

Board of Public Works  
Regular Meeting (rescheduled)  
October 18, 2021

A regular meeting of the Board of Public Works was convened in open and public session at 5:00 p.m. on October 18, 2021, in the City Council Chambers 223 S Chestnut St. Board members Porter, Evertson, Coleman, and Fossand were in attendance. Absent: Brown. Also attending were Wastewater Treatment Operator Wagner, Interim Admin./Electric Superintendent Hinton, Water Department Operator Casey Hottell, Landfill Superintendent Schulte, Deputy Treasurer/Utility Office Manager Jean Klassen, and City Clerk/Treasurer Brower. 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 5:08 p.m. and acknowledged the posted Open Meetings Act poster.

Motion by Fossand and seconded by Coleman to untable the consent agenda items for August 2021. Motion by Evertson and seconded by Coleman to approve the consent agenda items as presented for August 2021. The following votes were recorded on the electronic voting board. Aye: Coleman, Evertson, Fossand and Porter. Nay: None. Absent: Brown. Motion passed.

Motion by Evertson and seconded by Fossand to approve the consent agenda items as presented for September 2021. The following votes were recorded on the electronic voting board. Aye: Coleman, Evertson, Fossand and Porter. Nay: None. Absent: Brown. Motion passed.

Discussion held on considering a recommendation of approval to Council to conduct an engineer study on the wastewater treatment plant for future capacity and necessary upgrades. Study will take approximately three months to complete at the cost of \$30-40 thousand dollars; Treasurer Brower advised that this was budgeted into this fiscal year's expenses. Motion by Evertson and seconded by Fossand to recommend to Council approval for a WWTP engineering study. The following votes were recorded on the electronic voting board. Aye: Coleman, Evertson, Fossand and Porter. Nay: None. Absent: Brown. Motion passed.

Discussion held on 3-phase service request for 3775 W Highway 30, Dianne and Jim Pruet. Electric Superintendent advised that the Nebraska Department of Roads has been contacted regarding the boring needed under the highway as well as legal counsel regarding easements. Currently the department is waiting on approval from NDOT before they can proceed. Discussion only, no motions or decisions made.

Discussion held on legal response to questions regarding a waiver of liability for the wastewater treatment plant property. Clerk Brower advised the board that legal counsel did not support a waiver due to liability issues and to protect the City from issues as it pertains to permitting. After further discussions, no changes to current policy were made; Informational exchange only.

Discussion held on the recommendation to Council for approval on a purchase of an EZ-Screen trommel for the landfill at the cost of \$35,000. Treasurer Brower advised the board that each year \$15,000 is budgeted for the costs to rent a screener. However, last year the prices were raised quite considerably and the local landfill that was used in the past was no longer renting theirs due to damage issues. After discussions, Coleman moved and seconded by Evertson to approve the recommendation of approval to Council for the purchase of an EZ-Screen Trommel for the landfill. The following votes were recorded on the electronic voting board. Aye: Coleman, Evertson, Fossand and Porter. Nay: None. Absent: Brown. Motion passed.

Discussion held on the recommendation to Council for approval on a purchase of a generator for the water department for the North well. Discussion held on the necessity for the generator as an emergency power source for our water system in the event of a long-term outage. After discussions, Fossand moved and seconded by Coleman to approve the recommendation of approval to Council for the purchase of an emergency generator for the water department. The following votes were recorded on the electronic voting board. Aye: Coleman, Evertson, Fossand and Porter. Nay: None. Absent: Brown. Motion passed.

Discussion held on the approval of a bid from Johnson Sewer Services for a cleanout and camera sweep of the main system on the North side of town. Casey Hottell advised that the sewer lines would undergo a complete cleaning and a camera sweep would help to identify weaknesses in the system and any repairs that may be needed as most of the infrastructure in the area is old clay pipe. Motion by Evertson and seconded by Coleman to approve the Johnson Sewer Services sewer cleanout bid for the North side. The following votes were recorded on the electronic voting board. Aye: Coleman, Evertson, Fossand and Porter. Nay: None. Absent: Brown. Motion passed.

Discussion held on the power plant repair needs. Superintendent Hinton advised that the boiler is in need of replacement and initial costs are upwards of \$100,000. Hinton advised that they will need to either move quickly to replace the system before cold weather or that they boiler system will need to be completely drained so it does not freeze. Hinton went on to advise that they could still start the generation if needed but the draining of the boiler would cause a startup delay up to 3 hours. After discussion, the Board gave direction to Hinton to drain the boiler system and to inquire with companies on repair and/or replacement options for the next meeting.

Porter requested a motion to excuse the absence of board member Brown. Motion by Evertson and seconded by Fossand to not excuse Brown's absence. The following votes were recorded on the electronic voting board. Aye: Coleman, Evertson, Fossand and Porter. Nay: None. Absent: Brown. Motion passed.

Next regular meeting will be November 09, 2021, at 5:00 p.m. There being no further business, Evertson moved and seconded by Fossand to adjourn the meeting at 6:42 p.m. The following votes were recorded on the electronic voting board. Aye: Coleman, Evertson, Fossand and Porter. Nay: None. Absent: Brown. Motion passed.

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Sonny Porter, Chairperson

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Annette Brower, City Clerk