

DULUTH PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
Meeting Minutes
July 21, 2015

Members Present: Councilor Zack Filipovich, Rob Prusak, Linda Sellner, Councilor Joel Sipress, Jason Thorsell

Members Absent: Councilor Jennifer Julsrud, Jim Ramnes

Staff Present: Bob Asleson, Jim Benning, Leanna Gilbert, Howard Jacobson, Eric Shaffer, Glenn Strid

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

Approval of previous meeting minutes

New business:

15PUC-005 - RESOLUTION AMENDING WATER CUSTOMER CATEGORY C/I 6 EFFECTIVE WITH METER READINGS AFTER AUGUST 12, 2015 TO INCLUDE MUNICIPAL GOLF COURSE IRRIGATION.

Jim Benning explained that prior to the 2012 flood Enger Golf Course took water from portions of Coffee Creek that were dammed up on their property to create a pond. After the flood, the dam blew out and the DNR did not allow it to be rebuilt. The most cost-effective source of water would be city water, which would supplement wells and natural precipitation. After some discussion, commissioners voted unanimously to approve resolution 15PUC-005.

Updates from staff

Eric Shaffer reported that the 12" gas main project has begun. The water and gas replacement project at 26th Ave W is advancing slowly. Much work has been done on the gas blanket contract already and it will probably be slowing down. The 36" water main project on 4th Street has started. Lift Station 8 will start in August. Jim Benning reported that WLSSD has estimated a 2.6% increase in treatment charges in 2016.

Upcoming Council actions

Jim Benning mentioned a few upcoming items, including a resolution for water main installation on Hwy 23 as part of a MNDOT project and a resolution confirming the assessment rolls for the Riverside project. Minor revisions were made to the illicit discharge ordinance, and it will go to Council soon.

Commissioner questions or comments

President Prusak inquired about the work going on at Woodland and 21st. Jim Benning explained that the concrete intersection is being replaced, and the road will be redone up to Kent Road and then from about Calvary Road to Martin Road.

Preview of upcoming business

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 15, 2015, at 5:15 p.m. in City Council Chambers. The Commission will discuss stormwater pollution remediation and Commissioner Sellner will report on the Annual Stormwater Public Meeting that was held in June. The Commission will also need to discuss the water fund sometime this fall.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 5:38 p.m.