

CITY OF HASTINGS, NEBRASKA
MINUTES OF UTILITY BOARD REGULAR MEETING
Thursday, July 14, 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 July 14, 2022.

ROLL CALL:

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 am by Bill Hitesman with the following members present: Bill Hitesman, Jeanette Dewalt, Susan Meeske, Mark Hemje Absent: Shayne Raitt. Erik Nielsen, Brian Strom, Butch Eley, Kevin Johnson, Robinn Ginn, Lori Hartman, Brandon Lubkin, Clint Schukei, Corey Stutte, Roger Nash and guest speaker John Krajewski. Absent: Shawn Hartmann, Lee Vrooman, Keith Leonhardt, and Derek Zeisler.

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 July 14, 2022 REGULAR MEETING.

Moved by Dewalt and seconded by Meeske to adopt the current agenda for the July 14, 2022 Regular Meeting. Roll Call: Ayes: Hitesman, Dewalt, Meeske, Hemje. Nays: None. Absent: Raitt. The motion carried.

PUBLIC NOTICE - Official Notice of the Regular Meeting was published in the Hastings Tribune on Tuesday, July 12, 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:

AC season and Budget season.

BOARD CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS:

Thank you to the Utilities Company for the opportunity to go to the conference in Nashville. Dewalt went to conference as well, conferences were full of great information.

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 June 9, 2022.

Moved by Hemje and seconded by Meeske to approve the minutes for the June 9, 2022 meeting.. Roll Call: Ayes: Hitesman, Dewalt, Meeske, Hemje. Nays: None. Absent: Raitt. Minutes approved.

REGULAR AGENDA:

2. Unfinished Business of Preceding Meeting.

3. General Business.

- (a) Finance

i. Cost of Service; Water/Wastewater

Guest Speaker John Krajewski presented a slide show on Cost of Service.

-Haven't done a study on water or wastewater since 2013.

Kevin: We are not looking for a recommendation today. We will get deeper into budgets.

Questions on Water?

Hitesman: Is the 5% each year from 2022 to 2026? Yes.

Hemje: What percent is the capital? Half and half

Meeske: Will this be on the customer's bill? Yes. Is this typical for other towns? The higher end of what I have seen.

Dewalt: Historical reasons for what increases have been over the years for different departments.

Hitesman: Does this help build the reserve? Reserves will be fine

Eley: 20% over 4 years. Kevin: This is not paying for people, it's not paying for benefits. Only pay for labor and equipment associated to replacing old infrastructure. Haven't had a rate increase for water in four years.

Kevin: ARPA, Hastings Utilities needs to be in a cost of study program every 3 to 5 years, not every 10 years.

Corey: projections, reduced cost, was around 11% at one time.

Dewalt: recommend three years for the council. making sure the consumer understands the cost is \$1 and some change a month, not \$100.

Meeske: making sure the consumers understand this is for health reasons also.
Hitesman: Grants? Budget stand point.
Questions on sewer?
Brian Strom does have a copy of the rate increases from the past.

ii. Budget Reviews-Tentative Schedule

Roger: There has been a change in deadlines for the state. Not going to change what we need to do, we need to stay on the same timeline.

11th of August for UB Meeting. Would we be able to have any one on one sessions before the next meeting? Robin stated that she has some of the things done. Can we have the packet ready by the first week of August? Yes. Send emails with dates when it is ready for one on one.

(b) Production

(c) Operations

(d) Administration

(e) Other

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

ADJOURN:

Moved by Meeske seconded by Hemje there being no further business to adjourn at 9:43 am.
Roll Call: Ayes: Jeanette Dewalt, Mark Hemje, Susan Meeske Nays: None. Absent: Bill Hitesman, Shayne Raitt. Meeting Adjourned.

APPROVED:

Board Secretary