Board of Public Works
Regular Meeting
May 13, 2025

A regular meeting of the Board of Public Works was convened in open and public session at 5:00pm on May 13, 2025, at the City Council Chambers, 223 S Chestnut St. Board members Jack Shaw, Jim Cederburg, and Tim Carlson were in attendance. Also attending were Water Superintendent Craig Aragon, City Administrator Annette Brower, Electric Supervisor Bill Hinton, WWTP Supervisor Blake Wagner, and City Treasurer Jean Klassen. Members of the public were also present.

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 city 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 convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

Cederburg called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. On the roll call the following votes were recorded: Aye: Carlson, Cederburg, Shaw.

Cederburg acknowledged the posted Open Meetings Act.

Motion by Carlson, seconded by Shaw to excuse the absence of board members Tammy Land and Deb Evertson, who notified the board that they were unable to attend due to prior commitments. The following votes were recorded: Aye: Carlson, Cederburg, and Shaw. Nay: None. Absent: Land, and Evertson. Motion carried.

Motion by Carlson, seconded by Shaw to approve the consent agenda items as one which includes the minutes, bills, Treasurer's reports, and financial reports from the Board of Public Works meeting held on April 8, 2025. The following votes were recorded: Aye: Carlson, Cederburg, and Shaw. Nay: None. Absent: Land, and Evertson. Motion carried.

Doug Louden, Olson Engineering, provided an update on the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Louden reported that Hackel is on site and has been for the past two weeks. The bulk of excavation for the new building has been completed as well as demo. They will start pouring concrete for the channel and the basement and then start going up. The treatment plant is currently shut down as planned and the lagoons are doing their job.

Louden next presented and discussed the invoice for Hackel.

Motion by Carlson, seconded by Shaw to approve payment for Hackel invoice in the amount of $134,360.34. The following votes were recorded: Aye: Carlson, Cederburg, and Shaw. Nay: None. Absent: Land, and Evertson. Motion carried.

Brower and Shulte opened the discussion of a new trash tuck for FY 2025-2026. Shulte stated a year ago the cost was $256,000.00 and has only gone up. Discussion only, no action taken..

Cederburg opened a discussion on future electric rates in response to MEAN'S increase in wholesale prices. MEAN rates increased as of 4/1/25 and the city has been paying that difference, and it should be reviewed. The cost of MEAN energy charge on 3/31/25 was $0.08938, on 4/1/25 it went to $0.09771 which is a 9.32% increase. WAPA plus MEAN fixed demand was $32,855.22 on 3/31/25 and went to $37,218.22 on 4/1/25 which would be a 13.28% increase. These changes result in a $7.00 - $8.00 increase per month. Cederburg is presenting this as something to consider for the board and providing guidance for what to put into a resolution. Cederburg reiterated that currently the city is paying this increase. The board has asked staff to prepare a resolution for next month looking at a step in increasing rates or just a one-time increase. No action was taken.

Reports –

Landfill Supervisor Jim Schulte – Loader went down and had to fix the foot pedals. Transfer stations are permitted. Staff are running the older truck on Tuesdays for grass and recycling. Landfill was closed for one day for staff to attend training.

WWTP Supervisor Blake Wagner – Bypass looking at options. We received a new container last week, thank you to electric and water for the help.

Water Supervisor Craig Aragon – Stated that the larger meters that are not working property are being worked on at this time. Randy reviewed 150 hydrants, and the only issue was the one for bulk water. The sewer jet needs repairs and will need to take it to Denver and reach out to Bushnell to see, if necessary, could we use theirs.

Electric Supervisor – There are people are working on the Next Gen project, and it is moving quickly.

City Administrator Annette Brower –

Power Generation project is moving along; they are still confident that they will meet their deadline of June. Will be working closely will William Hinton and MEAN regarding the $16,000 monthly payments and understanding the process we need to work through to ensure that revenue is returned to the city soon. The military museum from Ohio wants the missile that is

lying in our landfill and asked us to do the palletizing and weight of it, but we don't have the staff or equipment to do so, will be reaching out to them to let them know. Still nothing moving with the Lighthouse subdivision. Senators Fischer's office contacted me, they invited us to apply for a congressional directive spending grant, and we met the submittal deadline. Thank you to Olsson Engineering, we have decided to separate the water and sewer into two projects for a greater chance in obtaining federal grants. The newly appointed military veteran's affairs liaison from the governor's office invited the Chief of Police and me to speak in front of the commission of the military veteran's affairs regarding the sentinel project and how it affects the city of Kimball, our needs and concerns. They confirmed this is happening, they are moving dirt and things are moving along. Additional updates given.

Cederburg asked Shulte for an update on the scale. The scale has been ordered, and we are just waiting. Robinson Electric will coordinate with the scale company for the installation.

Public Comment -

Austin Garner – Added a comment to this topic.

Next regular meeting will be June 10, 2025, at 5:00 pm. There being no further business, Carlson motioned and seconded by Shaw to adjourn the meeting at 6:01pm. The following votes were recorded: Aye: Carlson, Cederburg, and Shaw. Nay: None. Absent: Land, and Evertson. Motion carried.

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Jim Cederburg, Chairperson City Clerk