

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS
OF THE CITY OF AUBURN, NEMAHA COUNTY, NEBRASKA
HELD September 20, 2023**

THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS (BPW) OF THE CITY OF AUBURN, NEMAHA COUNTY, NEBRASKA, met in regular session on September 20, 2023, at 1600 O Street at the hour of 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 – Zaruba, Grant, Knipe, and Wilson. Absent – Shaw.

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 the following guests: Rich and Jane Andrew, Angelo Ligouri – Auburn, City Attorney.

General Manager Luhring (GM Luhring) provided updates on IBEW negotiations. Member Zaruba and Chairman Knipe have been appointed to meet with union representatives to review proposed updates. No action taken.

GM Luhring presented the JEO survey results regarding the Andrew easement. After discussion, Member Zaruba made a motion to accept the survey as presented. Member Wilson seconded the motion. Members voting aye – Wilson, Zaruba, Grant, and Knipe. Motion carried.

Chairman Knipe opened the floor for discussion regarding an easement on Rich and Jane Andrew's property. Andrew's provisions for moving forward with an agreement called for removal of an existing three-phase pedestal from the property, relocation of an existing single-phase pedestal and \$25,000.00 per acre on 1.14 acres totaling a payment of \$28,500.00 Updates on the sewer lining project schedule were provided by Water/Wastewater Manager Slater. After discussion it was determined that the financial burden to the Board of Public Works to do this would not be feasible, therefore an agreement was not reached. A change order will be requested to remove the section of sewer lining work that does not have an easement from the contract with Municipal Pipe. No action taken.

GM Luhring informed the Board that the new Office Hours of 7:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. took effect September 11, 2023. No action taken.

GM Luhring provided a status update on the Cathodic Protection – Natural Gas Pipeline noting the job is complete and that Board of Public Works' employees provided labor to assist in reducing cost. No action taken.

GM Luhring requested authorization to purchase a 1200 KVAR Capacitor at quoted price of \$30,071.00 from Eaton, noting there is a 75-week lead time. This is needed to update our capacitor bank on the northwest circuit. Member Grant made a motion to accept the quote as presented. Member Wilson seconded. Members voting aye – Grant, Knipe, Wilson, and Zaruba. Motion carried.

GM Luhring presented the Peru Water Shared Operator Agreement. Approval is requested to designate duties that the Board of Public Works will be responsible for. The signed agreement will be filed with the State of Nebraska and the requirements needed to provide Peru with water will be complete. Water/Wastewater Slater noted they are waiting on a few parts and expect to begin pumping water at the end of October. Member Grant made a motion to accept the agreement as presented. Member Zaruba seconded the motion. Members voting aye – Knipe, Wilson, Zaruba, and Grant. Motion carried.

GM Luhring informed the Board that NPPD utilized the Powerplant in September as a training facility running engine 5. No action taken.

GM Luhring updated the Board on booster pump #2. He noted that this pump has been upgraded and is now equivalent to pump #3, enabling rotation of the equipment. This should extend the life of each unit. Water/Wastewater Slater added the cla-valves that were recently replaced have been tested and are working as expected. No action taken.

GM Luhring requested approval to host the 2023 Energy Fest for fourth grade students from Auburn and Johnson-Brock Schools. Demonstrations and tours at the Powerplant, Service Center, Water and Wastewater Plants will be provided. Member Zaruba made a motion to host on October 19th as requested. Member Grant seconded the motion. Members voting aye – Grant, Knipe, Wilson, and Zaruba. Motion carried.

GM Luhring requested approval to wire funds for payment of the WWTP Bond in the amount of \$438,177.50, due October 1, 2023. Member Wilson made a motion to wire the payment as requested. Member Zaruba seconded the motion. Members voting aye – Knipe, Wilson, Zaruba, and Grant. Motion carried.

GM Luhring provided an update on the Certificate of Deposit (CD) renewals that matured September 16, 2023. He noted the highest proposed bid was 5.15% for a 12-month term from Auburn State Bank. The CD's have been renewed as proposed. No action taken.

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

AFM Westhart asked for any objections or exceptions to the General Consent Items listed under Agenda Item #18.

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 \$1,380,000.00
- d) Approve Free Services Report.

Checks written during the month of August.

A-1 Locksmith	245.00
Altec Industries Inc	271.57
American Recycling	20,192.68
B 103	190.00
Black Hills Energy	1,423.74
Board Of Public Works	18,344.00
Border States Industries	2,593.51
Bulldog Auto Supply	730.64
Capital Business Systems	572.20
Capital Business Systems	452.12
Capital One Spark Business	3,276.73
Caselle Inc	1,940.00
City of Auburn	20,518.20
Concrete Industries Inc	238.56
County Publications	587.14
Credit Information Services	37.35
DHHS State of Nebraska	856.00
Eggers Brothers Inc	148.15

ESI Water	2,950.00
Farmers Cooperative	954.80
Filter Care of Nebraska	11.45
FireGuard LLC	412.50
Glenn's Corner Market	495.25
Green Care Lawn Service	1,150.00
Hawkins Inc	1,596.82
HireRight Solutions LLC	76.67
HOA Solutions Inc	24,034.12
Husker Electric	218.73
Jackson Services Inc.	3,092.96
JEO Consulting Group Inc	280.00
John C Ernst Co., Inc.	140.12
Kan Equipment Inc.	3,463.01
Lawson Products Inc	188.14
LARM	250,843.00
Lincoln Winwater	629.42
LRE Water	2,847.50

Luhring, Ray	201.07
Lynch's Hardware & Gifts	150.06
Metering and Technology	23,355.96
Metron-Farnier LLC	2,354.23
Midwest Laboratories Inc	71.50
Mike's Window Service	44.20
Municipal Supply of NE Inc	2,028.78
Nebraska Rural Water	450.00
Needles I	79.13
Olsson	320.00
One Call Concepts Inc	116.40
Petty Cash	401.17
Pinpoint Auburn, Inc	432.18
PIP Marketing	3,032.40
Rhodus, Cady	426.00
Sack Lumber Company	244.85
Sandy Brae Laboratories	265.00
SECUR-SERV	2,127.08
Titan Labs	480.55

United States Postal Service	4,000.00
US Cellular	1,542.14
Village of Brownville	7,566.96
Village of Nemaha	4,148.79
Water Engineering Inc	432.11
Wesco Distribution Inc	3,041.00
WAPA	38,556.07
Zoro Tools Inc	716.81
Ommert, Tim & Chrystal	32.53
Leishing Jr, Michael	108.48
Raynolds, David	289.92
State of NE - DHHS	1,316.52
Hatifield, Leonna	300.00
Morrison, Donnie	173.15
Patton, Frances	223.06
Rinchich - Barker, Chass	277.67
Stevenson, Angelica	300.00
A-1 Locksmith	245.00

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

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

There being no further business to come before the Board, by unanimous approval the Board adjourned the next regular Board meeting to be held Wednesday, October 18, 2023, 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 September 20, 2023 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, 2023.