



City Council Study Session Minutes

September 23, 2024 6:00 PM

Council Chambers - 111 E. Maple Ave.

PRESENTATIONS

1. Community Health Assessment

Christina Heinen, Director of Health and Animal Services Dept. gave this presentation.

Three main goals:

Gain a better understanding of the health issues of Independence Residents

Collect key public health data on issues that are affecting our community and provide support for grant applications

Evaluate services provided by the Department and determine additional needs

Identified issues:

Top 5 public Concerns

Affordable Housing

Mental Health

Houselessness

Affordable Healthcare

Firearms and gun violence

Additional concern: Poverty

2. AMI (IPL)

The presentation was given by Joe Hegendeffer, Director of IPL

What is AMI?

Advanced metering infrastructure (AMI) is an integrated, fixed-network system that enables two-way communication between a customer's meter and the utility. The system transmits near

real-time information about usage.

AMI is a system of:

- Advanced meters
- Communications networks
- Data management
- The system collects, stores, analyzes and presents energy usage data, providing utility companies and the customer the ability to monitor electricity, gas and water usage

How does AMI work?

- Communication networks serve as the backbone of the two-way communication between smart meters and the AMI head-end system.
- These AMI networks carry data from the smart meters to a collection system and vice versa, allowing for near real-time data information available to both the utility and even the customer through a customer portal.

How does AMI help me, the customer?

- AMI allows customers access to detailed information about their energy usage, helping them manage their consumption more effectively.
- AMI allows the utility to monitor for power outages, thus providing updated information to the customer whether they are home or not.
- AMI allows the customer to take charge of their power consumption in real time and help manage their bills.

This powerful tool is equally applicable with water and gas usage as well.

- Allows a utility to work with customers on leak detection and potentially saving them money, along with managing their overall water consumption.

How does it help my utilities?

- The ability to remotely manage meters nearly eliminates the need for manual meter readings which removes the need to enter yards on a monthly basis. This has become a significant safety issue.
- AMI enables faster response times in the event of a power outage.
- Allows for the performance of remote connects and disconnects, reducing time to restore power after a late bill payment or service turn-on.
- Can also assist with renters and landlords to accurately obtain usage up to a move date or transfer of utility ownership.
- This powerful tool allows us to be a more efficient and cost effective utility, saving the ratepayers in the long run.

Next Actions

IPL and Independence Municipal Services would like to move forward with an RFP for the design and installation of AMI for your hometown utilities.

- This is a major step in updating your utilities to modern day and benefit both the residents and the utilities to operate in a more efficient manner and be more customer centric in its operations. Over the next 6 months, IPL will work with Municipal Services to administer an RFP process for your future consideration.

IPL will also work in conjunction with our Communications team to send out information and hold public sessions to answer questions and provide clarifications on AMI and the benefits it provides.

- We will also be looking for input on what customer programs residents might like to see from this new technology

INFORMATION ONLY

1. Boards and Commissions Report

Read

2. ***Please Note:*** *In accordance with RSMo. 610.021, the City Council may convene in an Executive Session during or after the meeting, in the Council Chambers and move to Conference Room D for the closed meeting, on matters of litigation, legal action, and/or attorney client communications, as permitted by Sec. 610.021(1), on matters of personnel, as permitted by Sec. 610.021(3) and personnel records, as permitted by 610.021(13), on matters of contracts, as permitted by 610.021(12), on matters of real estate, as permitted by 610.021(2) and/or matters of labor negotiations, as permitted by 610.021(9).*