



UTILITIES COMMISSION
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2013, 7:15 A.M.
Water Treatment Plant, 555 Lincoln St.
Large Conference Room

Members Present: D. Grumman, M. Landis, D. Lanyon, J. Nieuwsma, E. Rosenberg,
Members Absent: N. Fracasso, M. Smith
Staff Present: C. Hurley, A. Price, D. Stoneback
Guest Present: J. Freeman
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 OCTOBER 11, 2013 MEETING MINUTES

It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the October 11, 2013 meeting be approved. A voice vote was taken and the 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 ordinance and white paper**
Chair Lanyon said that Mr. Smith stated that he had received comments from the Commission members on the white paper, and that he will revise it and distribute it this week for review at the December meeting.
- b. **Work Plan Item 1.2 Develop a plan to reduce energy consumption at the water treatment plant – Status of pump efficiency test**
Mr. Stoneback said that this task has been assigned to MWH Americas under the Hydraulic Analysis Study. He said that the test is scheduled for the 9th and 17th of this month, and that MWH Americas will witness the test, record the data and prepare a summary report.
- c. **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 Aukeman report**
Chair Lanyon said that he has been working with Ms. Hurley on getting the data updated. Ms. Hurley said that the database for energy consumption has been filled in and that the report has been updated. Chair Lanyon said that he would pick up a copy of the updated report from her office after the meeting today.
- d. **Work Plan Item 2.1 Investigate the potential for water conservation and wastewater reuse in city-owned buildings update – Report on scheduled**

meetings for the Civic Center, Noyes Cultural Arts Center, and Police and Fire Administration Building

Chair Lanyon reported that the scheduled meeting with Mr. Dorneker at the Noyes Cultural Arts Center was canceled. Mr. Freeman said that Chair Lanyon and he met with staff at the Fire and Police Administration building but, he did not have time to process all of the data he received so they did not have the usage records to compare with what they saw at the building. He said that it is primarily an office building and that it does not seem like a place that would use very much water. Chair Lanyon noted that they do have big training events there and that might be the reason they were on the top users list. Mr. Freeman said that they were also at the Civic Center, and that the size of the activities there and large number of people moving through the building seems to be the biggest influence. He noted that they do have an open cooling tower which could contribute to the usage. He said that there are radiators in the Civic Center which are steam, and that the air conditioning units are run in cooling mode. Mr. Freeman said that there was nothing exotic in terms of highlights.

e. Work Plan Item 2.2 Reduce the amount of stormwater entering the combined sewers in sandy subsoil areas of the City

Chair Lanyon said that he circulated a final report and he does not think that there is much else to do so he would like to wrap this up. Mr. Stoneback said that the Commission is not scheduled to report back to the Rules Committee. Ms. Hurley suggested that they should internally document that they have completed this task. Mr. Stoneback said that the Environment Board is proposing an ordinance that might become a resolution to adopt a Complete Street Policy that would require green infrastructure review. He said that the Utilities Department is working with the Public Works Department on their MS4 permit, and that the goal is to make sure that any Capital Improvement project is looked at to determine if there is an opportunity to include a green infrastructure. He said that they also talked about looking at designing some of the parking lots that are scheduled for the next four years now with this feature in it so that when a grant opportunity comes the plans will be prepared.

f. Work Plan Item 2.3 Develop long term needs for municipal sewer and water infrastructure

Mr. Stoneback said that the 2014 budget is still pending approval by the City Council.

g. Work Plan Item 2.4 Evaluate the potential impact of pending USEPA sewer/water regulations on the sewer system and water treatment plant

No action was taken.

h. Program to incorporate local renewable energy and/or efficiency benefits in the next aggregation contract after 2013 and the city facilities contract

Mr. Stoneback reported that Ms. Hurley and he met with two electric suppliers; Constellation and Integrys Energy to get more information about building energy efficiency programs into the contract. He said that Ms. Hurley and he will meet again to finalize the indicative pricing scope and hopes to have it ready to share with the Commission at the December meeting, and then get actionable pricing in January.

