Shure, seconded by Mr. Skey. All approved.

b. 2020 Chair and Vice Chair

Mr. Stoneback recommended nominating Co-Chairs instead of a Chair and Vice Chair since Mr. Nieuwsma's second term will expire in July. Chair Nieuwsma entertained a motion to nominate himself and Mr. Shure as Co-Chairs. Motion moved by Mr. Bova, seconded by Mr. Skey. All approved.

c. Forthcoming Public Works Agency activities relative to the Utilities Commission

Chair Nieuwsma announced that the Illinois Institute of Technology (IIT) is organizing student groups to conduct energy audits of buildings to identify energy-saving measures and potential improvements to enhance energy efficiency.

7. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Angela Price
Administrative Lead
Public Works Agency