

CITY OF HASTINGS, NEBRASKA
MINUTES OF UTILITY BOARD REGULAR MEETING
Thursday, May 12, 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 May 12, 2022.

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, Susan Meeske. Absent: Shayne Raitt.

Also in attendance: Corey Stutte, Kevin Johnson, Shawn Hartmann, Brandan Lubken, Keith Leonhardt, Robin Ginn, Lori Hartman, Derek Zeisler, and Roger Nash.

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 May 12, 2022 REGULAR MEETING.

Moved by Jeanette Dewalt and seconded by Susan Meeske to adopt the current agenda for May 12, 2022. Roll Call: Ayes: Bill Hitesman, Jeanette Dewalt, Mark Hemje, Susan Meeske. Nays: None. Absent: Shayne Raitt.

PUBLIC NOTICE - Official Notice of the Regular Meeting was published in the Hastings Tribune on Tuesday, May 10, 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:

None

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 April 14, 2022.

Moved by Jeanette Dewalt and seconded by Mark Hemje to approve the minutes from the meeting on April 14, 2022. Ayes: Bill Hitesman, Jeanette Dewalt, Mark Hemje, Susan Meeske. Nays: None. Absent: Shayne Raitt.

REGULAR AGENDA:

2. Unfinished Business of Preceding Meeting.

3. General Business.

- (a) Finance

- i. Budget Planning & Schedule

Roger and Robin to remind us of the budget schedule.

Roger- the schedule will be similar to last year's. The Utility Board will review the budget at the August meeting.

Cost of service recommendations will be in June.

Robin- Finishing the March financials next week. Getting out budget sheets so everyone can get started on their projections and budget process.

- (b) Production

- i. WEC Spring Outage Updates

Derek gave updates on the WEC spring outages. Both outages went very well. Unit 2 finished last night. Mainly cleaning and inspecting. The market looks to be turning after tomorrow. Unit 1 was longer went almost the whole month of April. There was more build up than usual. We were able to get a company in to vibrate the ashes and help them clean better. Control valve issues after this were brought up, but have been successful ever since the repairs.

(c) Operations

i. Water Code Changes, Updated

Clarify misconceptions and modifying proposals and recommendations.

Brandan - adjusting the code and moving away from shared materials with lead. Lead replacement program. Shared liability is about 30 per year. Abandoning that shared liability. A very small percentage of water line is under the street. We are willing to keep the shared liability portion to help keep things fair when it comes to the price of paying. Recommend the curb stop. Really want to get the lead liability language in code.

Bill: is that a disclosure that has to be given when a home is purchased? No, as far as he knows, that has never been disclosed.

Jeanette: Do you know what the budget is? It was around \$75,000 a year. Last year, it was upped to \$100,000.

Mark: Do you guys find or dig up the water stops on the property line? If the stop is actually on the property side, who takes care of that? The line of demarcation is the property line under the current code. If the line is on our side, we will pay for it, if the line is on their side, they will pay for it.

Kevin: Let's remember that this is not utility money. If one customer does not pay for this, all the other customers will pay for it.

(d) Administration

i. Central Plains Energy Project #5

Derek presents a slide show.

Currently, there are 3 active CPEP projects with Hastings purchasing gas from CPEP #2 and CPEP #4.

CPEP #2 accounts for roughly 32% of our yearly gas purchases.

CPEP #4 would account for roughly 23% of our yearly gas purchases.

CPEP #5 would account for roughly 8% of our yearly gas purchases.

We pay monthly for the gas we use. Volumes vary from month to month as needed.

Saved over \$140,000 last fiscal year.

Jeanette: Our current #2 and #4, do they have expirations coming up? Yes, potential to end the agreement.

Bill: Have we locked in a new contract or are we going to do that? This is asking for a recommendation to take to the city council.

(e) Other

i. APPA National Conference June 13-15 in Nashville, Board Member attendance option.

In the last few years, it has been done online because of covid. We put in the budget for 1 or 2 board members to attend. The deadline to sign up is 5/13/22 if you would like to attend.

This session is from Friday to the following Wednesday.
Primarily public power and electricity.

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

ADJOURN:

Moved by Susan Meeske seconded by Mark Hemje there being no further business to adjourn at 9:27 am. Roll Call: Ayes: Bill Hitesman, Jeanette Dewalt, Mark Hemje, Susan Meeske. Nays: None. Absent: Shayne Raitt. Meeting Adjourned.

APPROVED:

Board Secretary