

Board of Public Works
Regular Meeting
April 23, 2019

A regular meeting of the Board of Public Works was convened in open and public session at 4:15 p.m. on April 23, 2019 in the City Council Chambers. Board members Robinson, Evertson, Coleman, Fossand and Porter were present. Also present were Power Plant Superintendent Terrill, Electric Superintendent Hinton, Water Superintendent Sisk, Landfill Superintendent Schulte, City Administrator Dean, 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 Board of Public Works reviewed the following items under the consent agenda:

1. Minutes from the regular meeting of March 29, 2019;
2. Claims;
3. Treasurer's Report from March 2019; and
4. Financial Reports from March 2019.

Evertson moved and seconded by Coleman to approve the consent agenda as presented in the packet. On roll call vote, the following votes were recorded on the electronic voting board. Aye: Fossand, Coleman, Robinson, Evertson and Porter. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion passed.

Porter opened discussion for the update on the rate studies. Fossand moved and seconded by Robinson to remove the update from the table. On roll call vote, the following votes were recorded on the electronic voting board. Aye: Fossand, Coleman, Robinson, Evertson and Porter. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion passed.

Andrew Ross, NMPP, went through the rate studies for the electric, water, sewer, trash and landfill that was presented in the meeting packet. Ross advised the Board that the water and sewer departments are the highest priority. Ross advised that he would design the rates and resolutions for the Board to review at the May meeting if that is the direction the Board would like to go. Board members agreed that would be fine.

Ross stated that the electric rates are good, but some changes could be made to the resolution. Ross said that he would have that for the Board at a later date.

Robinson asked if Ross recommends the review these rates in two years. Ross stated the Board should revisit them in two years to see if the additional increases are still needed. Robinson thanked Ross for his presentation and how easy it was to understand. Coleman pointed out to the Board that the predictions are based on our current budgets which are already conservative. Coleman added that the numbers aren't all that bad.

Porter opened discussion to consider the request from the Masonic Lodge to discount the utilities. Tommy Yung, James L. Eatmon Lodge #294, asked the Board to consider discounting or waiving the utility bills for the building. Yung stated that the organization is mostly funded by donations and is struggling financially. Porter asked Electric Superintendent Hinton if MEAN could perform an energy audit of the building. Hinton said that he checked the meter and it was fine, but he could check the building to see if he could determine what is causing the increase. After further discussion, Yung said that they could manage through the summer to allow enough time for Hinton to talk to MEAN about an energy audit.

Porter opened discussion to consider waiving C&D fees for Randy and Sandy Harmon. Dean advised the Board that Harmon's did not have insurance on their home that was destroyed in a fire. Robinson asked how much the fees are. Dean stated \$2,632.50. Robinson moved and seconded by Coleman to waive the C&D fees in the amount of \$2,632.50 for Randy and Sandy Harmon. On roll call vote, the following votes were recorded on the electronic voting board. Aye: Fossand, Coleman, Robinson, Evertson and Porter. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion passed.

Discussion was held on the Board developing a policy on waiving fees. Dean advised that he would do some research to see what other communities in the area do. The Board members agreed that they would consider a policy on waiving fees at a future meeting.

Dean advised the Board that there have been some electrical service upgrades due to the snow and ice.

Power Plant Superintendent Terrill advised the Board that the Power Plant capacity test will be June 4, 2019.

Electric Superintendent Hinton advised the Board that the new state inspector will not turn services on that have been disconnected for more that 90 days without upgrading first. Hinton went on to say that there is a feeder that is still down from the last storm.

Landfill Superintendent Schulte advised he has checked 29 posts and have some issues. Will have to contact Golder and Associates to have someone come look at it.

Water Superintendent Sisk advised the Board that they have been doing sewer maintenance. Sisk went on to say that he will contact an engineer for the VFD project that is in the 18-19 FY budget.

Dean stated that there are four properties at 9th and Webster that share a 4" sewer line. Dean went on to say that there are issues with that line, but it is not owned by the City.

Next meeting will be May 28, 2019 at 4:15 p.m. With there being no further discussion, Robinson moved and seconded by Evertson to adjourn at 5:48 p.m. On roll call vote, the following votes were recorded on the electronic voting board. Aye: Fossand, Coleman, Robinson, Evertson and Porter. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion passed.

Chairperson

City Clerk