

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS
OF THE CITY OF AUBURN, NEMAHA COUNTY, NEBRASKA
HELD FEBRUARY 19, 2025**

THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS (BPW) OF THE CITY OF AUBURN, NEMAHA COUNTY, NEBRASKA, met in regular session on February 19, 2025, at 1600 O Street at 11:30 a.m. This meeting was held in open session as required by Chapter 84, Article 14 of Nebraska State Statutes.

Chairman Knipe called the meeting to order. Roll call: Members present – Shaw, Grant, and Knipe. Absent – Wilson and Zaruba.

Chairman Knipe announced that this was an open meeting, and a copy of the Open Meetings Act is posted on the northeast wall of the Board room.

Chairman Knipe acknowledged that no guests were present to address the Board.

Jerry Larsen requested to be on the agenda to discuss the account for property at 1105 13th Street. Larsen was not present to address the Board. No action taken.

GM Luhring and Water/Wastewater Manager Slater updated the Board on the Drought Contingency Stage 3 Emergency Watch protocol. Three wells remain at five feet or below. Slater noted that moisture from the river is needed to recharge the underground water source. No action taken.

Chairman Knipe noted that discussion needs to be held regarding minimum billings for lots that have buildings. It was determined that no action would be taken until all Board members are available to decide how to move forward. Item tabled.

GM Luhring provided updates on the Westgate addition. The dirt work is estimated to be 74% complete. Sanitary sewer lines are complete on the east side of the development and the lines on the west side should be progressing in approximately two weeks. Work on electrical infrastructure is projected to begin late April, weather permitting. Electric Operations Manager Kuhlmann informed the Board that Charter and Pinpoint will joint trench to save money and streamline installation. No action taken.

GM Luhring updated the Board on the NPPD Capacity Purchase Agreement. The red-line agreement is expected to be ready for review in two weeks. No action taken.

GM Luhring provided information on the NPPD 2026 Wholesale Power contract. A red-line agreement has been received and is being reviewed. Five communities have hired a consultant and will share costs to ensure a fair agreement is negotiated. The contract is anticipated to be a forty-year agreement. No action taken.

GM Luhring informed the Board that the Union Bank & Trust is changing their pledge process, and it does not meet our current requirements. A change in policy is needed if BPW investments are held at this institution. After discussion, Member Shaw made a motion to table the item. Member Grant seconded the motion. Members voting aye – Knipe, Shaw, and Grant. Motion carried.

GM Luhring requested permission to research security alarm systems for the BPW office. City Administrator Crystal Dunekacke noted the City of Auburn would be interested in sharing a system. The Board agreed to move forward with exploring options available. No action taken.

GM Luhring requested approval to enter into an on-call services agreement with Miller & Associates. Services which would include assistance with analyzing and identifying potential water sources. Member Grant made a motion to enter into the agreement as presented. Member Shaw seconded the motion. Members voting aye – Shaw, Grant, and Knipe. Motion carried.

GM Luhring requested Board approval to purchase a Spectrophotometer to replace the current meter that is no longer serviced. After discussion, Member Grant made a motion to purchase the meter at the quoted price of \$8001.50. Member Shaw seconded the motion. Members voting aye – Shaw, Grant, and Knipe. Motion carried.

GM Luhring provided updates on the Sewer Lining & Manhole rehabilitation project. The final inspection video will be provided and once approved, this project will be complete. The project came in \$36,000.00 under budget. No action taken.

GM Luhring requested Board approval to amend the 2024 Wastewater Budget. Emergency capital projects and repairs, along with SRF funds received, resulted in the budget exceeding 10% of the original projections. Member Shaw made a motion to accept the Proprietary Function Reconciliation Statement as presented. Member Grant seconded the motion. Members voting aye – Shaw, Grant, and Knipe. Motion carried.

AFM Westhart presented the standard financial reports to the Board. Member Grant made a motion to accept the financial reports as presented. Member Shaw seconded the motion. Members voting aye – Shaw, Grant, and Knipe. Motion carried.

AFM Westhart asked for any objections or exceptions to the General Consent Items listed under Agenda Item #17.

Approve the previous meeting minutes and dispense with the reading of the same.

