

DULUTH PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
Meeting Minutes
October 21, 2014

Members Present: Councilor Zack Filipovich, Councilor Jennifer Julsrud, Rob Prusak, Jim Ramnes, Linda Sellner, Councilor Joel Sipress

Members Absent: Jason Thorsell

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

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 5:17 p.m. by President Prusak.

Approval of previous meeting minutes

Old business:

Review proposed utility budgets

Notes explaining the cash projection worksheets were included in the meeting packets. Glenn Strid mentioned some changes that had occurred recently, handed out a revised sanitary sewer cash projection, and answered a few questions from commissioners.

New business:

14PUC-003 - RESOLUTION APPROVING AND RECOMMENDING 2015 UTILITY BUDGET.

Commissioner Sipress motioned to approve resolution 14PUC-003. The resolution was unanimously approved.

Updates from staff

Jim Benning reported that the West Duluth Reservoir is back online. Commissioner Sellner inquired if Spirit Mountain would be using city water to make snow again. Jim Benning said that they would probably start mid-November. Commissioner Sipress said that their new system should be ready for next season. They should see some significant cost savings from that system.

Upcoming Council actions

Jim Benning mentioned an increase of about \$400,000 to the blanket contract for extra work, including upgrades to the system and additional new services.

The budget presentation to Council is on November 10th at 5:30 p.m. Commissioners are welcome to attend.

Commissioner questions or comments

Commissioner Julsrud mentioned a dinner for Energy Leadership on October 28th and a follow-up meeting on October 29th. She may extend an invitation to other DPUC members.

Commissioner Sellner stated that she will be researching wetland protection within the city and will be bringing forward a resolution in the future.

Preview of upcoming business

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 18, 2014, at 5:15 p.m. in City Council Chambers. Commissioners should think about the 2015 meeting schedule. They should also think about whether there is anything that they want staff to work on.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m.