

**DULUTH PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**June 20, 2017**

**Members Present:** Chris McIntosh, Rob Prusak, Councilor Joel Sipress, Jason Thorsell, Councilor Em Westerlund; Councilor Noah Hobbs arrived at 5:21 p.m.

**Members Absent:** Jen Julsrud

**Staff Present:** Bob Asleson, Leanna Gilbert, Howard Jacobson, Eric Shaffer, Glenn Strid, Kerry Venier

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 5:15 p.m. by President Prusak.

**Approval of previous meeting minutes**

**Old business:**

**Water utility discussion**

Eric Shaffer provided handouts showing the effect of a 4.7% volume charge increase on customer bills for usage of 2 units and 6 units of water, the draft PowerPoint presentation for the June 27 public meetings, and a Frequently Asked Questions sheet that would be available for residents who attend the public meetings. Commissioners and staff discussed each of the handouts. President Prusak suggested bringing a list of capital projects to the meetings.

**New business:**

**Upcoming public meetings**

This topic was covered during the water utility discussion.

**Updates from staff**

Eric Shaffer reported on the progress of various projects, including the water main pipe bursting project on 47<sup>th</sup> Ave. E, the gas main pipe bursting project on 48<sup>th</sup> Ave. E, and Phase 1 of Michigan Street. He also mentioned that the Superior Street project would be moving ahead.

**Upcoming Council actions**

No upcoming actions were mentioned.

**Commissioner questions or comments**

Commissioner Sipress asked about work that was done at 21<sup>st</sup> Ave. E and Superior Street. Eric Shaffer responded that it was an emergency storm sewer repair that had to be completed prior to Grandma's Marathon.

**Preview of upcoming business**

Public meetings regarding proposed changes to water variable rates will be held on Tuesday, June 27, 2017, at 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. in City Council Chambers. The next regular meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 18, 2017, at 5:15 p.m. in City Council Chambers. The commission will review feedback from the public meetings.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 5:58 p.m.