

## **DULUTH PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

### **Meeting Minutes September 7, 2010**

**Members Present:** John Bruggeman, Councilor Jay Fosle, Councilor Kerry Gauthier, Pat Huston, Jennifer Vossen Julsrud, Linda Ross Sellner

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

**Members Absent:** Councilor Daniel Hartman

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 5:02 p.m. by Jim Benning.

#### **Introductions**

Those in attendance took turns giving brief introductions of who they are and explaining how their backgrounds could benefit the commission.

#### **Time, location, and place for future meetings**

Regular meetings will be held at 5:15 p.m. on the second Wednesday of every month in City Hall Room 106A, unless otherwise noted.

The next meeting will be on September 15<sup>th</sup> at 5:15 p.m. at the Garfield Service Center (520 Garfield Avenue). Jim Benning will send out appointments via e-mail and set the agenda for that meeting. He will also send a PDF of the ordinance that created this commission. There will be a meeting at the Lakewood Water Treatment Plant as well. Commission members will have the opportunity to see various other utility sites.

Jen Julsrud has a meeting with the Mayor on the 16<sup>th</sup> of September. She also has a meeting on the 6<sup>th</sup> of October with Marianne Bohren to go over the WLSSD budget, hear her thoughts on the commission, and tour the plant. Anyone is welcome to attend either of those meetings.

#### **Bylaw establishment process**

Commission members were in favor of having Councilor Gauthier draft the bylaws to be reviewed at the next meeting.

#### **Commission expectations**

This group will become the educated experts on the current state of the City's utilities, the finances associated with them, and how they will move forward in the future. This commission will be concerned with four utilities: water, gas, sanitary sewer (including the Clean Water Fund), and storm water. The Councilors on this commission will play a part in educating the City Council. The citizen members' part will be setting vision, long-term planning, and working with the utilities department. They will go between the department and the Council.

#### **Election of officers**

There were varying opinions as to whether Councilors should or should not be officers. Commission members decided to postpone the election of a President and Vice President until a later date. Councilor Fosle nominated Jim Benning as Secretary and Jen Julsrud seconded the motion. All present were in favor of this decision.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 6:28 p.m.

A recording of this meeting is available upon request.