STAFF REPORTS

a. **Recent Electric System Outages, Basement Flooding Concerns and Water Service Interruptions, and status of 2013 improvement projects**

Mr. Stoneback said that there were three outages that were not on the circuit level that he received 311 requests about, and that the residents were instructed to call ComEd. He noted that ComEd updates their website on the hour and the half hour about outages, and that he receives a report every Friday on 311 requests that are still open.

Mr. Stoneback stated that there were two water main breaks in October.

Mr. Stoneback reported that there was a rain event on October 31st that was over one inch and that there were several basement backups that were determined to be private lateral problems.

Mr. Stoneback said that several of the improvement projects are moving along well. He said that CTL Group was hired to do the Masonry Evaluation and that they are almost finished. He said that there was a public meeting which no one attended for the 48" Intake Improvement project so, they can move forward now. He said that he will be taking an ordinance for authorization to borrow the funds for this project to the City Council meeting on November 25th and the work will be done next year. Mr. Stoneback said that the AMI Replacement Program is moving along well, and that 90% of the work in the southern section has been completed. He said that staff worked with Baxter & Woodman on the Master Meter & Chemical Feed Improvement project and revised the plans, and it should be going out for bid soon. He said that SAK Construction is currently working on the second CIPP Lining project which is going along well, and the Kenny subcontractor has started installing the vac-a-tees along Central Park. Mr. Stoneback said that the City has installed some porous pavement on the Davis Street project, and noted that the schedule slipped because of a conflict with Nicor Gas. He said that they will come back next year to finish it because it has to be 40 degrees or higher to put porous pavement in. Mr. Stoneback said that he has been meeting with Nicor Gas and sharing the City's schedule for resurfacing streets next year with them to facilitate gas main replacement.

b. **Status of negotiations with potential new wholesale water customers**

Mr. Stoneback said that he received a letter from the City Manager of Niles and an e-mail from their consultant, Gewalt Hamilton, asking the City to provide cost estimates for three different scenarios. He said that his best guess is that the Northwest Water Commission will resell the water they receive from Evanston to Des Plaines, and that he has not heard back from NSMJAWA yet

c. **Community-wide Water Conservation Initiative – Status of actions to implement recommendations in CMAP report**

Ms. Hurley said that they have pretty much completed everything that they said that they wanted to do for year one, and she would like to start a mini sub-committee to meet between now and January to talk about what the Commission can do to support the next phases. She said that they could write up a water efficiency draft policy for City buildings that the City Manager could approve, and

the Commission could look at the top twenty citywide customers and determine if they want to public outreach to those organizations in 2014. Ms. Hurley said that she will send an e-mail to the Commission members to see who wants to be on the sub-committee.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. Dusk-to-Dawn Street Lighting – Proposal to measure power consumption in lighting circuits and check the accuracy of lamp listing supplied to ComEd

Mr. Freeman said that the intent of his memorandum is to verify use and see if there is an opportunity to reduce the cost to the City. He said that the hope is that the rated power consumption of the light fixtures will be an overestimate of the actual power used, and if that turns out to be true then they could propose that to ComEd as a new basis for doing the calculation on the energy used by the street lighting. Mr. Stoneback stated that Mr. Batara said that ComEd did update their records with the information that they received from Mr. Twigg three years ago, and that he would provide Mr. Stoneback with the computer printout. Mr. Stoneback said that they could ask Mr. Batara at the TRG meeting today what the availability is of changing the calculation because he believes that this is all setup by the Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC) and is standard throughout all communities. Mr. Stoneback indicated that he would discuss the memorandum with Public Works to obtain their input.

NEW BUSINESS

a. 2014 Utilities Commission Schedule

It was moved and seconded that the 2014 Utilities Commission Schedule be approved. A voice vote was taken and the schedule was approved with a minor correction.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Angela Price
Executive Secretary
Utilities Department