

The Board of Public Works of the City of Tecumseh, Nebraska met in regular session in the Council Chambers of City Hall on the 5th day of May, 2014 at 4:00 o'clock p.m., in a publicly convened session, the same being open to the public and having been preceded by advance publicized notice, a copy of the same showing the advance time by which such advance publicized notice was given, a statement of how the availability of an agenda of then known subjects was communicated and the time and specific place of the holding of this meeting. Each member was previously furnished with a copy of said advance publicized notice, the same having been transmitted to each member simultaneously with its publicized notice. The Chairman presided and the Secretary recorded the proceedings. The Chairman read a statement of availability of current copy of the Open Meeting Act.

The following members of the Board of Public Works were present: Dan Blessing, Lynn Campbell and Fred Pooch. Absent: None. Others present: Doug Goracke, Mike Davison, Paula Darling, Tracy Milke, Ann Curry, Scott Badertscher, Bill Montz and Ray Kappel.

Motion by Pooch, seconded by Campbell, to approve the minutes of the April 7, 2014 regular meeting. Yeas: Pooch, Blessing and Campbell. Nays: None. Absent and not voting: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Blessing, seconded by Pooch, to approve payment of bills. Yeas: Pooch, Blessing and Campbell. Nays: None. Absent and not voting: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Pooch, seconded by Campbell, to approve the pay request for services rendered by GenMech for the well project in the amount of \$30,557. Yeas: Blessing, Pooch and Campbell. Nays: None. Absent and not voting: None. Motion carried.

Tracy Milke distributed the water/wastewater report and the Notice of Potential Permit Violations from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. No violations were noted and responses were made in regard to their recommendations. The Board will wait to hear from the EPA regarding their final report.

Motion by Blessing, seconded by Pooch, to adjourn into executive session at 4:20 p.m. to discuss changes to the minimum sewer charges on empty apartments that are held in the owner's name. Yeas: Blessing, Pooch and Campbell. Nays: None. Absent and not voting: None. Motion carried. Motion by Campbell, seconded by Pooch, to reconvene into regular session at 4:22 as it was decided that the reason for adjourning into executive session was not appropriate. Yeas: Campbell, Pooch and Blessing. Nays: None. Absent and not voting: None. Motion carried. Motion by Pooch, seconded by Campbell, to waive the minimum sewer fees if the electricity is disconnected from unrented rental units. Yeas: Campbell, Pooch and Blessing. Nays: None. Absent and not voting: None. Motion carried.

Doug Goracke stated he would bring a revised copy of a "Hold Harmless" agreement to the June meeting that can be used by the city when the utility jet truck is used for purposes other than cleaning city sewers.

Scott Badertscher addressed the Board regarding the Methodist Church's large December sewer bill when it was discovered a toilet had been running. The usual sewer bill for the church is approximately \$20 but the December 2013 sewer usage was billed at \$430.66. Badertscher stated that all the toilets had been repaired and that the bills are now in the normal range. The church was hoping the Board would credit their sewer bill to reflect a more normal rate. Motion by Pooch, seconded by Campbell, to adjust the sewer bill to \$20 and credit the remainder of what had been paid toward future bills. Yeas: Blessing, Campbell and Pooch. Nays: None. Absent and not voting: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Pooch, seconded by Campbell, to approve proceeding with the planned water rate study as per the contract with the Nebraska Municipal Power Pool. Yeas: Campbell, Pooch and Blessing. Nays: None. Absent and not voting: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Pooch, seconded by Campbell, to approve Resolution No. 14-02 setting wastewater treatment facility allocations for large general service users. Yeas: Blessing, Campbell and Pooch. Nays: None. Absent and not voting: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Pooch, seconded by Campbell, to approve Resolution No. 14-03 reflecting changes for large general service users. Yeas: Pooch, Blessing and Campbell. Nays: None. Absent and not voting: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Pooch, seconded by Blessing, to approve charging deposits to rental property owners on rental properties where the owner keeps the utilities in their name and when the service has been disconnected for non-payment. This will be done per incident, per property. All applicable policies regarding connect fees and double deposits will be followed as well. Yeas: Campbell, Blessing and Pooch. Nays: None. Absent and not voting: None. Motion carried.

Mike Davison and Doug Goracke stated employees had met with a NACO health insurance representative who presented several health plans for the city to review as the city had received notice that its current health insurance plan would be canceled. Board Member Pooch questioned the Mayor on why he was allowing utility employees to do the research on their health insurance package and asked if he had ever heard of anyone else letting employees do that. The Mayor and Goracke stated that two Council members and the Mayor had been present at the meeting to ask questions and that there were quotes from all of the major health insurance companies to review. Goracke expressed concerns about doing business with a company that received grant money from the federal government and was apprehensive about how the company would handle claims. He also understood there was a large savings to be had by going with Option H. Motion by Pooch, seconded by Blessing, to recommend to the City Council that they approve Option H of those plans offered by NACO Benefit Services which would cost \$9,772.20 per month, with a deductible of \$1,600 per employee, and leave the city/utility reimbursement at \$1,000 toward the deductible. Yeas: Campbell, Pooch and Blessing. Nays: None. Absent and not voting: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Pooch, seconded by Campbell, to approve the purchase of a new front desk computer, keyboard, mouse, processor and Microsoft Home and Business 2013 software for \$1,188.20. Yeas: Blessing, Campbell and Pooch. Nays: None. Absent and not voting: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Blessing, seconded by Campbell, to approve changes to the utility employee pay scale, with increases to be given upon completion of satisfactory evaluations. Supervisors will recommend individual wage increases from the pay scale to be considered by the Board. Yeas: Pooch, Blessing and Campbell. Nays: None. Absent and not voting: None. Motion carried.

Board member Pooch suggested the repairs to the pavement over the Town Branch at both Broadway and Clay be postponed until streets with more urgent needs are repaired.

Utility and street reports were distributed and there were no questions.

On motion the meeting was adjourned at 5:28 p.m.

Lynn Campbell

Secretary

Dan Blessing

Chairman