



APPROVED

UTILITIES COMMISSION
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2013, 7:15 A.M.
Water Treatment Plant, 555 Lincoln St,
Large Conference Room

Members Present: D. Grumman, D. Lanyon, J. Nieuwsma, E. Rosenberg, M. Smith
Members Absent: N. Fracasso, M. Landis
Staff Present: C. Hurley, A. Price, D. Stoneback
Guest Present: J. Freeman, M. White
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 SEPTEMBER 13, 2013 MEETING MINUTES

It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the September 13, 2013 meeting be approved. A voice vote was taken and the minutes were unanimously approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS / COMMUNICATIONS

a. Forthcoming Utilities Department activities

Mr. Stoneback announced that there are three public tours of the Water Treatment Plant scheduled for October 12th.

Mr. Stoneback said that the original water filters went into service in 1914, and the City will be celebrating one hundred years of safe, clean drinking water next year with a new logo that will be on all of the reusable water bottles that are handed out at City events. He said that there might even potentially be a community event at the Water Treatment Plant.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Work Plan Item 1.1 Update on development of a building energy efficiency ordinance and white paper

Mr. Smith said that the subcommittee met several weeks ago and worked on the first draft of the white paper for the ordinance. He said that it will be distributed to the full Commission in a couple of weeks. Ms. Hurley said that the Environment Board would be interested in providing comment and support.

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 he hopes to have the pump efficiency test completed this year, and that the consultant be will coming in on Monday with a proposal.

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

Ms. Hurley said that the Smart Energy Design Assistance Center (SEDAC) audits at the Ecology Center and the Fleetwood-Jourdain Center have been

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completed, and that the City has also received approval for a SEDAC level three energy audit at the Levy Center. She said that the SEDAC auditor's tour of the Levy Center happened to coincide with a big boiler replacement, and that she should have his detailed report by next month.

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 said that Mr. Freeman and he will be meeting with Mark Turenne, Facilities Management Supervisor and Jim Maiworm, Public Works Assistant Director, next week to review data at the Police and Fire Administration Building and the Civic Center. He said that he will also schedule a meeting next week with Bob Dorneker, Assistant Director, Parks, Recreation & Community Services for a review of the Noyes Cultural Arts Center. Mr. Freeman said that he has new data for those facilities that he will print out.

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

Ms. Hurley said that the City has received a lot of grants in the last couple of months for water infiltration for green infrastructure, and that Suzette Robinson, Director of Public Works, Mr. Stoneback, and she will be meeting to review the litany of ideas for projects they have, in order to come up with a list of the next phase of projects to apply for grants for. Mr. Stoneback said that he would like to look ahead to the next five years and have as many plans for projects ready as possible in case funding is available. Mr. Lanyon stated that the Utilities Commission will continue to support the green infrastructure work by city staff.

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

Mr. Stoneback stated that he is waiting for the 2014 budget to be approved 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 next steps

Mr. Nieuwsma said that several Commission members and City staff met a few days ago to discuss how to take advantage of the City's procurement. He said that a RFI will be going out early next year and they will be looking at doing more in terms of making the City's electricity supply renewable and leveraging that contract with some additional add ins. Mr. Nieuwsma said that they are looking at 100% Green-e certified Renewable Energy Certifications (RECs) from Illinois and adjoining states, and ask what would happen to the price if they specify that the actual energy supply come from sources other than coal, which replicates what the City of Chicago did in their aggregation contract. Mr. Stoneback said that he has meetings scheduled next week with Integrys and Constellation, an Exelon company to get more information and start drafting a document which he will

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share with the Commission via e-mail. He said that he is hoping to get the indicative pricing out this year so that he can take 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 no ComEd reported outages on the circuit level but, he knows that there were four days when there were outages because he received 311 requests. He said that these were smaller outages but they are still occurring and should be on ComEd's report at the end of the year.

Mr. Stoneback reported that there were four water main breaks in September (three blow outs and one shear) but, noted that none of them were on water mains that had previous breaks.

Mr. Stoneback said that there were nine basement backups in September and that they were all determined to be private lateral problems.

Mr. Stoneback stated that the AMI Replacement project is going well. He said that the IEPA informed the City that need to hold an environmental impact determination meeting for the 48" Intake Improvement project, which is scheduled for October 24th. He said that they have another IEPA loan for the Large Diameter Sewer Rehabilitation project to line the larger diameter sewers on Central Park and also on Main Street. He said that they have held their preconstruction meeting and the newsletters will be going out soon.

b. Status of negotiations with potential new wholesale water customers

Mr. Stoneback said that the City has had some more serious discussions with the Village of Lincolnwood, and that he has met with the City Council to explain the rate structure and why he wants to stay with the AWWA M1 industry standard method of establishing rates and the Council is in agreement. Mr. Stoneback said that the Northwest Water Commission (NWC) is talking with Niles, Park Ridge, Des Plaines, and the Northwest Suburban Municipal Joint Action Water Agency (NSMJAWA) to partner with Commission. Mr. Stoneback stated that the Village of Glenview is now considering purchasing water from Evanston as well.

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

Ms. Hurley said that Mr. Stoneback and his staff were at the Green Living Festival with the Tap Water Station and a cutout of a toilet to help people identify leaks. She said that the remaining water bottle filling stations are being installed in the Civic Center, and a plan has been put into motion to install them in the additional community centers next year. Ms. Hurley said that the top indoor and outdoor water conservation tips are listed on the Tap Water Station, and will be listed on the City's website as well, and that updates have been made to the water bills. She said that there was a big design change to the water bills with more information printed on the back of the bill. Mr. Stoneback said that the website will be modified next year to allow each account the ability to look at their usage online and compare it with the average usage.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. Dusk-to-Dawn Street Lighting – Discussion of next steps following the information exchange with city staff on September 13, 2013

Mr. Freeman said that he thinks that there might be an opportunity for the City to save money if the current estimate is high and that there should be some spot checking of fixtures used or circuits. He said that the Commission could take some actual amp readings and convert that into power consumption. These actual measurements could then be compared to what is being billed. If the actual measurement is less than what is being billed, it could potentially be a reduction in cost. He said that he would draft a letter asking for City staff's assistance. Mr. Rosenberg said that the list of upgrades the City does to the street lights and gives to ComEd should be done on a more regular basis than what is currently being done. Mr. Stoneback said that he will get ComEd's list so it can be compared with Mr. Twigg's list of upgrades from three-years ago.

NEW BUSINESS

a. TECHNICAL REVIEW GROUP (TRG) MEETING

Mr. Stoneback said that he should receive ComEd's report by the end of the month and he will schedule a TRG meeting for November 8th immediately following the Utilities Commission meeting.

Comment [D1]: Please indent these last two paragraphs as above.

b. LEAD IN DRINKING WATER

Mr. Stoneback said that there is now a Lead In Drinking Water information page on the City's website with three links for: Typical Water Service Detail, Labs for Lead Analysis, and Historical Lead Testing Results. Mr. Stoneback said that the City is recommending flushing water through the water service any time that there has not been water usage for more than six hours but, he noted that there is no detectable lead in the water that is provided to the Evanston community and that the lead detected in tap water may be due to the old lead private water service supply lines.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Angela Price
Executive Secretary
Utilities Department