Board of Public Works
Regular Meeting
December 09, 2025

EDITED FOR PUBLICATION

A regular meeting of the Board of Public Works was convened in open and public session at 5:00 pm on December 09, 2025, at the City Council Chambers, 223 S Chestnut St. Board members Jim Cederburg, Deb Evertson, Nicholas Barp and Tim Carlson were in attendance. Also attending were WWTP Supervisor Blake Wagner, Electric Department Supervisor William Hinton, Water Department Supervisor Craig Aragon, City Administrator Annette Brower, and City Treasurer Jean Klassen. The public was not 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 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 members were present: Carlson, Cederburg, Barp, and Evertson.

Cederburg acknowledged the posted Open Meetings Act.

Motion by Carlson, seconded by Barp to excuse the absence of board member Shaw who notified the board of his absence due to prior commitments. The following votes were recorded: Aye: Cederburg, Carlson, Barp, and Evertson. Nay: None. Absent: Shaw. Motion carried.

Motion by Evertson, seconded by Carlson to approve the consent agenda items as presented which include minutes, bills, Treasurer's reports, and financial reports. The following votes were recorded: Aye: Carlson, Cederburg, Barp, and Evertson. Nay: None. Absent: Shaw. Motion carried.

Cederburg opened a discussion on recommending to the council the approval of the invoice from NMC for $795,013.92. Per City Administrator Annette Brower this is for the 80% completion of the power generation plant.

Motion by Carlson, seconded by Evertson, to approve and recommend to the Council Board the approval of the invoice from NMC in the amount of $795,013.92. The following votes

were recorded: Aye: Cederburg, Carlson, Barp, and Evertson. Nay: None. Absent: Shaw. Motion carried.

The Board received and began discussion on the MEAN Comprehensive Analysis of Changes in Rates and Charges. Last year's cost was $1,944,072.00; the projected increase is approximately 9.5%. Considering inflation and other rising expenses, the overall impact is estimated to be closer to a 10% increase, per Cederburg.

Evertson noted that it is essential for the utility to remain financially stable and avoid operating in the red. Evertson also referenced a recent letter from High West Energy indicating that similar cost increases are being experienced across the industry.

Cederburg explained that the MEAN rate structure is complex, but the recent analysis breaks it down to show how rate cycles align to ensure electricity is delivered where and when it is needed. He also noted the growing demand for electricity as a contributing factor.

Board Member Carlson revisited the limitation-of-liability language in the contract, previously discussed by the Board. While the Board had agreed the wording was acceptable, it was not ideal. Carlson asked whether the letter could be revised to better meet the Board's standards. Nicole Kubik with MEAN stated that the language could not be changed. She also clarified that the Master Service Agreement has no impact on rates.

Motion by Evertson, seconded by Carlson to approve the MEAN NMPP Master Services Agreement and Enrollments for the 2026 year. The following votes were recorded: Aye: Evertson, Cederburg, Carlson, and Barp. Nay: None. Absent: Shaw. Motion carried.

Cederburg recommended implementing a total 10% rate increase in two phases: the first on March 25, 2026 for the April billing and the second on September 25, 2026 for the October billing. A resolution will be prepared and presented to formalize this action.

Cederburg opened a discussion on the estimate from Johnson Service Company – Manhole rehab. Water Department Supervisor Craig Aragon reported that this plan will ensure the city remains compliant by rehabilitating at least two to three manholes per year. He presented the Board with photographs of manholes in need of rehabilitation and provided further explanation on the rehabilitation process and the importance of completing this work.

Motion by Carlson, seconded by Barp to approve the estimate from Johnson Service Company – Manhole Rehab in the amount of $16,000. The following votes were recorded: Aye: Carlson, Barp, Evertson, and Cederburg. Nay: None. Absent: Shaw. Motion carried.

Motion by Barp, seconded by Carlson to approve the Wesco invoice for electric switches for Mietus/Nadine project and Lighthouse subdivision. The following votes were recorded: Aye: Carlson, Barp, Cederburg, and Evertson. Nay: None. Absent: Shaw. Motino carried.

Reports –

Blake Wagner – Wastewater Treatment Plant Supervisor reported that the previously discussed truck has been sold. Blower #5 was repaired yesterday. No further construction is occurring at the Wastewater Treatment Plant at this time; however, supplies and equipment are expected to arrive later this month. The Streets Department has offered to assist with unloading these materials, and the expense will be billed accordingly so that outside contractors will not need to be secured. Additional updates were provided.

Craig Aragon – Water Department Supervisor – This has been a slow month for the crew; we have been working at the old hospital shutting everything down to be winterized. Have been working with Johnson Services on the estimate for the manholes. Our crew has also been contacted to go out and identify led and copper lines.

William Hinton – Electric Department Supervisor – Our crew has been at the Lighthouse subdivision development for the past 2 weeks, working on getting all innerduct buried.

