

DULUTH PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Tuesday, May 19, 2015

City Council Chambers

AGENDA

1. Roll call
2. Approval of previous meeting minutes
3. New business
 - 3.1 Chapter 43 revisions: Illicit discharge language - discussion only
 - 3.2 Large diameter water main replacement - discussion & presentation by Eric Shaffer
4. Updates from staff
5. Upcoming Council actions
6. Commissioner questions or comments
7. Preview of upcoming business

DULUTH PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
Meeting Minutes
April 21, 2015

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

Members Absent: Linda Sellner, Jason Thorsell

Staff Present: Bob Asleson, Leanna Gilbert, Eric Shaffer, Glenn Strid

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 5:22 p.m. by President Prusak.

Approval of previous meeting and hearing minutes

Old business:

15PUC-004 - RESOLUTION AMENDING ARTICLE V SECTION 1 OF THE BYLAWS PERTAINING TO OFFICERS.

Commissioner Sipress motioned to approve resolution 15PUC-004, and the motion was seconded. Resolution 15PUC-004 was approved unanimously.

City Council summer break schedule

The councilors checked their schedules and found that the summer break should have no effect on their attendance at the June DPUC meeting.

Updates from staff

Eric Shaffer reported that construction season has started early. The copper riser and gas blanket projects have already started. When Commissioner Sipress inquired about when work would start on the 4th Street project, Shaffer replied that water main work should be advertised this Friday and will start after Grandma's Marathon. Four blocks of the water main work will be bid separately because of the number of mains going through that area.

Upcoming Council actions

The AHEAP resolution is being revised. As written, it is rather confusing. It should state that the amounts are cumulative. There is also a question of whether there should be continual requests to extend the program versus being included as a line item in the annual budget. Staff will continue to work on this.

Commissioner questions or comments

President Prusak mentioned a letter received from the City of Proctor regarding water. Bob Asleson stated that Proctor was requesting a contract for water service. Jim Benning sent a reply that there is already a contract for water. They recently replied that they didn't think the contract was still applicable. Another letter was drafted in reply stating that it was indeed still applicable.

Preview of upcoming business

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 19, 2015, at 5:15 p.m. in City Council Chambers.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 5:57 p.m.

Memo

To: Duluth PUC
From: Chris Kleist
Date: 5/12/2015
Re: Illicit Discharge Ordinance

This memo is to explain the need and purpose behind the proposed updates to the Illicit Discharge Ordinance.

Background:

1. The MS4 permit requires: public education, public involvement, illicit discharge detection and elimination, construction site runoff control, post-construction stormwater, good housekeeping measures.
2. Illicit Discharge:
 - a. Educate (public, staff)
 - b. Response procedures
 - c. Regulatory mechanism
3. Current language: functional but not clear

Sec. 43-41. Discharge prohibited.

No person shall discharge or cause to be discharged any of the following-described waters or wastes to any public sewers:

- (a) Any gasoline, benzene, naphtha, fuel oil, oil solvent, or other flammable or explosive liquid, solid or gas;
- (b) Any waters containing toxic or poisonous solids, liquids or gases in sufficient quantity, either singly or by interaction with other wastes, to injure or interfere with any waste treatment process or wastewater facilities, to constitute a hazard to humans or animals, to create a public nuisance or to create any hazard in the receiving waters of the wastewater treatment works;
- (c) Any waters or wastes having a pH lower than 5.5 or having any other corrosive property capable of causing damage or hazard to structures, equipment and personnel of the wastewater treatment works;
- (d) Solid or viscous substances in quantities or of such size capable of causing obstruction to the flow in sewers or other interference with the proper operation of the wastewater facilities such as, but not limited to, ashes, asphalt, bones, cinders, sand, mud, straw, shavings, metal, glass, rags, feathers, tar, plastics, disposable diapers, wood, unground garbage, whole blood, paunch, manure, hair and fleshings, entrails and paper dishes, napkins, cups, milk containers, either whole or ground by garbage grinders. (Ord. No. 8331, 6-13-1977, § 1.)

4. Proposed: clear and concise
5. Intent:
 - a. Comply with the MS4 permit.
 - b. Strengthen our educational programs.
 - c. Provide backbone for perpetual violators.