

**CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG UTILITIES
ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING
November 28, 2011**

The Charlotte-Mecklenburg Utilities Advisory Committee met Monday, November 28, 2011, 2:00 pm at 4222 Westmont Drive, Charlotte, North Carolina.

Members Present: George Beckwith, Jim Duke, Ron Charbonneau, David Jarrett, Jim Merrifield

Members Absent: Marco Varela, Frank McMahan

Staff Present:	Barry Gullet	Director
	Kim Eagle	Deputy Director
	Barry Shearin	Chief Engineer
	Regina Cousar	Continuous Improvement Officer
	Vic Simpson	Communications Manager
	Karen Whichard	Public Information Officer

Safety Minute

Parking lot safety was discussed in light of the holiday shopping season.

Minutes

A motion was made by David Jarrett, and seconded by Jim Merrifield, to approve the October 2011 minutes.

Meter Equipment Update

Utilities will be making a presentation tonight to City Council during their dinner meeting regarding issues that have been identified by staff through quality control measures with approximately 68,000 transmitters throughout the service area and the need to replace those transmitters. CMUD's top priority is collecting accurate billing data for all customers. Utilities has reached a settlement with Itron for the transmitter replacements where parts and labor will be supplied at no charge to the utility and meter readings will be taken at the time of the replacement. Adjustments will be made to accounts as warranted and customers will be contacted with the information. CMUD has also contracted with Badger to purchase 7,000 registers at a reduced cost. The replacement project will take approximately four months to complete. Utilities staff will be performing a quality assurance audit following the installation process. Informational letters will be sent to affected customers and door hangers will be left at each residence upon replacement. Information is also available on Utilities' website and through 311.

City of Charlotte CIP Big Ideas

In past years, each City department would submit a list of projects to the Budget and Evaluation department and B&E staff would choose which projects were included in the City's capital improvement plan. This year, the City Manager has asked the departments to collaborate to choose projects more holistically. CMUD's CIP will be presented to Advisory at the next meeting.

Irwin Creek WWTP Update

The Irwin plant was built in the 1920s. The last major upgrade was completed 15 or more years ago. The plant currently treats nine million gallons of wastewater per day, but is permitted up to 15 million gallons per day. Utilities will be going to City Council in two weeks for approval of a construction contract which includes electrical, structural, hydraulic and process improvements to improve the reliability and extend the useful life of the facility.

The project will be constructed in two phases. Phase 1 construction will cost \$20,881,400. Phase 2 will be bid in about 18 months, near the completion of Phase 1. The estimated cost of Phase 2 is \$20 million. If the contract is awarded by City Council at the December 12th meeting, construction will begin in February 2012.

Miscellaneous

To maintain service capacity and prevent sewer overflows, Utilities is making improvements to the Briar Creek sewer system which conveys wastewater to the Sugar Creek WWTP. The first phase of the project was to construct a new influent pumping station at the WWTP and that work has been completed. The next several phases will construct new sewer lines along a portion of Briar Creek. Bids were received last week for a portion of this work and the low bid of \$17M is less than the projected cost. Additional phases which will extend the new sewer line farther upstream along Briar Creek are planned to bid in 2012.

Advisory members unanimously decided to cancel the December meeting.

Adjourned at 3:24 pm
Karen L. Baldwin