

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS

A meeting of the Beatrice Board of Public Works was held on the 14th day of September, 2016 at 12:10 p.m. in the City Hall Conference Room, 400 Ella Street, Beatrice, Nebraska.

ROLL CALL

Attending: Boardmembers: Baehr, Eskra, Moon, and Moran.
Absent: Boardmembers: Leech.

Chairman Dave Eskra announced that a copy of the Open Meetings Act is available in the meeting room and is accessible to members of the public.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Approve agenda as submitted.
- b. Receive and place on file all notices pertaining to this meeting.
- c. Receive and place on file all materials having any bearing on this meeting.
- d. Approval of minutes of regular BPW Board meeting on August 31, 2016.
- e. Recommend approval of Street Department Report of Claims to City Council.
- f. Approval of Electric Department, Water Department, and WPC Department Report of Claims.
- g. Approval of write-off of bad debts.

Boardmember Baehr inquired about the amount to be written off for Unfiltered 3, as commercial deposits had been raised. Linda Koch, Finance Director, noted the deposit would have been applied to the final bill, leaving that balance. Boardmember Baehr inquired what the deposit was and Koch noted she would have to check into that and get back to the Board.

Moved by Moran, seconded by Baehr, that the items listed under the consent agenda, be approved, accepted, and/or ratified as presented.

Roll Call: Yea: Baehr, Eskra, Moon, Moran
Nay: None

MOTION CARRIED.

PUBLIC HEARINGS/BIDS

There were no public hearings/bids.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution Number 16-002 revising the BPW Energy Efficiency Program

Tobias Tempelmeyer, General Manager, noted that in March 2016 a resolution was adopted by the Board to obligate \$50,000.00 to the BPW Energy Efficiency Program. To date, the City has approximately \$15,967.70 of unallocated funds remaining. The Beatrice School District has

submitted a commercial/industrial lighting application for approximately \$37,000.00, which will deplete the obligated funds. Tempelmeyer inquired from the Board if they wished to provide additional funds to the program for the remainder of 2016 and what that amount would be.

Boardmember Eskra recommended that the City reimburse the School for their application that was submitted and look at placing a limit of \$25,000.00 per entity per year in order to prevent a large customer from coming in and using all of the allocated funds. Boardmember Eskra noted that as the City moves away from NPPD, the Board will need to set guidelines for the program moving forward. Boardmember Moran noted he likes the idea of placing a limit per entity per year, further noting from a budget standpoint it would be easier to set a limit. Discussion ensued on how much more the Board wished to allocate for the remainder of 2016.

James Burroughs, City Engineer, suggested setting aside a portion of the funds for residential customers and the other portion for commercial customers so that residential customers would still benefit from the incentives. Boardmember Moran noted he agreed stating the last thing he would want to do is limit the City's residential customers.

Boardmember Moon noted his recommendation would be to fully fund the program for the remainder of 2016 and look at setting guidelines for the program down the road. The consensus of the Board was to allocate an additional \$50,000.00 to the BPW Energy Efficiency program at this time.

Moved by Moon, seconded by Moran, that Resolution Number 16-002 be passed and adopted.

Roll Call: Yea: Baehr, Eskra, Moon, Moran
Nay: None

MOTION CARRIED.

ORDINANCES

Ordinance to revise the water rate charges for water purchased from the City of Beatrice, Nebraska

Tobias Tempelmeyer, General Manager, presented to the Board the proposed water rate ordinance. With the proposed rate ordinance, an average residential customer would see an increase of \$0.80/month and an average commercial customer would see an increase of \$2.34/month.

Moved by Moon, seconded by Baehr, to recommend to the Mayor and City Council to approve the ordinance to revise the water rate charges for water purchased from the City of Beatrice, Nebraska.

Roll Call: Yea: Baehr, Eskra, Moon, Moran
Nay: None

MOTION CARRIED.

Ordinance to regulate the fees and charges for the use of the Wastewater Treatment System of the City of Beatrice, Nebraska

Tobias Tempelmeyer, General Manager, presented to the Board the proposed sewer rate ordinance. With the proposed rate ordinance, an average residential customer would see an increase of \$2.42/month and an average commercial customer would see an increase of \$15.55/month. Boardmember Baehr inquired if the increase would be on the base or the usage. Tempelmeyer noted the increase would be on both. Tempelmeyer noted the increase of sewer rates will be used in order to continue to build the cash reserves for the upcoming Plant improvements.

Moved by Baehr, seconded by Moran, to recommend to the Mayor and City Council to approve the ordinance to regulate the fees and charges for the use of the Wastewater Treatment System of the City of Beatrice, Nebraska.

Roll Call: Yea: Baehr, Eskra, Moon, Moran
Nay: None

MOTION CARRIED.

PUBLIC FORUM

No one appeared at public forum.

DISCUSSIONS/REPORTS

Board Policy #148 – Water Tap Fees

Tobias Tempelmeyer, General Manager, noted last year when Board Policy #147 was adopted the Board wished to review the policy annually. In FY16, the Water Department installed eight (8) water taps. Three (3) of these had to be bored and therefore had additional cost to installation. The other five (5) water taps cost an average of \$1,547.02, which resulted in a loss of approximately \$200.00 on each water tap. Steve Kelley, Water Superintendent, noted the average cost for boring is approximately \$800.00. Tempelmeyer noted it is Administration’s recommendation to increase the water tap fee to \$1,550.00 to cover the City’s cost of installing the costs.

Moved by Moon, seconded by Moran, to adopt Board Policy #148.

Roll Call: Yea: Baehr, Eskra, Moon, Moran
Nay: None

MOTION CARRIED.

Monthly Department Report

Some highlights for the month included: Tobias Tempelmeyer, General Manager, noted Bluestem will present to the Power Review Board on September 23, 2016 and he will be present to testify; Linda Koch, Finance Director, reviewed the financials for July 2016; the Engineering

Department noted Standing Bear Trail should be complete within a couple weeks and also noted Johnson Control is currently in town working on the sanitary sewer lining project; the Electric Department continues to work on the 12.5Kv conversion project; the Water Department noted they had five (5) water main breaks in the month; and the Street Department has been painting the intersections red throughout the City, which has not been done for the past few years.

Moved by Baehr, seconded by Moon, to receive the monthly department report and place on file.

Roll Call: Yea: Baehr, Eskra, Moon, Moran
Nay: None

MOTION CARRIED.

Other Discussion

Linda Koch, Finance Director, reported to the Board that Unfiltered 3 had a deposit of \$800.00, which was applied to their final bill. Koch further noted the City receives an average of \$10,000.00 from Collection Associates annually on bad debts turned over to them.

ADJOURNMENT

The next regular BPW Board Meeting will be held September 28, 2016 at 12:10 p.m., in the City Hall Conference Room, 400 Ella Street, Beatrice, Nebraska.

Moved by Baehr, seconded by Moon, that the meeting be adjourned at 1:08 p.m.

Roll Call: Yea: Baehr, Eskra, Moon, Moran
Nay: None

MOTION CARRIED.

Bob Moran, Secretary

Dave Eskra, Chairman