



**APPROVED**

**UTILITIES COMMISSION**  
FRIDAY, JANUARY 9, 2015, 7:15 A.M.  
Water Treatment Plant, 555 Lincoln St.  
Large Conference Room

Members Present: D. Everhart, D. Grumman, M. Landis, J. Nieuwsma, E. Rosenberg  
Members Absent: D. Lanyon, M. White  
Staff Present: K. Jensen, A. Price, D. Stoneback  
Guests Present: D. Kellogg  
Presiding Member: D. Grumman

---

**DECLARATION OF QUORUM**

A quorum being present, Vice-Chair Grumman called the meeting to order at 7:16 a.m.

**APPROVAL OF THE DECEMBER 12, 2014 MEETING MINUTES**

Mr. Rosenberg moved to approve the meeting minutes of December 12, 2014 as submitted, seconded by Ms. Landis. A voice vote was taken and the December 12, 2014 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 white paper and update on status of city database**  
No action was taken.
- b. **Work Plan Item 2.1 Investigate the potential for water conservation and wastewater reuse in city-owned buildings update – Status of draft report on water conservation at five city facilities**  
No action was taken.
- c. **Work Plan Item 2.3 Develop long term needs for municipal sewer and water infrastructure – Mr. Stoneback will present the status of the recommended five-year plan and projects for the 2015 budget**  
Mr. Stoneback said that he received the Treated Water Storage Planning Study from CDM Smith, and it has been posted on the City's website. He said the key findings of the study are that Evanston's current water storage capacity is adequate, and it provides a summary evaluation of finished water storage alternatives. Mr. Stoneback provided a power point presentation and said that staff will be recommending Alternative C, Replace 1934 Clearwell near Existing Footprint, to the Administration and Public Works Committee on January 26<sup>th</sup>. He also said that Chair Lanyon will be in attendance as a representative of the Utilities Commission.

The Utilities Commission reviewed and agreed with staff recommendations. Mr. Nieuwsma moved to approve that Chair Lanyon draft a memo in support of staff's recommendation for Alternative C, seconded by Mr. Rosenberg. A voice vote was taken, and it was unanimously approved that Chair Lanyon will draft a memo in support of staff's recommendation for Alternative C.

**d. Dusk-to-Dawn Street Lighting – Status of efforts to select circuits for testing**

No action was taken.

**STAFF REPORTS**

**a. Recent Electric System Outages, Basement Flooding Concerns and Water Service Interruptions, and status of 2014 improvement projects**

Mr. Stoneback reported the following:

There was a major power outage on December 17<sup>th</sup> on the south side of Evanston that impacted about 4,000 residents, but it only lasted an hour and a half. He has not received a good response from ComEd yet on what caused the power outage as Mr. Batara was out of town at the time; however, he has returned and Mr. Stoneback will talk to him about it.

There were only two water main breaks in December, but there have already been two water main breaks in the beginning of January on South Boulevard.

There were very few water service permits obtained in December, but there were several sewer service permits obtained.

There were a lot of sewer service failures in December causing basement backups, but they were determined to be private lateral problems.

All of the 2014 improvements projects are wrapping up well. The AMI Replacement Program went really well and is now finished; the website portal pilot for residents to check their water usage will go up in a few weeks.

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

Mr. Stoneback said that negotiations with the potential new wholesale water customers are still ongoing. He said that he met with representatives from Morton Grove and Niles yesterday and their goal is to have a decision made by the end of January. He said that the City Manager and he met with NSMJAWA last month and they will make a decision within a year.

**c. Community-wide Water Conservation Initiative – Ideas on development of a city water use efficiency policy for city buildings**

Mr. Stoneback introduced the City's Sustainability Fellow, Kumar Jensen, to the Commission and said that he will be replacing Ms. Hurley at future Commission meetings. Mr. Stoneback said that Mr. Jensen will start working to implement the Low Flow Toilet Replacement Program, which is currently out to bid. He said that the Rain Barrel Program will be challenging to implement because downspout disconnections would require an exception to the MWRD ordinance.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- a. **Inactive task: Work plan item 1.2 Develop a plan to reduce energy consumption at the water treatment plant – Item complete pending pump replacement schedule**
- b. **Inactive task: 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 Aukman report**
- c. **Inactive task: Work plan item 2.2 Reduce the amount of stormwater entering the combined sewers in sandy subsoil areas of the City – Item complete pending the annual report of the Director of Public Works on the Complete and Green Network Approach for Construction Projects in the Public Right of Way**
- d. **Inactive task: Work plan item 2.4 Evaluate the potential impact of pending USEPA sewer/water regulations on the sewer system and water treatment plant**

**NEW BUSINESS**

- a. **Nicor Gas representatives will present the utility’s plan for gas distribution system upgrades**  
Mr. Daniel Kellogg, Construction Supervisor, Nicor Gas, provided a PowerPoint presentation of the gas main replacement program showing the work that has been completed in Evanston in the last two years, plus the work they will be doing through 2017. He said that their goal is to replace all low pressure gas mains in Evanston with high pressure gas mains and to finish installing outside meters.
- b. **Utilities Commission Membership**  
Ms. Landis announced that her term on the Commission will expire next month, and she is uncertain if she will be able to serve a second term do to work commitments.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:03 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela Price  
Executive Secretary  
Utilities Department