

HASTINGS UTILITY BOARD AGENDA

**Council Chambers – City Hall
220 North Hastings Avenue
January 9, 2020
9:00 AM**

ROLL CALL:

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

MOTION TO ADOPT CURRENT AGENDA FOR January 9, 2020 REGULAR MEETING.

PUBLIC NOTICE - Official Notice of the Regular Meeting was published in the Hastings Tribune on Tuesday, January 7, 2020. Pursuant to 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:

BOARD CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS:

BOARD MEMBERS' COMMUNICATIONS:

CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

1. Approval of Minutes of the December 12, 2019 Meeting

REGULAR AGENDA:

2. Unfinished Business of Preceding Meeting.
3. General Business.
 - (a) Finance
 - (b) Production
 - (c) Operations

(d) Administration

- i. General '2019 Highlights'
- ii. Update on NDS Security & Customer Service Design

(e) Other

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

ADJOURN:

The Hastings Utility Board reserves the right to enter into an executive session at any time during the meeting, in accordance with the Nebraska Open Meetings Act, even though the closed session may not be indicated on the agenda. It is the intention of the Hastings Utility Board to take up the items on the agenda in sequential order. However, the Hastings Utilities Board reserves the right to take up matters in a different order to accommodate the schedule of the Utility Board Members, persons having items on the agenda, and the public.

CITY OF HASTINGS, NEBRASKA
MINUTES OF UTILITY BOARD REGULAR MEETING
Thursday, December 12, 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 December 12, 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: Shawn Hartmann, Bill Hitesman, Joanne Seberg, Shayne Raitt, Jeanette Dewalt. Absent: None.

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 December 12, 2019 REGULAR MEETING.

Moved by Shayne Raitt seconded by Joanne Seberg to adopt the current agenda for December 12, 2019 regular meeting. Roll Call: Ayes; Shayne Raitt, Joanne Seberg, Shawn Hartmann, Bill Hitesman, 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, December 10, 2019.

Chairman Bill 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:

Kevin Johnson is out of town today. Al Meyer announced his retirement date of January 24, 2019.

BOARD CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS:

Chairman Hitesman thanked Al Meyer for his many years of service.

BOARD MEMBERS' COMMUNICATIONS:

Joanne Seberg also thanked Al for his service. Discussion took place on projects that Al has been involved with at Hastings Utilities.

CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS:

Mayor Corey Stutte thanked Al and said the City really appreciated his dedication and service.

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. All Consent Items.

- (a) Approval of the minutes of the Hastings Utility Board Meeting of November 14, 2019

Moved by Jeanette Dewalt seconded by Shawn Hartmann 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. Update on Financial Report Status

Roger Nash gave an update on the Accounting and Finance Department. The Auditors will be in next week. His department is busy getting everything ready for the auditors, closing work orders, etc. He had several employees out of the office for a few days and the others have had to learn new duties to fill in. His department plans a full week of ERP training in January and they hope to have the financials caught up in February. Mr. Nash stated that additional staff is being hired to help implement and run the ERP system. Mayor Stutte remarked that we should have hired a 3rd party consultant a year ago for ERP implementation. He said we will find efficiencies even with additional staff being hired, but it will take some time. Mr. Nash stated that it is very complicated to bring the city and utilities with different platforms together with this ERP system and then adding in PPGA makes it harder. The Board asked for a timeline of ERP meeting objectives.

(b) Production

i. Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) Kickoff Update

Al Meyer stated that a kick off meeting for the Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) has taken place. Keith Leonhardt said that this IRP will guide us to meet our energy needs for the next twenty years. He hopes to have a draft report by the end of March 2020.

(c) Operations

None.

(d) Administration

i. Discussion on Utility Billing Proration

Brian Strom stated that this item is on the agenda because of a customer inquiry. The customer inquired why her bill was so large for only four days of service. Mr. Strom stated that the reason

was the customer charges are not pro-rated. He has since surveyed other utilities and found that some do pro-rate their customer charges. He said he will visit with the Cost of Service Consultant about this item to include in their review of the rate study. The Cost of Service Rate Study is projected to be complete in February - March timeframe.

(e) Other

None.

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

Moved by Jeanette Dewalt seconded by Shawn Hartmann that this Board go into Closed Session, which Closed Session is clearly necessary for the protection of the public interest and for the prevention of needless injury to the reputation of an individual, which individual has not requested a public meeting, in order to discuss certain matters relating to personnel. Roll Call: Ayes: Shawn Hartmann, Bill Hitesman, Joanne Seberg, Shayne Raitt, Jeanette Dewalt. Nays: None. Absent: None. The motion carried.

The meeting closed to the public at 9:25 a.m.

Moved by Shayne Raitt seconded by Joanne Seberg that the meeting be reopened to the public at 9:43 a.m., and that no decisions were made nor official actions taken during said Closed Session. Roll Call: Ayes: Shayne Raitt, Joanne Seberg, Bill Hitesman, Shawn Hartmann, Jeanette Dewalt. Nays; None. Absent: None. The motion carried.

ADJOURN:

Moved by Jeanette Dewalt seconded by Shayne Raitt, that there being no further business, the meeting adjourn at 9:43 a.m. Roll Call: Ayes: Jeanette Dewalt, Shayne Raitt, Joanne Seberg, Shawn Hartmann, Bill Hitesman. Nays; None. Absent: None. The motion carried.

APPROVED:

Board Secretary

Carol Crecelius

From: Kevin Johnson
Sent: Tuesday, December 24, 2019 10:07 AM
To: allhuemployees
Subject: Appreciation for All Your Efforts

As the calendar year draws to a close, I'd like to thank each and every one of you for your efforts and accomplishments this past year. Each department and every employee contributed to Hastings Utilities continued operational excellence, which resulted in these highlights:

- ✓ ASR operations and results to-date
- ✓ Critical capital projects including Switchgear, ERP, electric system and street light conversions
- ✓ Cross-functional depts support within Gas, Electric, Water/Sewer, Meter Reading, Engineering/Locating
- ✓ Employee engagement within Employee, Safety, Wellness Committees
- ✓ Finance dept leadership selections
- ✓ HEDC support (e.g. FLINT project, N Park Commons, N Ind Park)
- ✓ HU community solar farm, including Customer Service billings and communications
- ✓ NDS security & customer service enhancements
- ✓ New and renewed gas supply and pipeline agreements
- ✓ New development designs and utility infrastructure construction
- ✓ New studies initiated including Cost of Service, Integrated Resource Plan
- ✓ Payoff of WEC 1 bonds
- ✓ PCC operations and environmental compliance
- ✓ PPGA Operating leadership
- ✓ Warehouse organizational and operational improvements
- ✓ Water and sewer main breaks response and coordination
- ✓ WEC operations and environmental compliance
- ✓ WEC spring and fall outage maintenance results
- ✓ Wind storm outage response and coordination

I likely have unintentionally left off a few other successes, but please know that I and your leadership team very much appreciate all of you and your efforts on behalf of HU.

Have a Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays, and Happy/Safe New Year. I look forward to working with you all as our 'fiscal year' continues.

Kevin J

Kevin D Johnson

Manager, Utilities

Hastings, NE 68902-0289

Office: (402) 462-3690

Mobile: (402) 303-0687

kjohnson@hastingsutilities.com

"A team can accomplish so much more than individuals." – David Giertz