



MEETING MINUTES

UTILITIES COMMISSION

FRIDAY, APRIL 12, 2019, 7:15 A.M.
Water Treatment Plant, 555 Lincoln St.
Large Conference Room

Members Present: D. Everhart, J. Nieuwsma, E. Rosenberg, R. Shure
Members Absent: C. Bova, L. Sparrow
Guest Present: D. Grumman
Staff Present: 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 MARCH 8, 2019 MEETING MINUTES

Mr. Everhart moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Mr. Shure. All approved.

The minutes were approved unanimously, 4-0.

3. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Building energy efficiency benchmarking initiative – progress report on second year implementation

Chair Nieuwsma directed the Commission's attention to the benchmarking progress summary email from Mr. Jensen. He said it seems that Nicor is being a little more cooperative, and that Ms. Sparrow will be meeting with her contact at AGL Gas, parent company of Nicor soon. He would like to wait and see Mr. Jensen's completed reports and then invite him to attend the May Commission meeting. Chair Nieuwsma suggested inviting the Nicor representative to a Utilities Commission meeting Mr. Stoneback stated that he should receive the annual report from ComEd soon and believes the next meeting with ComEd will be in May. Chair Nieuwsma said that it would be better to meet with Nicor and ComEd separately to keep the meeting time short, so he'll invite the Nicor rep to the June meeting if there's still an issue accessing data.

b. Street Lighting Study – results of the review by city staff, committees and schedule for city council consideration

Mr. Stoneback reported that the City is currently applying to ComEd for their LED lighting incentive rebate for approximately 31 lights that the City is planning to replace with 3000 Kelvin LED Bulbs on Sheridan Road by Calvary Cemetery.

4. STAFF REPORTS

a. Recent Electric System Outages, Basement Flooding Concerns, Water Service Interruptions, and status of 2019 improvement projects

Mr. Stoneback reported the following:

There were only two power outages in March, but not many residents were affected by the outages.

There were a few basement backups in March, and they were all determined to be private lateral issues.

There were no water main breaks in March.

There were several Sewer Service Repair Permits obtained in March and no Water Service Repair permits were obtained.

The Five Year Average report data is interesting but not yet useful since we are only 25% through the current year. He will keep tracking the data.

2019 Capital Improvement Projects Update:

Water Main Replacement

The project is currently being advertised. The bid opening is scheduled for April 23 with a May 13 council award. Comments from MWRD and IEPA have been addressed and resubmitted.

Lincolnwood Connection and Meter Vault

Design is progressing rapidly. Survey and soil borings are complete. The City met with the consultant to review preliminary plans on April 3. 75% design is scheduled to be complete on April 25.

Drainage Structure Lining

The bid opening is scheduled for May 7. Structures to be rehabilitated will primarily be located in the downtown area and on Green Bay Road north of Emerson Street. Work is scheduled for completion by October 2019.

Treated Water Storage Replacement

Northwestern University widened North Campus Drive to allow for 2-way traffic during construction, and work has begun. The majority of the roof slab has already been removed as of April 5. Walls will be removed over the next weeks, with sheet pile installation scheduled to begin as early as the week of April 15.

36/42 Intake Replacement – Engineering Services

On April 8 City Staff interviewed three of four consultants that submitted proposals and will make a recommendation to the City Council on April 22.

All projects are moving along on schedule.

b. Status of the Skokie rate litigation, update on Lincolnwood water contract, and update on Morton Grove Niles Water Commission water main connection and pumping station construction

Mr. Stoneback said the City is still waiting for a ruling from the federal judge on the Skokie rate litigation. The City is going to make another motion to the federal judge to require Skokie to put funds into an account to pay the past due balance of their water bills. Everything is going well with the Morton Grove Niles Water Commission (MGNWC). Per their contract, Evanston recently had a meeting with MGNWC, and invited Lincolnwood and the NWC to attend. Evanston invited the Water Commissions, their senior staff and elected officials to attend a tour of the water treatment plant in August. He said that MGNWC is still receiving half of their daily requirement of potable water from Chicago and the other half from Evanston as they do not have their standpipe that will be on the pipeline in the future and their pump station is still under construction. Once their standpipe and pump station are in place they will stop taking water from Chicago.

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. Climate Action and Resilience Plan (CARP) update

Mr. Stoneback reported that staff has been meeting to develop a stormwater management guidance plan. They are setting up appropriate timelines and will be reaching out to Clare Tallon Ruen and Dick Lanyon to determine if there is a small community group that would be interested in partnering with the City to provide oversight and review of the plan before they have a public meeting about what the City is proposing to do. He is hoping to have the plan ready by the end of this year.

Chair Nieuwsma said that the stormwater management component of the CARP plan is one item that falls under the Utilities Commission mandate. There are other components of the plan that he would like the Commission to take an official look at over the next couple of months to determine what the Commission needs to be involved with or aware of.

6. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS / COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Stoneback announced that there will be two public tours of the Water Treatment Plant on Saturday, May 11.

8. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:06 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Angela Price
Administrative Lead
Public Works Agency