

CITY OF HASTINGS, NEBRASKA
MINUTES OF UTILITY BOARD REGULAR MEETING
Thursday, September 5, 2019

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a Regular Meeting of the Utility Board of Hastings, Nebraska was conducted in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 220 N. Hastings Avenue, on September 5, 2019.

ROLL CALL:

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. in Regular Session by Chairman Bill Hitesman with the following members present: Bill Hitesman, Jeanette Dewalt, Shawn Hartmann, Joanne Seberg, Shayne Raitt.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Chairman led the group in recital of the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America.

MOTION TO ADOPT CURRENT AGENDA FOR September 5, 2019 REGULAR MEETING.

Moved by Shawn Hartmann seconded by Shayne Raitt to adopt the current agenda for September 5, 2019 regular meeting. Roll Call: Ayes: Shawn Hartmann, Bill Hitesman, Joanne Seberg, Shayne Raitt, Jeanette Dewalt. Nays: None. Absent: None. The motion carried.

PUBLIC NOTICE - Official Notice of the Regular Meeting was published in the Hastings Tribune on Tuesday, September 3, 2019.

Chairman Hitesman read the Public Notice - Pursuant to the Nebraska Revised Statute Section 84-1412, the public is advised that a copy of today's agenda and all reproducible written material which will be discussed at today's meeting is located at the back of the Council Chambers. Also, a current copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act is posted on the south wall of the Council Chambers which is accessible to members of the public.

MANAGER'S COMMUNICATIONS:

None.

BOARD CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS:

None.

BOARD MEMBERS' COMMUNICATIONS:

Jeanette Dewalt reported that she attended a tour of the ASR Project yesterday. She said the tour was excellent and she recommends Board members to schedule a tour. Carol Crecelius reported there is a tour next week and can forward the information to the Board.

CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS:

None.

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. All Consent Items.

(a) Approval of the minutes of the Hastings Utility Board Meeting of August 8, 2019

Moved by Joanne Seberg seconded by Jeanette Dewalt to approve all Consent Items. Roll Call: Ayes: Shawn Hartmann, Bill Hitesman, Joanne Seberg, Shayne Raitt, Jeanette Dewalt. Nays: None. Absent: None. The motion carried.

REGULAR AGENDA:

2. Unfinished Business of Preceding Meeting.

None.

3. General Business.

(a) Finance

i. Review and Recommendation of Gas Rate Ordinance 4601

Moved by Shayne Raitt seconded by Shawn Hartmann to recommend approval to the City Council of Gas Rate Ordinance 4601, which reflects a 5% increase in gas rates effective 10/1/2019. Roll Call: Ayes: Shawn Hartmann, Bill Hitesman, Joanne Seberg, Shayne Raitt, Jeanette Dewalt. Nays: None. Absent: None. The motion carried.

ii. Review and Recommendation of Funding Agreement with Hastings Economic Development Corporation

Moved by Shawn Hartmann seconded by Jeanette Dewalt to recommend approval to the City Council of a Funding Agreement with Hastings Economic Development Corporation. Roll Call: Ayes: Shawn Hartmann, Bill Hitesman, Joanne Seberg, Shayne Raitt, Jeanette Dewalt. Nays: None. Absent: None. The motion carried.

The Hastings Economic Development Corporation Board will meet at the end of September to approve the agreement and then the said agreement will be forwarded to the City Council for approval.

iii. Review and Recommendation of Funding Agreement with Hastings Area Chamber of Commerce

Moved by Shawn Hartmann seconded by Joanne Seberg to recommend approval of the Funding Agreement with Hastings Area Chamber of Commerce. Roll Call: Ayes: Shawn Hartmann, Bill Hitesman, Joanne Seberg, Shayne Raitt, Jeanette Dewalt. Nays: None. Absent: None. The motion carried.

The Hastings Area Chamber of Commerce Board will meet at the end of September to approve the agreement. After their approval, it will be forwarded to the Hastings City Council for approval.

iv. Recommend Approval of City of Hastings Utility Department 2019-2020 Budget

Moved by Shawn Hartmann seconded by Joanne Seberg to recommend approval to the City Council of the City of Hastings Utility Department 2019-2020 Budget. Roll Call: Ayes: Shawn Hartmann, Bill Hitesman, Joanne Seberg, Shayne Raitt, Jeanette Dewalt. Nays: None. Absent: None. The motion carried.

(b) Production

i. Review and Recommendation of Change Order 3 to IES Commercial, Inc. for WEC1 Switchgear Replacement Electrical Equipment Installation

Moved by Jeanette Dewalt seconded by Shayne Raitt to recommend approval to the City Council of Change Order No. 3 to IES Commercial, Inc. for WEC1 Switchgear Replacement Electrical Equipment Installation for a net deduction of \$7,580.33. Roll Call: Ayes: Shawn Hartmann, Bill Hitesman, Joanne Seberg, Shayne Raitt, Jeanette Dewalt. Nays: None. Absent: None. The motion carried.

ii. Review and Recommendation of Change Order No. 2 to Siemens Industry Inc. for WEC1 Switchgear Replacement

Moved by Shawn Hartmann seconded by Jeanette Dewalt to recommend approval to the City Council of Change Order No. 2 to Siemens Industry Inc. for WEC1 Switchgear Replacement for a net addition of \$12,446.90. Roll Call: Ayes: Shawn Hartmann, Bill Hitesman, Joanne Seberg, Shayne Raitt, Jeanette Dewalt. Nays: None. Absent: None. The motion carried.

(c) Operations

Derek Zeisler updated the Board on the construction of the solar farm. He stated that the recent storm slowed the construction down a little but they are on schedule to energize the farm on September 18th. He said there was no reported damage to the farm in spite of the severity of the hail and wind. Zeisler stated he plans to schedule an open house which will be tentatively held October 3rd.

Brian Strom reported that a total of 24 customers, both residential and commercial, have signed up for panels for a total number of 262 panels. He said they will continue to get information to the public and continue to sign people up. The plan is to host another afterhours customer meeting.

Dave Ptak stated that they have pitched the solar shares to their department heads. He said the City may be able to lock in some savings in the future and the city departments can work together to help promote the solar usage.

Kevin Johnson reminded the Board that customer participation is a benefit and that this provides the utilities with the chance to gain experience and knowledge very directly while providing a footprint into energy storage down the road.

(d) Administration

None.

(e) Other

None.

4. Possible Closed Session (if necessary or requested).

None.

ADJOURN:

Moved by Jeanette Dewalt seconded by Joanne Seberg that there being no further business, the meeting adjourn at 9:35 a.m. Roll Call: Ayes: Shawn Hartmann, Bill Hitesman, Joanne Seberg, Shayne Raitt, Jeanette Dewalt. Nays: None. Absent: None. The motion carried.

APPROVED:

Board Secretary