

Board of Public Works  
Regular Meeting  
October 11, 2022  
5:00 p.m.

A regular meeting of the Board of Public Works was convened in open and public session at 5:00 p.m. on October 11, 2022, at the City Council Chambers, 223 S Chestnut St. Board members Porter, Evertson, Coleman, Brown and Fossand were in attendance. Absent: None. Also attending were Electric Superintendent Bill Hinton, Landfill Superintendent Jim Schulte, WWTP Supervisor Blake Wagner, Water Operator Casey Hottell, City Administrator Annette Brower, 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 5:01 p.m. and acknowledged the posted Open Meetings Act poster.

Porter opened that the absence of Brown was excused, and no action was taken

Motion by Coleman and seconded by Fossand to approve the consent agenda items as presented including minutes for September 13, 2022 Regular Meeting and the October 4, 2022 Special Meeting. The following votes were recorded. Aye: Fossand, Coleman, Porter, Brown and Evertson. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion passed.

Porter opened discussion with Chuck Liston and Dale Gilbert of Cahoy Pump Service to discuss failure and repairs needed at the North water well. Cahoy presented their findings along with detailed reports, pictures and an analysis of what would be needed to repair and upgrade the pump station. After discussion, motion by Coleman and seconded by Brown to recommend to the City Council to go forward with necessary repairs to the North well conducted by Cahoy Pump in the amount of \$69,556.00. The following votes were recorded. Aye: Fossand, Coleman, Brown, Porter and Evertson. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion passed.

Porter opened discussion on the Ten-Year Master Plan proposal for the electric grid with Tyler Swaney of Exponential Engineering Co. Tyler advised the board of the benefits of having a master plan for the city electric, which has never been done prior, especially as we begin to experience growth to locate our upgrade needs, located deficiencies in the system and to pinpoint needs for future expansion. After discussion, motion by Brown and seconded by Evertson to approve the Ten-Year Master Plan study for electric in the amount not to exceed \$52,320.00. The following votes were recorded. Aye: Fossand, Coleman, Brown, Porter and Evertson. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion passed.

Porter opened discussion with Tyler of EEC regarding changes to the Design/Build/Bid package for the new power generation facility. City Engineer's suggestion is to consider a change to the build that would require a new breaker and two feeders of additional switchgear instead of trying to configure new breakers into antiquated systems. The change is estimated to add approximately \$200k to the bid package. After discussion, motion by Evertson and seconded by Fossand to approve and recommend to Council the changes to the power generation design/build/bid package at the suggestion of the City's Engineer. The following votes were recorded. Aye: Fossand, Coleman, Brown, Porter and Evertson. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion passed.

Porter opened discussion on the purchase of a 4<sup>th</sup> 2MW generator from PowerTech for the new generation plant for \$200,000 with a required 10% deposit to hold the generator. Tyler with EEC recommended the purchase, advised the board that the design of the new generation was being done with the consideration of a 4<sup>th</sup> generator. After cost studies conducted, it would be financially feasible to obtain the 4<sup>th</sup> generator which would allow for a higher amount of MEAN funding, thus helping pay down the debt much quicker. After discussion, motion by Coleman and seconded by Brown to approve and recommend to Council the purchase of a fourth 2MW generator per the suggestion of the City's Engineer. The following votes were recorded. Aye: Fossand, Coleman, Brown, Porter and Evertson. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion passed.

Porter opened discussion on the purchase of a trailer for hauling dumpsters for the Landfill. Two bids were presented on different trailers. After discussions, Fossand moved and seconded by Brown to approve the purchase of a trailer from Load Trail in the amount of \$10,810.01. The following votes were recorded. Aye: Fossand, Coleman, Brown, Porter and Evertson. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion passed.

Porter opened discussion on the purchase of a side-by-side for use at the Landfill. Discussion held on the Kubota and the John Deere options. After discussions, Brown moved and seconded by Evertson to approve the purchase of a side-by-side from Kabota in the amount of \$15,685.10 through Source Well. The following votes were recorded. Aye: Fossand, Coleman, Brown, Porter and Evertson. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion passed.

Porter opened the floor for Superintendent updates.

Landfill Superintendent Schulte updated that they are working on replacing old/aging hooks on the dumpsters, needing to order more. Working on adding more blue dumpsters for recycling, possibly using some of the rebuilt ones. New hire will be training on the truck next week.

WWTP Supervisor Wagner updated that all blowers are up and running. A complete diffuser membrane replacement has been completed. NDEE inspector was on site and did a walk-around of the WWTP while in town checking on the hospital progress, not an official visit.

Admin. Brower advised that the Water Department has been working on daily duties, meter reading and assisting the meter swap crews in town.

Electric Superintendent Hinton updated that the department was in the process of working with the hospital and getting the Mary Lynch and High School energized. Crew is still clearing out all of the steel and metal for recycling to clean out the yard in advance of the power generation building being built.

City Administrator updated that K-Tech and Olsson Engineering are moving fast on many projects. Work is moving on the Economic Impact Study to assist with state funding; upcoming fee schedules; Brower encouraged any local businesses to attend the next week's Government Contracting Conference next week in Scottsbluff hosted by the Nebraska PTAC where Northrop Grumman and multiple Air Force Bases will also be presenting. AMI meter installation continues, electric meters to begin installation on October 31.

Next regular meeting will be November 08, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. There being no further business, Evertson moved and seconded by Coleman to adjourn the meeting at 6:45 p.m. The following votes were recorded. Aye: Fossand, Coleman, Porter, Brown and Evertson. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion passed.

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Sonny Porter, Chairperson

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Annette Brower, Acting City Clerk