CITY OF HASTINGS, NEBRASKA
MINUTES OF UTILITY BOARD REGULAR MEETING
Thursday, October 14, 2021

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a Regular Meeting of the Utility Board of Hastings, Nebraska was conducted Hastings Public Library, 314 N. Denver Avenue, on October 14, 2021.

ROLL CALL:

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. in Regular Session by Bill Hitesman with the following members present: Mark Hemje, Susan Meeske, Shayne Raitt, Kevin Johnson, Shawn Hartmann, Derek Ziesler, Lee Vroomman, Keith Leonhardt, Richard Klienhample, Eric Nelson, Karen Rennick, Corey Stutte, Dave Ptak, Lori Hartman, Clint Shukei, Roger Nash, Butch Ehly, Brandan Lubken, Bob Davis, Ed Fleharty, Doug Baumgart, Noel Nienhueser
Absent:Jeanette Dewalt

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

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

MOTION TO ADOPT CURRENT AGENDA FOR October 14, 2021 REGULAR MEETING.

Moved by Hemje and seconded by Meeske to adopt the current agenda for the September 8, 2021 Regular Meeting. Roll Call: Ayes: Hitesman, Meeske, Hemje, Raitt. Nays: None. Absent: Jeanette Dewalt The motion carried.

PUBLIC NOTICE - Official Notice of the Regular Meeting was published in the Hastings Tribune on Tuesday, October 12, 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 Hastings Library. Also, a current copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act is posted on the south wall of the Hastings Library, which is accessible to members of the public.

The official notice of the regular meeting was published in the Hastings Tribune on Tuesday, October 12, 2021. Pursuant to Nebraska Revised Statute 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 Hastings Library. Also, a current copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act is posted on the south wall of the Hastings Library, which is accessible to members of the public.

MANAGER'S COMMUNICATIONS:

The last agenda item for today is strategic plans overview by just the utility department leader group. Next month is to have the strategic plans by the support groups.
These are to include highlights, what's worked on, and what's planned.

BOARD CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS:

None

BOARD MEMBERS' COMMUNICATIONS:

None

CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS:

None

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. <u>All Consent Items.</u>

(a) Approval of the minutes of the Hastings Utility Board Meeting of September 9, 2021.

Meeske moved, Hemje 2nd.
Approved.

REGULAR AGENDA:

2. <u>Unfinished Business of Preceding Meeting.</u>

3. <u>General Business.</u>

(a) Finance

i. Cooling/Heating Degree days

The audit will be from December 13th through 15th. February 1st will be going live with the ERP.
Derek provided a presentation. There is no need for heating or cooling to be comfortable when the temperature is 65 degrees.
February add-ons are no longer being added to customers' bills.

(b) Production

i. Solar Farm Subscribed

Slide from strategic plan, phase 1 statistics.
A total of 73 customer accounts are enrolled. 11% commercial, 89% residential.
Customer participation-57% shares, 33% panels, 10% combination
Current capacity payt the solar farm is at 78%, pending agreement would make capacity at 96%

(c) Operations

(d) Administration

i. EE Turnover

Kevin discussed his slide.
Lori Hartman provided data that represents the slide.
The turnover rate is from September 2018 to September 2021.
2 deceased, 4 involuntary, 1 position eliminated, 9 resigned-new job, 4 resigned-performance, 28 retired, 13 transferred to city, 8 resigned-personal
Every time there is a turnover, they have to reevaluate and access the position before hiring or replacing.

(e) Other

i. Use of Economic Development Funds for Workforce Recruitment

Jeanette requested this be deferred until a full board is here at last month's meeting.
Kevin is asking for this to be deferred again until Jeanette returns at the next meeting.
Derek went over the amended agreement.
Bill: Contract needs to be updated. How are we going to replenish the funds that are taken out?
What will the $50,000 be used for? More explanation about how it will be used. Would like Michael to come in and explain how it will be used.
Table for next month, would like all board members to be present to vote.

ii. Strategic Plans Update

Superintendents discussed their slide presentations.
Bob - Safety
Keith - Capital Management
Derek - Solar Farm
Richard - WEC (Whelan Energy Center)
Noel - Substations
Doug - Electric
Ed - Gas

Brandan - Water/Sewer

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

Moved by Mark Hemje seconded by Susan Meeske to go into closed session. Went into closed session at 10:30 am. Roll Call: Ayes: Bill Hitesman, Mark Hemje, Shayne Raitt, Susan Meeske. Nays: None. Absent: Jeanette Dewalt
Moved by Mark Hemje seconded by Susan Meeske to come out of closed session. Closed at 11:04 am. Roll Call: Ayes: Bill Hitesman, Mark Hemje, Shayne Raitt, Susan Meeske. Nays: None. Absent: Jeanette Dewalt
Motioned carried.

ADJOURN:

Moved by Susan Meeske seconded by Mark Hemje there being no further business to adjourn at 11:05 am. Roll Call: Ayes: Bill Hitesman, Mark Hemje, Susan Meeske, Shayne Raitt. Nays: None. Absent: Jeanette Dewalt. The motion carried.

APPROVED:

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Board Secretary