CITY OF HASTINGS, NEBRASKA
MINUTES OF UTILITY BOARD REGULAR MEETING
Thursday, May 9, 2024

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a Regular Meeting of the Utility Board of Hastings, Nebraska was conducted Airport Conference Room - Hastings Municipal Airport - 3300 W. 12th Street, on May 9, 2024.

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, Scott Snell. Derek Zeisler, Shawn Hartmann, Butch Eley, Micah McCaffery, Brandan Lubken, Larry Fox, Lori Hartman, Shawn Metcalf, Jeese Oswald, Mark Funkey, Erik Nielsen, Tony Herrman, Lee Vrooman, Noel Nienhueser, Karl Block, Keith Leonhardt, Roger Nash, Jaci Higgins
Absent: Coret Stutte, Kevin Johnson

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 May, 9 2024 REGULAR MEETING.

Moved by Meeske and seconded by Dewalt to adopt the current agenda for the May 9, 2024, regular meeting. Roll Call: Ayes: Hitesman, Dewalt, Hemje, Meeske, Snell. Nays: None. Absent: None. The motion carried.

PUBLIC NOTICE - Official Notice of the Regular Meeting was published in the Hastings Tribune on Tuesday, May 7, 2024. 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 Conference Room. Also, a current copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act is posted on the south wall of the Airport Conference Room, 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. <u>All Consent Items.</u>

(a) Approval of the minutes of the Hastings Utility Board Meeting of April 11, 2024.

Hemje moved, Meeske second. Roll Call: Ayes: Hitesman, Dewalt, Hemje, Meeske, Snell. Nays: None. Absent: None.
Approved.

REGULAR AGENDA:

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

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

(a) Finance

i. Financial Update

Larry Fox discusses the updates they have.

(b) Production

i. Spring Outage Update

Micah is to discuss the outages and everything that has been going on since last month.
Outage Update
* NDS 4 and 5
 -Completed control systems update.
 -Both units have been tested and tuned.
 -Put into reliability status on April 30th.
 -Called up for operation on Tuesday, May 7th.
* WEC 1
 -Completed the new byproduct collection system.
 -Outage ended on May 6th.
 -Self committed to the market and online May 6th.
* WEC 2
 -Outage maintenance items were completed.
 -Placed into market status on May 3rd and is currently available to be called up.

(c) Operations

i. New Gas Main Cost Capture

Brandan discusses the Gas Main Cost Capture.
Gas Main Cost Capture in New Developments
- Current challenges in natural gas market have us focused on status quo (operations, cost capture, PILOT, Res 1344 etc.)
- Last year's rate study recommended 5 years of increase at 6.3% per year, current ordinance is for 3 years.
- Who should pay for gas mains in new developments?
  Existing Customers Developers
- Opinions of the Board? Extension Districts are voted on by Council individually so no need for another vote/recommendation.

(d) Administration

i. Resolution 1344

Roger to explain Resolution 1344.
Was put in place in 1991. A few things that have changed are that it was originally gas, water, and sewer. The sewer has dropped off. The best thing that we have determined was to repeal Resolution 1344 and then create a new resolution. This new Resolution points out the things that were in the original resolution and the cleanup of the language. Cleans up a resolution that wasn't being followed and outdated language, so it is fair for everyone. This resolution does not change any of the financial now.

ii. HR Update

Lori discusses the hiring process for Utility Manager. This was posted for 30 days and there is a matrix that is used to limit it. There were 16 applicants and then there were 3 finalists that were interviewed.
She also discusses the comparability study, and how we are doing that. We do a complete comparability study every 3 years.

(e) Other

(i.) Mayor's appointment of Utility Manager

Hastings received a reliability award. Should we have a presentation on that? What was involved and who was involved? Derek will take that as an action item and have that on the next months agenda.
Derek Zeisler was the candidate who stood out the most out of the interviews. Would like a motion to recommend to move to the city council for Derek Zeisler for Utility Manager.
Moved by Dewalt and seconded by Snell. Roll Call: Ayes: Hitesman, Dewalt, Hemje, Meeske, Snell. Nays: None. Approved.

4. <u>Possible Closed Session (if necessary or requested).</u>

ADJOURN:

Moved by Meeske seconded by Hemje there being no further business to adjourn at 9:42 am. Roll Call: Ayes: Bill Hitesman, Jeanette Dewalt, Mark Hemje, Susan Meeske, Scott Snell. Nays: None. Absent: None. Meeting Adjourned.

APPROVED:

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Board Secretary