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:

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Board Secretary