- a) Approve monthly compensation of officers, management, and employees as previously fixed by the Board.
- b) Approve, ratify, and allow the following checks, recommended transfers and claims submitted for payment during the month.
- c) Transfer funds from E-W-WW Revenue funds into checking for expenses plus the routine interdepartmental transfers in the amount of \$645,000.00.
- d) Approve Free Services Report.

Checks written during the month of January.

AKRS Equipment Solutions Inc.	896.74
American Recycling & Sanitation	20,848.06
Anderson, Aracelly	750.00
Auburn Design Shop LLC	89.46
Auburn Plumbing/Heating	564.63
B 103	171.00
Beard's Salvage	116.67
Bennet's Body Shop	3,094.43
Board Of Public Works	29,828.77
Border States Industries Inc	19,460.64
Brownville Village Theatre	100.00
Bulldog Auto Supply	392.95
Capital Business Systems, Inc	776.40
Capital One Spark Business	7,765.24
Caselle Inc	2,018.00
City of Auburn	10,532.30
County Publications	1,074.90
Credit Information Services	94.15
DHHS State of Nebraska	284.00

Eggers Brothers Inc	673.31
El Portal Mexican Restaurant	947.69
Frontier Cooperative	255.60
Glenn's Corner Market	76.52
Hach Chemical Company	1,051.05
Hawkins Inc	801.09
HDR Engineering Inc	1,803.88
HOA Solutions Inc	10,367.15
Husker Electric	8,239.91
Interstate All Battery Center	311.20
ltron Inc	8,722.20
Jackson Services Inc.	2,234.84
Jeanneret, Jeff	800.00
Jesco Industries, Inc.	3,328.00
Johnny's Tire & Battery	332.85
Kansas Municipal Utilities	800.00
LARM	2,242.38
Lincoln Winwater	2,410.87
Lynch's Hardware & Gifts	127.48

Mechanical Sales Inc	2,071.12
Metering and Technology	3,795.21
Miller & Associates	490.00
MEAN	1,882.00
NDEE	350.00
Nemaha County Clerk	16.00
One Call Concepts Inc	110.14
Pieters Construction Inc.	1,900.00
Pinpoint Auburn, Inc	434.08
PIP Marketing Signs & Print	2,158.83
Safety-Kleen Systems Inc	432.38
SECUR-SERV	1,650.58
Slater, Harley A	150.00
Smith Auto Inc.	86.00
United States Postal Service	4,000.00

US Cellular	765.50
USA Blue Book	1,387.26
Vermeer Equipment	288.37
Village of Brownville	7,327.28
Village of Nemaha	4,206.64
Water Engineering Inc	432.11
WAPA	35,264.60
Wright, Darren	100.00
Zoro Tools Inc	940.96
Catholic Social Services	154.30
Charlton, Chris	159.01
Eisenhauser, Dwight	245.63
Lance, Dwight	146.59
OPPD	202.94

Following discussion Member Grant made a motion to approve the General Consent Items as presented. Member Shaw seconded the motion. Members voting aye – Shaw, Grant, and Knipe. Motion carried.

Reports: Electric, Power Plant, Water/Wastewater, Office.

There being no further business to come before the Board, by unanimous approval the Board adjourned to the next regular Board meeting to be held Wednesday, March 19, 2025, at the hour of 11:30 a.m. at the Board of Public Works Board Room. Chairman Knipe declared the meeting adjourned.

ATTEST:

Chairman

Secretary

CERTIFICATE

I, Tamara L Westhart, Notary Public for the State of Nebraska, do hereby certify the attached and foregoing minutes is a true, correct and conformed copy of proceedings had and done by the Board of Public Works at their February 19, 2025 meeting; all of the subjects acted upon in the foregoing proceedings were contained in the agenda for the meeting, kept continually current and available for public inspection at the Office of the Board; such subjects were contained in the agenda for at least twenty-four hours prior to said meeting; at least one copy of all reproducible material discussed at the meeting was available at the meeting for examination and copying by members of the public; the said minutes were in written form and available for public inspection within ten working days and prior to the next convened meeting of said body, all in accordance with Chapter 84, Article 14 of Nebraska Statutes.

Tamara L. Westhart, Notary Public in and for the State of Nebraska.
My Commission Expires October 4, 2027.