

Prospect Heights Water Committee

Public Meeting

Thursday, July 19, 2012

Prospect Heights City Hall

City Council Room

MINUTES

Call to Order: Chairman Tibbits called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM

Roll Call: Present: Chairman Rich Tibbits, Stacey Adamson, George Nixon and Kay Michaely.
A quorum was present.

Approve minutes of prior meetings: George Nixon moved to approve and Rich Tibbits seconded the June 21st meeting minutes. They were approved by unanimous voice vote.

Overview of Water Committee Mission: was reviewed for everyone in attendance.

Reports & Communications:

City Water Rate Policy and Rate Recommendation Memo: Chairman Tibbits updated the action by the City Council to hire a water rate specialist to study our water rates, in spite of the fact that the water committee has been discussing this activity for over a year and has made a recommendation to the Mayor and City Council that has largely been ignored. The City engineer, Jim Johnson, was to attend this meeting but was not present to answer questions about the recently completed inventory of water infrastructure and get input from the committee on its past activities. He will likely be the contact person for any engineering report being prepared on water rates. Kay Michaely commented that she did not feel we had all of the information needed to analyze the water rate study process and that she would like to see any RFP and any contract awarded for the study. Chairman Tibbits commented that a memo was written since the last water committee meeting asking the council to formalize the mission of the committee to review all financial matters of the water fund.

To: Mayor Helmer and City Council
From: Rich Tibbits - Water Committee Chairman

Memo: Water Committee Resolution

As discussed at our last water committee meeting and as I mentioned at the last City Council meeting, the water committee enabling resolution does not specify that the water committee should develop and modify a water rate policy and procedure, periodically review City water rates, make recommendations to the City Council as to rate adjustments, and review water fund budget expenditures. Previous Mayors and Councils have suggested and encouraged the water committee to take on those activities, and our committee members believe it may be appropriate to adopt those responsibilities into the resolution.

7/17/2012

B Soens commented that she did not feel an engineering company was going to help set water rates and that the expenditure of \$12,000 was going to be a waste. She also feels that her efforts to help the water committee develop a water rate policy have been stalled by the City staff and other City officials. To date the City still does not have a written water rate policy.

Water System Asset Inventory – Jim Johnson (City Engineer) : Not present.

New Agenda Items Proposed By Committee Members: Chairman Tibbits suggested that the eastside customers of Illinois American be polled regarding the concept of buying out that company and riding themselves of a for-profit water supplier. George Nixon said he would look into it again.

New Business: None

Public Comments or Questions: Bob Zier asked if anyone had approached the NWWC lately. He also commented that system expansion and the addition of new customers would lower rates.

Adjournment: Motion was made by George Nixon and seconded by Stacey Adamson to adjourn and was approved by unanimous voice vote. The meeting was adjourned at 7:55pm.

Approved by the Prospect Heights Water Committee on the_18th _of_ October _2012.