Annette Brower – City Administrator – The scale is up and running and ready to go at the landfill. Business as usual, it slows down during this time of year. It is time for us to start the conversation about the city appointed engineers. There is a meeting with Jack Baker of JEO and another one with Olsson Engineering. We will have a meeting with Gering tomorrow regarding the Landfill. Brower also provided the board members with the Landfill Supervisor's report (Jim Schulte) due to him being absent. Additional updates given.

Public Comment – No public comments.

Next regular meeting will be January 13, 2026, at 5:00 pm. There being no further business, Evertson motioned and seconded by Carlson to adjourn the meeting at 5:34 pm. The following votes were recorded: Aye: Carlson, Cederburg, Evertson, and Barp. Nay: None. Absent: Shaw. Motion carried.

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Jim Cederburg, Chairperson City Clerk

Utilities-Board of Public Works-Claims December 9, 2025-Ellison, Kovarik & Turman Law Firm-Professional Services-2,901.15; High West Energy-Utilities-7,574.00; JRC Construction, LLC-Services-9,350.00; Kimball Ace Hardware LLC-Supplies-2.89; Kimball Auto Parts-Supplies-14.41; Legacy Cooperative-Supplies-46.82; MEAN-Mean Billing-112,347.25; Olsson, Incorporated-Services-29,366.67; Powerplan-

Repairs-1,674.87; The Right Impression-Services-117.30; Vision Metering, LLC-Services-1,500.00; AW Laser Art-Supplies-99.00; Black Hills Energy, LLC-Gas Service-705.83; CenturyLink-Telephone-109.00; Charter Communications-Internet-220.01; Cornerstone Bank Trust Department-Series-45,846.25; Linda's Monograms & Beyond-Services-1,185.00; Visa-Firstier Bank-Charges-1,746.67; Hackel Construction, Incorporated-Services-22,770.00; Intralinks, Incorporated-Services-48.56; Payroll Fund-Payroll Transfer-71,453.83; William Hinton-Expense Report-395.20; Hackel Construction, Incorporated-Services-165,947.90; GreatAmerica Financial Services Corporation-Lease-473.13; Hackel Construction, Incorporated-Services-171,430.30; A.S.A.P.-Services-15.55; AMGL PC-Audit-3,476.37; Centurylink Communications, Incorporated-Long Distance-86.90; City of Kimball-Transfer-373.27; City of Kimball-Transfer-6,473.27; City of Kimball-Transfer-22,851.02; Combined Utilities-Utilities-205.83; Connecting Point-Copy Usage-321.99; Dollar General Corporation-Supplies-167.75; Electric Pump-Services-3,850.00; Ellison, Kovarik & Turman Law Firm-Professional Services-1,806.30; Enviro Service Incorporated-Services-180.00; Fairfield Inn & Suites-Services-139.95; Michael Fuller-Refundt-50.78; William Hinton-Reimbursement-150.00; Intralinks, Incorporated-Services-555.60; Intralinks, Incorporated-Services-200.00; Iowa Civil Contracting-Refund-85.12; Steve Kauffman-Refund-79.99; Kimball Ace Hardware LLC-Supplies-86.85; Kimball Ace Hardware LLC-Supplies-924.91; Kimball Auto Parts-Supplies-274.85; Kimball County Hospital-Services-442.13; Kimball Recycling-Monthly Support-5,596.50; Legacy Cooperative-Fuel-2,765.21; Legacy Cooperative-Supplies-25.94; Napa Auto Parts-Supplies-698.30; Nebraska Public Health Enviro Lab-Services-223.00; Nebraska State Fire Marshal-Services-405.00; Norberg Auto & Diesel Incorporated-Repairs-2,630.24; Northwest Pipe Fitting, Incorporated of Scottsbluff-Supplies-635.12; One Call Concepts-Locates-17.41; Payroll Fund-Payroll Transfer-71,214.38; Plains Body Shop-Repairs-3,022.78; Marc Poppe-Refund-63.24; Powermanager-Services-11,377.89; Powermanager-Services-1,040.00; Prestige Welding & Repair-Repairs-2,679.64; Pye-Barker Fire Safety-Services-1,619.00; Robinson Electric-Repairs-1,121.25; Sandberg Implement Incorporated-Supplies-22.12; Southwestern Equipment Company-Supplies-104.97; The Country Printer-Supplies-150.00; The Egging Company-Supplies-3,571.36; Samuel Adam Turner-Refund-34.54; USA Blue Book-Supplies-447.73; Viaero-Cell Phone-326.10; WPCI-Drug Screens-32.00; WSP USA Incorporated-Services-29,840.00; Wesco Distribution Receivables Corporation-Supplies-94,334.71; Western Nebraska Observer-Meeting Notices-1,531.05.