CITY OF HASTINGS, NEBRASKA
MINUTES OF UTILITY BOARD REGULAR MEETING
Thursday, February 11, 2021

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 February 11, 2021.

ROLL CALL:

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 A.M. in Regular Session by Chairman Hitesman with the following members present: Bill Hitesman, Jeanette Dewalt, Mark Hemje. Absent: Shayne Raitt.

Other present: Manager of Utilities, Kevin Johnson; City Administrator, Dave Ptak; Finance Director, Roger Nash; Accounting Manager, Robin Ginn; Information Technology, Erik Nielsen, Superintendent of Water and Waterwater, Brandan Lubken; Director of Capital Management, Keith Leonhardt; Director of Administration, Derek Zeisler; Development Services Director, Lisa Parnell-Rowe; Mayor Stutte; Butch Eley, Shawn Hartmann.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Chairman Bill Hitesman led the group in recital of the Pledge of Allegiance of the United States of America.

MOTION TO ADOPT CURRENT AGENDA FOR FEBRUARY 11, 2021 REGULAR MEETING.

Moved by Jeanette Dewalt seconded by Mark Hemje to adopt current agenda for the February 11, 2021 Regular Meeting. Roll Call: Ayes: Bill Hitesman, Jeanette Dewalt, Mark Hemje. Nays: None. Absent: Shayne Raitt. The motion carried.

PUBLIC NOTICE - Official Notice of the Regular Meeting was published in the Hastings Tribune on Tuesday, FEBRUARY 9, 2021. 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:

Manager of Utilities Kevin Johnson talked on staying prepared during this cold weather. Remind everyone to stay safe and inside as much as you can.

BOARD CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS:

Chairman Hitesman expressed his appreciation and thanks of all who are out there to keep things going, because their safety is also a concern during this cold.

BOARD MEMBERS' COMMUNICATIONS:

None.

CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS:

None.

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. All Consent Items.

(a) Approval of the minutes of the Hastings Utility Board Meeting of JANUARY 14, 2021.

Moved by Mark Hemje seconded by Jeanette Dewalt to approve the minutes of the Hastings Utility Board Meeting of January 14, 2021. Roll Call: Ayes: Bill Hitesman, Jeanette Dewalt, Mark Hemje. Nays: None. Absent: Shayne Raitt. The motion carried.

REGULAR AGENDA:

2. Unfinished Business of Preceding Meeting.

None.

3. General Business.

(a) Finance

Roger Aspen, Director of Finance spoke briefly on the audit. Hasn't had a chance to look at it, but do have copies. Jeanette Dewalt asked if there will be a review of the audit for the board. Robin Ginn, said yes there will be.

(b) Production

(c) Operations

i. Water Services - City Code

Brandan Lubken, Superintendent of Water and Wastewater spoke on the language in the water code policy. He mentioned that the code is inconsistent and not specific enough. He referred to the presentation to explain what is wrong with the code and what he thinks should be changed. Conversation continued on about replacing all underground mains at some point and having a plan due to h stricter federal protocols all in due to old mains that are lead based.

ii. IRP Update

Keith Leonhardt and Derek Zeisler spoke on the IRP Study presentation presented to the board. Kevin Johnson mentioned the intent of this overview is to give the board an idea of what Utilities is diving into. He is hoping to target next month's meeting on an economic picture.

(d) Administration

(e) Other

i. Fisher Fountain

Lisa Parnell-Rowe spoke on comments about Fisher Fountain's drive-thru. It has been mentioned that some of the community thinks the drive-thru be removed while others want it to stay. There is no definitive answer either way for the drive-thru to stay or to remove. Lisa mentioned this topic may be worth exploring more. Kevin Johnson appreciated Lisa taking the lead on this and mentioned that this is not a decision for the board, but just wanted to bring it to their attention in case anyone approaches them.

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

Moved by Jeanette Dewalt seconded by Mark Hemje to go into closed session for reason of negotiations and personnel at 10:09 A.M. Roll Call: Ayes: Bill Hitesman, Jeanette Dewalt, Mark Hemje. Nays: None. Absent: Shayne Raitt.

Moved by Jeanette Dewalt seconded by Mark Hemje to come out of closed session at 10:49 A.M. Roll Call: Ayes: Bill Hitesman, Jeanette Dewalt, Mark Hemje. Nays: None. Absent: Shayne Raitt.

ADJOURN:

Moved by Jeanette Dewalt seconded by Mark Hemje there being no further business to adjourn at 10:49 A.M. Roll Call: Ayes: Bill Hitesman, Jeanette Dewalt, Mark Hemje. Nays: None. Absent: Shayne Raitt.

APPROVED:

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Board Secretary