

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS**

A meeting of the Beatrice Board of Public Works was held on the 31<sup>st</sup> day of August, 2016 at 12:10 p.m. in the City Hall Conference Room, 400 Ella Street, Beatrice, Nebraska.

**ROLL CALL**

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

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 10, 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 BPW Energy Efficiency applications.

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

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

MOTION CARRIED.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS/BIDS**

There were no public hearings/bids.

**RESOLUTIONS**

There were no resolutions.

**ORDINANCES**

There were no ordinances.

**PUBLIC FORUM**

No one appeared at public forum.

## **DISCUSSIONS/REPORTS**

### **BPW Energy Efficiency Program Funding Review**

Tobias Tempelmeyer, General Manager, noted that in March 2016 \$50,000.00 was obligated to the BPW Energy Efficiency Program, due to NPPD capping the City's EnergyWise funding for 2016 at \$37,023.95 upon the City giving NPPD notice that we would be leaving in 2021. 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 suspend the program at this time or provide additional funds to the program for the remainder of 2016.

Boardmember Leech noted he feels the program should have a set limit and would like to keep the funding at \$50,000.00. Boardmember Eskra inquired if this was an abnormal year with a higher number of applications. Tempelmeyer noted Administration would look back to see what a typical year has been. Boardmember Baehr noted he believes this is a good program and would like to continue offering rebates, encouraging citizens to be energy efficient.

Boardmember Eskra noted he believes this is a beneficial program and feels if the City has the capability to continue funding the program we should do what is best for the citizens of Beatrice. Boardmember Eskra noted he struggles with setting a limit and further noted that if the Board chooses to approve the School's application, all future applications submitted this calendar year should also be approved. Boardmember Moran noted he believes this is a good program as well, however believes for a budgetary standpoint having a set limit may be best.

This topic will be brought back to the next BPW Board meeting.

### **FY2016 and FY2017 Biennial Budget Review**

Tobias Tempelmeyer, General Manager, presented the Boardmembers with an update on where the City anticipates the budget will end for FY16 and how the FY17 budget looks.

For the Electric Department, Tempelmeyer noted that sales were lower than budgeted, therefore the City's purchased power expense was lower. In FY16, \$560,000 was spent on the installation of the AMI system and \$232,000 went to the replacement of underground cable in the County Club area which had all gone bad. Tempelmeyer noted capital projects that have been budgeted for in FY17 are an additional \$503,000 to complete the installation of the AMI system, substation improvements in the amount of \$365,000, and \$265,000 for the 12.5Kv conversion.

The Water Department sales are anticipated to come in close to what was projected and there were no changes on the operation side. A total of \$440,000 was spent on the installation of the AMI system. Tempelmeyer noted the Department was able to complete three (3) water main projects all within the budget for two (2) projects. In FY17, \$264,000 has been budgeted to complete the installation of the AMI system, as well as \$305,000 for additional water main replacements.

The WPC Department sales are also anticipated to come in close to what was projected and there were no changes on the operation side. Tempelmeyer noted the biggest expense for the Department was the installation of new raw sewage pumps for \$269,624. In FY17, a new screen will be installed at the Plant for \$561,000 and \$175,000 has been budgeted for trenchless pipeline repair. Tempelmeyer noted the City has been working with Olsson Associates on what upgrades need to be done to the Plant for the upcoming federal mandate and it is estimated there are still approximately \$10 million worth of repairs to be made.

Tempelmeyer noted the Street Department will be carrying over \$695,827 in capital projects to be completed in FY17. The Grant Street Reconstruction – 2016 project has been awarded, however the project will not be complete until FY17 so it has also been carried forward. The most notable project for FY17 will be the two (2) 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Projects, from Court to Grant Street. Other projects are: two (2) blocks on Bell Street and Summit Street, Alley Reconstruction downtown between Court to Ella, 8<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> Street, mill and overlay, as well as 6<sup>th</sup> and Industrial Row.

Tempelmeyer reviewed a list of City projects that have been budgeted for in FY17. Tempelmeyer noted the City is proposing a \$0.004 levy increase on property tax for FY17. Tempelmeyer noted the City had budgeted for an eight percent (8%) rate increase for the Electric Department, however, at this time NPPD is now proposing less than a one percent (1%) increase on the transmission rate, so at this time the City is proposing a rate increase of one percent (1%). Residential water customers will see an average of \$0.80 increase on their monthly bill and commercial customers will see an average of \$2.34 per month. Residential customers will see an average increase of \$2.42 on their monthly sewer bill and commercial customers will see an average of \$15.55 per month. The increase of sewer rates will be used in order to continue to build the cash reserves for the upcoming Plant improvements.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The next regular BPW Board Meeting will be held September 14, 2016 at 12:10 p.m., in the City Hall Conference Room, 400 Ella Street, Beatrice, Nebraska.

Moved by Baehr, seconded by Leech, that the meeting be adjourned at 12:53 p.m.

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

MOTION CARRIED.

**Bob Moran, Secretary**

**Dave Eskra, Chairman**