CITY OF HASTINGS, NEBRASKA
MINUTES OF UTILITY BOARD REGULAR MEETING
Thursday, March 10, 2022

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a Regular Meeting of the Utility Board of Hastings, Nebraska was conducted in the Council Chambers - City Hall Building, 220 North Hastings Avenue, on March 10, 2022.

ROLL CALL:

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. in Regular Session by Bill Hitesman with the following members present: Jeanette Dewalt, Mark Hemje, Susan Meeske, Shayne Raitt, Kevin Johnson, Butch Eley, Robin Ginn, Derek Zeisler, Jaci Higgins, Lee Vrooman, Dave Ptak, Lori Hartman, Keith Leonhardt, Clint Schukei, Erik Neilson, Shawn Hartmann, and Roger Nash.

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 March 10, 2022 REGULAR MEETING.

Moved by Dewalt and seconded by Raitt to adopt the current agenda for the March 10, 2022 Regular Meeting. Roll Call: Ayes: Hitesman, Dewalt, Meeske, Hemje, Raitt. Nays: None. The motion carried.

PUBLIC NOTICE - Official Notice of the Regular Meeting was published in the Hastings Tribune on Tuesday, March 8, 2022. 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:

Mother Nature is a fiscal one.

BOARD CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS:

None.

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 February 10, 2022.

Hemje moved, Meeske 2nd. Roll Call: Ayes: Bill Hitesman, Jeanette Dewalt, Mark Hemje, Susan Meeske, Shayne Raitt. Nays: None.
Approved.

REGULAR AGENDA:

2. Unfinished Business of Preceding Meeting.

3. General Business.

(a) Finance

i. Fiscal Year 20-21 Audit Report

Marci Luth from AMGL was introduced by Roger Nash and began the presentation on the audit report.
Questions? No
Marci touched on the letter that is required to communicate with the board.
Questions?
Kevin: On depreciation value (3rd item), was that a system? Yes, it has always been tracked the way we are currently tracking. Marci and Roger to look into moving forward.
Jeanette: First two items. Does either of those cause you any grief? No, we are doing our thing. Work in progress. The second item is more of a transitional thing. Can be fixed moving forward. Roger: We do have a payroll account set up in Munis to allocate this correctly. Bill: Nothing is in a critical condition. Kevin: We have the payroll module starting up soon.

ii. Fiscal Year-End 20-21 Q4 Summary Report

Kevin presented a PowerPoint on this. He highlighted more on the bullet points for this.
We were going to go over Q1, but there were some more things that we wanted to go over. We will discuss this at the next meeting.
Qeustions?

Bill: When we purchase gas, how long are we locked in to our rate? Derek: We buy gas consistently throughout the year. Once it is purchased, we own it. There only have so many places to store it. Timing of how much gas is purchased. Bill: When do we need to renew our agreement? Derek: Agreements continue to roll. Butch: Are we charging to pay our bill online? Derek: No, we have eliminated that charge.
Robin: We did issue a lot of refunds for the charge of paying online. Kevin: There are multiple ways to pay the bill and there are no fees. There a atleast five notifications before services are shut off.
Roger: It will be a few months down the road before we know hoe Munis is working.

(b) Production

i. Update on WEC leadership interim planning

Keith and Kevin have been handling this. Kevin has asked Derek Zeisler to step in as an administrative part of this. Keith will continue oversight of the technical aspects. The deadline has been shifted, which gives us more time to figure out what we are gonna do. Reevaluating the leadership roll more towards the budget season.

(c) Operations

i. Water Department City Code Change

Kevin and Lee are stepping in for Brandon as he is absent. We are going to handle the lead services and customers will be responsible for the nonlead services.
Clint: Will not be able to figure out who is responsible for the services until the pipe is dug up and the leak is found to determine who is responsible.
Mark: Current property line, day one of new code is where the line is? Creating more confusion if the issue is across the street, but is the other customer responsible for it?
Kevin: New lines can be fixed in segments instead of the entire line.
Voted to move to the council was initiated by Dewalt, second by Meesek. Yays: Histesman, Dewalt, Meeske. Nays: Hemje. Absent: Raitt.

ii. Water Department Staff additions for boring group.

Jeanette appreciated the analytics being done and sent over for more description of what is going on.
Move to council: Initiate by Meeske, second by Hemje. Yays: Hitesman, Dewalt, Meeske, Hemje. Nays: None. Absent: Raitt.

(d) Administration

i. Energy Supply Staff Addition

Derek and Erik will be coming to you next month for another IT person. They are in the process of dividing and separating Jake's roll. Adding a head count to the utilities side and replacing it on the city side.
Erik: Jake has been covering the utilities and nerd compliance. Watching videos and making sure doors are locked properly. AMI front and other operations, working with the control room.
Dave Ptak: make it a little simpler. IT direction isn't going to change. This position is going to control.
Dewalt: Total head count for IT. Erik: City side to remain at 11.
Derek: We have had a benefit of being a small utility company for years.
Kevin: Will come back to the Utility Board for a recommendation in April.
Meeske: Helpful to have the compliance

(e) Other

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

ADJOURN:

Moved by Dewalt seconded by Meeske there being no further business to adjourn at 10:19 am. Roll Call: Ayes: Bill Hitesman, Jeanette Dewalt Mark Hemje, Susan Meeske. Nays: None. Absent: Shayne Raitt. Meeting Adjourned.

APPROVED:

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Board Secretary