

Board of Public Works
Regular Meeting
January 10, 2023

A regular meeting of the Board of Public Works was convened in open and public session at 5:03 p.m. on January 10, 2023, at the City Council Chambers, 223 S Chestnut St. Board members Porter, Evertson, Cederburg and Fossand were in attendance. Absent: Brown. Also attending were Electric Superintendent Bill Hinton, Electric Lineman Taylor Brown, WWTP Supervisor Blake Wagner, WWTP Operator AJ Roberts, Landfill Superintendent Jim Schulte, Water Operator Casey Hottell, City Administrator Annette Brower, City Clerk Kim Barnwell, and City Treasurer Jean Klassen. The public was represented.

Notice of the meeting was given in advance by publication in the Western Nebraska Observer. Notice of the meeting was given to the members and a copy of their acknowledgement of receipt of notice and the agenda is on record at the office of the City Clerk. Availability of the agenda was communicated in advance notice and in the notice to the members. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public. Chairperson Porter called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m. and acknowledged the posted Open Meetings Act poster.

Porter requested a motion to approve an unexcused absence of BPW member Brown. Motion by Cederburg and seconded by Evertson to approve an unexcused absence of BPW member Brown. The following votes were recorded. Aye: Fossand, Cederburg, Porter, and Evertson. Nay: None. Absent: Brown None. Motion passed.

Motion by Evertson and seconded by Fossand to approve the consent agenda items as presented including minutes for December 16, 2022. The following votes were recorded. Aye: Fossand, Cederburg, Porter, and Evertson. Nay: None. Absent: Brown None. Motion passed.

Porter opened discussion on agenda item request from Gerald Brown on rates and dumping at the Sewage Plant. Mr. Brown stated that he was bidding on a Missile project and had received it in the past and would like to discuss being allowed to dump at the sewage plant with a key as he had been allowed in the past. He said that it is not feasible for him to continue dumping at stations out of town and would like to allow Kimball the opportunity to receive the funds which could be up to \$12,000 for this one contract. Mr. Brown said that with the policy as it is now, he is limited to the hours he can dump and access the sewage plant. He stated that he is willing to pay a deposit and sign a liability waiver if needed. Porter then stated that with the upcoming renovation of the WWTP that he didn't think this was a possibility. Porter also stated that the WWPT crew are more readily available now than in the past for afterhours, weekend, and holiday dumping. City Administrator Brower stated that she would contact the City. She told the board that she would email them after her discussion with the City Attorney.

Porter opened discussion on the Design Build Bid package from EEC. Michael Mansour and Tyler Swaney were present. Mr. Mansour stated that they were preparing the bid documents for the building and installation of the four generators. He stated that once the bid process begins, the process will take approximately two months. Mr. Swaney added that if there were any questions or concerns, to please reach out to EEC.

Porter opened discussion and approval on the Electric Department purchase of a 2006 Genie Telehandler, retreading all four tires and a spare. Electric Lineman Brown stated since the pandemic that shipping of large pieces/equipment/wire, etc. has changed and that the telehandler would accommodate them in being able to unload the trucks when needed, in a timely manner and move and relocate parts/equipment/wire, etc. as needed. He also stated that other departments would be able to use it as well. After discussion, motion by Cederburg and seconded by Evertson to approve the purchase of the 2006 Genie Telehandler, Retread of all four tires and a spare. The following votes were recorded. Aye: Fossand, Cederburg, Porter, and Evertson. Nay: None. Absent: Brown. Motion passed.

Porter opened for NMPP Rates Studies. Andrew Ross was present and spoke to the board. He presented the rate studies to the board with another option. He stated that it was imperative for the Water and Sewer rates to be increased because there had not been any type of increase since 2019. The Electric rates were fine, and no rate increase was needed at this time. He was asking for direction from the board as to what option they wanted him to finalize and present to the BPW & City Council. After discussion, the board agreed to have Andrew Ross research increasing the user fee, which was the base rate and the usage fee for the Water and Sewer rates instead of opting for borrowing from the Electric Department.

Porter opened the floor for Superintendent updates.

Electric Superintendent Hinton updated that the hospital has been energized; electric crew is working with the Dollar General Farmhouse Market to prepare for power; the school is on hold while they wait to hear back on a schedule; they are working on service upgrades and stated that materials are getting harder to get.

Landfill Superintendent Schulte updated that the new trailer was picked up; the overhead door spring on the southeast door broke at the Landfill and the spring has been ordered; heater blower motor at the recycle building had to be replaced; forty feet of copper water line in the recycle building had to be replaced due to extreme cold weather and the drain sump at the recycle building had to have a new cover built.

WWTP Supervisor Wagner updated the December discharge was where it needed to be; the grinder is being replaced and they are busy with inside maintenance as well.

Water Operator Hottell updated that the North well is back in the ground; the VFD went into default and was waiting on repairs and there was a water leak on Locust Street the previous weekend that has been repaired.

City Administrator Brower updated that the Family Dollar/Dollar Tree opened on Saturday; the Dollar General Market wants to open the end of February; the generators for the power plant will be stored at the Clean Harbors East site until ready for. She also stated that she had been working with the development staff who were conducting multiple studies and looking forward to good things happening in the future and the subdivision was moving forward.

Next regular meeting will be February 14, 2023, at 5:00 p.m. There being no further business, Cederburg moved and seconded by Fossand to adjourn the meeting at 6:59 p.m. The following votes were recorded. Aye: Fossand, Cederburg, Porter, and Evertson. Nay: None. Absent: Brown None. Motion passed.

Sonny Porter, Chairperson

Kim Barnwell, City Clerk