



APPROVED

UTILITIES COMMISSION

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2013, 7:15 A.M.
Water Treatment Plant, 555 Lincoln St,
Large Conference Room

Members Present: N. Fracasso, D. Grumman, M. Landis, D. Lanyon, E. Rosenberg,
M. Smith
Members Absent: J. Nieuwsma
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 7:17 a.m.

APPROVAL OF THE AUGUST 9, 2013 MEETING MINUTES

It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the August 9, 2013 meeting be approved. A voice vote was taken and the minutes were approved with one abstention.

ANNOUNCEMENTS / COMMUNICATIONS

a. Forthcoming Utilities Department activities

Mr. Stoneback announced that next year the City will be celebrating 100 years of clean filtered water.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Work Plan Item 1.1 Update on development of a building energy rating system – Next steps – preparing a draft building energy efficiency ordinance

Mr. Smith, Mr. Fracasso, and Mr. Grumman volunteered to help work on the draft building energy efficiency ordinance. Mr. Freeman reported that the Chicago City Council passed their Building Energy Use Benchmarking Ordinance. Mr. Stoneback said that the Environment Board is trying to generate a complete streets ordinance. Ms. Hurley added that the Environment Board is on the agenda for the September 23rd council meeting to get feedback, flush out concepts, and to get authorization to create a complete streets ordinance. Mr. Stoneback said that it might be a good idea for the Utilities Commission to take the same track, and discuss with the Administration & Public Works, the concept of what they would like in an ordinance before presenting them with an ordinance to be approved and passed.

b. Work Plan Item 1.2 Develop a plan to reduce energy consumption at the water treatment plant – Status of additional response from Baxter & Woodman

Mr. Stoneback said that in his opinion the report that he received from Baxter & Woodman was flawed because it states that they should stop throttling a discharge valve that does not get throttled. He said that the report states that pump 5 has low efficiency, and said that was the case the last time that they did

a pump efficiency test and noted that it had been rebuilt. He said that a consultant will be hired to redo a pump efficiency test. Mr. Stoneback said that he believes that the water treatment plant has a very efficient system. Mr. Freeman said that they should start to collect information for a baseline of power consumption for future comparison.

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 biggest focus over the summer has been on reporting for the Energy Star Portfolio Manager project. She said that an audit was completed by the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC) at the Ecology Center, which was found to be over lit and at the Fleetwood-Jourdain Center, which was found to have very old lights. Ms. Hurley said that an audit for the Levy Center is in the queue, and that the city was preapproved for some potential lighting upgrades at the Civic Center through the Illinois Clean Energy Community Foundation.

d. Work Plan Item 2.1 Investigate the potential for water conservation and wastewater reuse in city-owned buildings update – Report on future meetings for the Civic Center, Noyes Cultural Arts Center and the Police & Fire Complex, and analysis of recent water use data

Chair Lanyon said that Mr. Freeman and he have not had an opportunity to meet with any other facility but, they will do so at the end of October.

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

No action was taken.

f. Work Plan Item 2.3 Develop long term needs for municipal sewer and water infrastructure – Update on 2014 plan

Mr. Stoneback reported that both roof replacement projects are being deferred until next year so they can be done at the same time because a protection system will have to be built over the filters which will be a major expense. He said that the Master Meter & Chem Feed Improvement project was deferred as well because they are looking at cost saving opportunities and design modifications. He said that one of the CIPP projects has been completed, and that they just signed the IEPA loan agreement to line the sewers on Central Park and a portion of Main Street. Mr. Stoneback distributed a revised five-year Capital Improvement Plan projection. He said that there are no new projects listed but the sequencing of when they will get done was changed. He said that both of the standpipes need to be painted before work begins on the reservoir. Mr. Stoneback said that the cost to do a complete sewer analysis could cost as much as \$250,000 so; it will be done in chunks, and flow monitoring will be done next year so that there will be data available to provide to an engineer to use to develop, run and calibrate a model.

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. Stoneback said that the City's contract with Exelon runs through May 2014 so he will need to start going out for bids fairly soon. He said that if the Commission has requests for certain options, they will need to get them to him now because he wants to obtain bids in January and February which have been the historic low months for power purchase. Ms. Hurley said that she has some other ideas for options that she would pass around for next month's meeting. Mr. Stoneback said that he will send an e-mail reminder with information from the last time the City went out to bid so they can meet and form a sub-committee to help prepare the proposal and bring it back to the next meeting for review.

STREET LIGHTING PRESENTATION

a. Hornayoon Pirooz, Engineering Division Manager, and Tom Twigg, Traffic Operations Manager, presentation on city street lights at the request of the Utilities Commission

Chair Lanyon introduced Mr. Pirooz and Mr. Twigg to the Commission, and they reported on the number of street lighting circuits, the power requirements, instruments and methods of control used to turn the lights on and off and provided a brief history of energy conservation initiatives. Mr. Twigg said that the street lights are not metered or itemized on the bill, which is pretty common, so the City pays a set amount, and noted that they never go over the budgeted amount. Ms. Hurley said that Mr. Batara provided the Commission with the rates that the City is paying for street lighting, and noted that it is very low. Mr. Pirooz said that they have a routine maintenance program and that maintenance is performed on an as needed basis by City staff. Mr. Twigg said that they wait until they have done a significant number of upgrades to the street lights to give the information to ComEd so that they can update their data base, and noted that the last time this was done was three-years ago. Mr. Stoneback said that he will ask Mr. Batara for a copy of the list that ComEd has so it can be compared with Mr. Twigg's list from three-years ago.

STAFF REPORTS

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

Mr. Stoneback reported that there were two power failures on August 30th due to a severe rainstorm event. Mr. Stoneback said that there are two residents on the same circuit that continue to have short duration outages, and he is having Mr. Batara look into it.

Mr. Stoneback said that there were six basement backups in August and that all of them were determined to be private lateral problems.

Mr. Stoneback reported that there were only two water main breaks in August.

b. Status of negotiations with potential new wholesale water customers

Mr. Stoneback reported that the Village of Lincolnwood made a counter rate offer that was much lower than the rate the City had offered to them. He said that he

has since met with the all of the Aldermen and the Mayor and explained how he calculated the rate using the American Water Works Association (AWWA) rate and fee structure. He said that he will send a letter back to the Village of Lincolnwood letting them know that the offer the City made was firm. Mr. Stoneback said that the Village of Glenview is now considering purchasing water from Evanston as well. He said that he spoke with the Northwest Suburban Municipal Joint Action Water Agency (NSMJAWA) yesterday and that they are focusing on their next step, which would be buying a property and building a facility, and said that they indicated that they might be able to give Evanston some indication by the end of this year.

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

Ms. Hurley said that water bottle filling stations have been installed in the Civic Center and they have been receiving great feedback. She said that they are buying eleven more this year and are budgeting for more next year to be installed in other City facilities. Mr. Stoneback said that the water trailer has been a big success, and it has been all over the City at different events. He said that it will be at the Spanish Heritage Dance this weekend, Northwestern University is renting it for their Freshman Orientation Week events, and the Rotary Club of Evanston had rented it for their employee picnic.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:13 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Angela Price
Executive Secretary
Utilities Department