

CITY OF HASTINGS, NEBRASKA
MINUTES OF UTILITY BOARD REGULAR MEETING
Thursday, August 14, 2025

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 August 14, 2025.

ROLL CALL:

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 am by Bill Hitesman with the following members present: Mark Hemje, Susan Meeske, Scott Kvals
Derek Zeisler, Erik Nielsen, Tony Herrman, Larry Fox, Karl Block, Lee Vrooman, Noel Nienhueser, Brandan Lubkin, Roger Nash, Steve Huntley, Larry Consbruck, Jaci Higgins, Kyle Patten, Shane Stone, Jason Redding, Lori Hartman, Micah McCaffery, Jesse Oswald
Absent: Jeanette Dewalt, Jay Beckby, Mark Funkey

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 August 14, 2025 REGULAR MEETING.

Recommended to move the the Utility Budget approval to after the City Dividend Ordance.

Approved

Moved by Kvals and seconded by Hemje to adopt the current agenda for the August 14, 2025 Regular Meeting. Roll Call: Ayes: Hitesman, Hemje, Meeske, Kvals. Nays: None. Absent: Dewalt The motion carried.

PUBLIC NOTICE - Official Notice of the Regular Meeting was published in the Hastings Tribune on Tuesday, August 12, 2025. 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:

Want to remind everyone that if you need help with bills, contact customer service.
Thank you to all staff. Appreciate board and everyone
Today is Mark's last day as a board member. Thank you for everything that you have brought.

BOARD CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS:

Appricaiite Mark's time and everything that he has brought.

BOARD MEMBERS' COMMUNICATIONS:

Mark thanks everyone for the opportunity. Glad he could helped where he could.

CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS:

Willis Hunt speaks about his thoughts on the budget. He also thinks that we need a new industrial park.

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. All Consent Items.

- (a) Approval of the minutes of the Hastings Utility Board Meeting of July 24, 2025.

Moved by Hemje and seconded by Meeske to approve the minutes for the meeting of July 24, 2025. Roll Call: Ayes: Hitesman, Hemje, Meeske, Kvolts. Nays: None. Absent: Dewalt. Approved.

REGULAR AGENDA:

2. Unfinished Business of Preceding Meeting.

3. General Business.

- (a) Finance

i. Fee Schedule Changes

Jaci and Kyle go over the Fee Schedule Changes.

- Disconnect Fee - Current Fee: \$75 - Proposed Fee: \$50

- Pedestal Installation (Underground Conversion) - Current Fee: \$600 - Proposed Fee: \$1000

- Pedestal Installation (Single Phase to 3-Phase Conversion) - Current Fee: \$350 - Proposed Fee \$750

- Water Tap prices will change slightly, but will be billed at actual costs (Time and Material)

These changes are not to make money, they are to cover the cost of labor and material. These are the only ones that we are requesting changes for. There are many that are not changing at all.

Kvolts motions to approve this to be moved on to City Council. Second by Meeske. Roll Call. Ayes: Hitesman, Hemje, Meeske, Kvolts. Nays: None. Absent: Dewalt
Approved.

ii. Utility Budget Update

Larry to go over the changes on the budget before it is approved to go to City Council.

iii. Utility Budget Approval

Motion to approve the 2025/2026 fiscal year budget to move to City Council.
Request for recommendation for approval of the 25/26 Utilities Budget.
The recommendation to approve moving on to City Council was moved by Kvolts and seconded by Meeske. Roll Call Ayes: Hitesman, Hemje, Meeske, Kvolts. Nays: None. Absent: Dewalt

(b) Production

(c) Operations

i. Line Extension Ordinance

Kyle and Jaci go over the Line Extension Policy (Electric)
- JK Energy Consulting performed analysis.
- Recommended developer contribution defined by category.
1. Residential - 25% of estimated project cost as Developer contribution
2. General Service (All Non-Residential except Irrigation and Large Light and Power) - 2-year estimated revenue credit as Hastings Utilities contribution.
3. Irrigation - \$74 per horsepower as Hastings Utilities contribution
4. Large Light and Power (>1,000 kW Annual Peak Demand) _ Open-ended with required agreement to keep all options at City Council's discretion after situational analysis results.
Asking for a recommendation for this to move to City Council.
Hemje motions to approve Ordinance 4774 to be moved on to City Council. Second by Kvolts. Roll Call. Ayes: Hitesman, Hemje, Meeske, Kvolts. Nays: None. Absent: Dewalt Approved.

ii. City Dividend Ordinance

Jaci and Kyle go over the Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) moving over to the dividend fee.
- Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT)
- Move to dividend fee
- Has been removed from utility revenue and expense
- PILOT Expense line has been decreased to zero, while the operating revenue has been decreased by the same amount.
- Electric, Gas, and Water rate ordinances have been updated with the PILOT percentage approved.
Hemje motions to approve Ordinance 4742 & 4743 to be moved on to City Council. Second by Kvolts. Roll Call. Ayes: Hitesman, Hemje, Meeske, Kvolts. Nays: None. Absent: Dewalt Approved.

(d) Administration

i. Utility Billing Status Update

Karl gives an update on the Utility Billing. He thanks everyone for being patient and understanding after we have changed systems. We have had a few hiccups, but we have been working through those issues.

(e) Other

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

ADJOURN:

Motioned to adjourn by Meeske, seconded by Hemje. Roll Call: Ayes: Hitesman, Hemje, Meeske, Kvals. Nays: None. Absent: Dewalt. Adjourned at 9:53 am.

APPROVED:

Board Secretary