



**UTILITIES COMMISSION**  
FRIDAY, October 14, 2016, 7:15 A.M.  
Water Treatment Plant, 555 Lincoln St.  
Large Conference Room

Members Present: C. Bova, D. Lanyon, J. Nieuwsma, E. Rosenberg, M. White  
Members Absent: D. Everhart, R. Shure  
Staff Present: K. Jensen, A. Price, D. Stoneback  
Presiding Member: D. Lanyon

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**1. DECLARATION OF QUORUM**

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

**2. APPROVAL OF THE SEPTEMBER 9, 2016 MEETING MINUTES**

Mr. Nieuwsma moved to approve the minutes with a minor correction, seconded by Mr. Bova.

The minutes were approved unanimously, 5-0.

**3. ANNOUNCEMENTS / COMMUNICATIONS**

**A. Forthcoming Public Works Agency activities relative to the Utilities Commission**

There were no announcements or communications.

**4. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**A. Work Plan Item 1.1 Building energy efficiency benchmarking initiative – report on Administration & Public Works Committee meeting on August 15 and further consideration of the draft ordinance at the September 12 meeting of the committee**

Mr. Jensen reported that at the September 26<sup>th</sup> City Council meeting the Council decided to table the ordinance until November 28<sup>th</sup>. The Council expressed general support of the ordinance but wants staff to do a more comprehensive job of notifying the affected buildings, speaking with them and explaining what the potential impact would be, and also to give the Council time to better understand the ordinance themselves. Notices were sent directly to building owners that Mr. Jensen has on record that will be required to comply with the ordinance, informing them of three public drop-in meetings scheduled for October and November. The West End Business Association is having a meeting on October 25<sup>th</sup> and may want to have a staff member present to field questions; he is waiting to hear back from them. He will give a short presentation and answer questions at a special 1<sup>st</sup> ward meeting requested by Alderman Fisk next Tuesday at the Civic Center. He also developed a FAQ sheet with help from CGE that is listed on the City's website along with the dates of all of the public meetings.

**B. Dusk-to-Dawn Street Lighting – Consideration of a brief written report on lighting circuit testing and opportunities for data collection**

No action was taken. This item will be removed from the agenda.

**5. STAFF REPORTS**

**A. Recent Electric System Outages, Basement Flooding Concerns, Water Service Interruptions, and status of 2016 improvement projects**

Mr. Stoneback reported the following:

There were two power outages in September. One of the outages that occurred was rather large and was due to a broken tree limb on an arrestor near Florence and Dempster. All other power outages were scheduled to perform maintenance.

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

There were five water main breaks in September which he believes were due to it being fire hydrant flushing season. There was also a water main break on Colfax which has had several breaks, and it is now on top of the water main replacement list.

The usual number of Sewer Service Repair permits were obtained in September.

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

Mr. Stoneback reported that Des Plaines was added as a NWC customer in May, and he noted that the NWC's contract with Evanston runs through 2034. The Village of Skokie's contract with Evanston runs through February 2017, and a study is being completed to determine how they will receive their water in the future. Mr. Stoneback hopes to have a contract signed by the end of the year with Morton Grove and Niles, and begin supplying water to them by the middle of 2018.

**C. Community-wide Water Conservation Initiative**

No action was taken.

**D. Chloride water quality initiative status**

No action was taken. This item will be removed from the agenda.

**6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**A. Further consideration of community aggregation future**

No action was taken.

**B. Status of letter in support of a street lighting technology study in the 2017 budget**

No action was taken.

**7. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Water and sewer rates**

Mr. Stoneback provided a power point presentation of the proposed 2017 Water and Sewer Operating and Capital Budgets. He provided a thorough review of the City's water and sewer infrastructure condition, and needed improvement over the 2017 through 2021 period. He informed the Commission that he would be

**APPROVED**

going to Council to propose a 3% sewer rate decrease and a 6% water rate increase to help fund infrastructure maintenance and rehabilitation, and asked for the Commission's support.

Mr. Bova moved to approve support of the proposed modifications to the water and sewer rates, seconded by Mr. Nieuwsma.

**Support of the proposed modifications to the water and sewer rates was approved unanimously, 5-0.**

Chair Lanyon said that he would craft a memo in support of the proposed modifications.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Rosenberg moved to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Bova.

**The meeting was adjourned at 8:43 a.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Angela Price  
Special Projects Assistant  
Public Works Agency