

Board of Public Works
Regular Meeting
November 10, 2020

A regular meeting of the Board of Public Works was convened in open and public session at 4:15 p.m. on November 10, 2020 in the City Council Chambers. Board members Porter, Fossand, Evertson, Coleman and Brown were in attendance. Also attending were Water Superintendent Sisk, Wastewater Treatment Superintendent Quicke, Landfill Superintendent Schulte, Power Plant Superintendent Terrill, City Treasurer Brower and City Clerk Terrill. 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 4:15 p.m. and acknowledged the posted Open Meetings Act poster. The following votes were recorded on the electronic voting board. Aye: Fossand, Brown, Coleman, Evertson and Porter. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion passed.

The Board of Public Works reviewed the following items under the consent agenda: (1) Minutes from the regular meeting of October 27, 2020; (2) Claims; (3) Treasurer's Report from October 2020; and (4) Financial Reports from October 2020. Evertson moved and seconded by Coleman to approve the consent agenda as presented in the packet. The following votes were recorded on the electronic voting board. Aye: Fossand, Brown, Coleman, Evertson and Porter. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion passed.

Porter opened discussion to receive an update on the Rate Study from Andrew Ross. Ross attended the meeting virtually. Ross updated the Board members on the electrical rates pointing out that rates do not need to be increased. Ross pointed out that there is a little more than \$8,000,000 invested in the electrical distribution system that because of the age and depreciation the City needs to reinvest into the system. Ross pointed out the cash balance of \$4,000,000 and advised the Board that this is the time to upgrade any outdated equipment.

Ross updated the Board on the sewer and water rate studies. Ross pointed out that the cash reserve for sewer should be around \$200,000 and \$300,000 for water. He went on to say that both sewer and water are well below the cash reserve needed for each department. Ross pointed out that both utilities are in need of a rate increase but also added that it is not unusual for electric departments to loan money to other utility departments for capital improvements when needed. Discussion held on not increasing rates right now due to COVID. Will put on future agenda for further discussion.

Porter opened discussion on the updates from Superintendents.

Water Superintendent Sisk advised the Board that the VFD project is still underway. The first two have been installed. Third is being installed now. Took samples today should know tomorrow what results are. There was a minor issue with the first one, it was wired wrong and that caused an issue but that has been taken care of.

Landfill Superintendent Schulte advised the trash truck needed four new tires and had to repair the hydraulic line. He said that they are using the old trash truck to haul grass. Landfill will be closed on the 17th for training.

Wastewater Treatment Plant Superintendent Quicke advised they have been reading meters and doing maintenance at the plant.

Power plant Superintendent Terrill advised new radiator is installed and has no leaks, just needs to be painted. Having issues with the boiler and Johnson Controls are replacing the sensors. Will run engines 3 & 4 Monday.

Next regular meeting will be December 8, 2020 at 4:15 p.m. There being no further business, Coleman moved and seconded by Evertson to adjourn the meeting at 5:17 p.m. The following votes were recorded on the electronic voting board. Aye: Fossand, Brown, Coleman, Evertson and Porter. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion passed.

Chairperson

City Clerk