

**The Village of Brainard  
Board of Trustees Board Meeting Minutes  
September 18, 2017**

The Board of Trustees of the Village of Brainard held a regular meeting on September 18, 2017 at 7:00P.M. at the City Hall. The meeting notice and agenda were posted in three public places: City Hall, the community bulletin board, and the Brainard Post Office. The agenda is kept current at the City Clerk's office and available for public inspection. This method is designated by the public body.

Chairman Elaine Fortik called the meeting to order with the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance and the reading of the agenda. Chairman Fortik announced that a copy of the current Open Meetings Act was on display for public inspection.

Roll Call Present: Kevin Behne, Scott Foral, Elaine Fortik, Dave Havlovic, Ernest Kabourek  
Staff Present: Clerk – Treasurer Robin Sullivan    Absent: Utility Supt. Alan Kovar  
Guest included – Don Moravec of Moravec and Associates, Chad Podolak of NNPD, Ken Schmieding and Michael Shonka of Green Energy of Nebraska, and Brian Foral.  
East Butler Students: Cheyenne Bentley, Jordyn Ratkovec, Kelsey Buresh, Trevor Jirovsky.

**New Business:**

Chairman Elaine Fortik opened the budget hearing at 7:00P.M.

Don Moravec of Moravec and Associates present the final budget documents for the Board to review and for public inspection. Don explained the state budget documents including: the beginning balance, receipts, transfers for the actual 2015-2016, actual/estimated 2016-2017 account balances, and the adopted 2017 – 2018 budget. It was noted that the total tax request was set at \$109,316.00 with a proposed tax rate at \$0.521566.

The Board of Trustees continued with additional agenda items while the budget hearing remained opened.

**Green Energy of Nebraska Presentation**

Ken Schmieding presented information on solar heat and electric systems. Michael Shonka provided information on different types of solar energy systems that could provide solar energy for a municipality. Michael Shonka discussed the environmental impact of the systems, longevity, with the low maintenance of these systems. The Board expressed they would study the information provided by Green Energy of Nebraska and at a later date.

**Budget Hearing**

Ernest Kabourek made the motion, seconded by Kevin Behne to close the budget hearing at 7:45P.M.

Voting aye: Behne, Foral, Fortik, Havlovic, Kabourek  
Voting nay: none  
The motion carried

**Resolution No. 9-2017-01**

Scott Foral made the motion, seconded by Dave Havlovic to approve Resolution No. 9-2017-01, approving the 2017-2018 budget documents forms and the total personal and real property tax requests of \$109,316.

Voting aye: Behne, Foral, Fortik, Havlovic, Kabourek  
Voting nay: none  
The motion carried

**NPPD PURPA Waiver Presentation**

Chad Podolak of NPPD provided information on the NPPD PURPA Waiver related to renewable energy projects. Chad Podolak reviewed the current wholesale rates projected for 2018 and the 2018 forecast for production and demand related to cost.

Chad explained that the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act (PURPA) requires a utility to purchase the output of a renewable energy qualifies facility at full avoided wholesale cost. Typical qualified facilities included wind and solar projects.

Chad explained that the NPPD PURPA waiver related to projects between 25-20,000KW. The purpose of the waiver is to provide some protection from a renewable energy developer who may come into town or want to set up outside of town and force Brainard to buy the output from their facility at Brainard's full avoided cost. The intent of the PURPA Wavier is to transfer the purchase obligation from Brainard to NPPD. The only way a developer can force Brainard to buy the output from their facility is if they become PURPA certified and if they do so, this waiver transfers them to NPPD. For project Brainard may want to be involved with, the developer simply does not certify.

**Two key benefits or protection this waiver provides:**

1. The waiver transfers the PURPA certified renewable projects purchase obligation from Brainard to NPPD for the projects that Brainard may not want to get involved in.
2. The waiver provides Brainard with leverage to negotiate more favorable pricing with renewable developers who are willing to work with Brainard and accept something less than Brainard's full avoided cost for the energy.

After consideration and discussion Scott Foral made the motion, seconded by Dave Havlovic to approve the Nebraska Public Power District PURPA Waiver agreement as presented.

Voting aye: Behne, Foral, Fortik, Havlovic, Kabourek  
Voting nay: none  
The motion carried

**Chapter 6 Code Book Review:**

Chapter 6 covered public ways and property. The Board would continue with Chapter 7 (Public Utilities) at the October 16, 2017 board meeting.

**Consideration of Minutes:**

Dave Havlovic made the motion, seconded by Ernest Kabourek to approve the August 21, 2017 Board Meeting minutes.

Voting aye: Behne, Foral, Fortik, Havlovic, Kabourek

Voting nay: none

The motion carried

**Consideration of Claims:**

Scott Foral made the motion, seconded by Kevin Behne to approve the September 2017 claims to be paid.

Voting aye: Behne, Foral, Fortik, Havlovic, Kabourek

Voting nay: none

The motion carried

**Life Insurance Update:**

Clerk Sullivan reported to the board that more information had been obtain from EMC National Life in regards to the life insurance options for Brainard’s volunteer fire and rescue members.

The new policy would offer:

\$10,000 basic life insurance

\$10,000 accidental death and dismemberment benefit

Additional benefits under basic accidental death and dismemberment of:

\$1,000 – seat belts

\$1,000 – air bag installed in vehicle

The coverage would be reduced by 50% at age 70 and older. The premium cost would be adjusted lower for members 70 years and older.

Dave Havlovic made the motion, seconded by Kevin Behne to approve the new EMC life insurance policy for the volunteer fire and rescue members.

Voting aye: Behne, Foral, Fortik, Havlovic, Kabourek

Voting nay: none

The motion carried

**Board Committee Reports:**

**Electrical, Sewer, Water:**

The Board discussed the electrical work that had been done behind Cheryl Hughes's property at 116 S Lincoln Street and how it left a trench in her yard.

Clerk Sullivan reported that main lift station at the lagoon site had some minor electrical problems and Spark Electric had ordered necessary parts to repair the problem.

The Board discussed the ongoing problems at the Cecelia Lift Station.

Clerk Sullivan reported that the utility bills would soon be going out.

**Parks, Pool, Streets, Trees:**

Clerk Sullivan was asked to contact Ed Jelinek in regards to the sidewalk in front of his property at 124 S Madison Street needing prepared.

**Employee Reports:**

Clerk Sullivan provided a written monthly employee report for the Board to review.

The Board of Trustees reviewed the monthly financial documents. Clerk Sullivan reported she would be participating in a training day at Nebraska Power Pool on Oct. 19, 2017. Clerk Sullivan reported she would be working on the end of the year reporting and getting ready for the audit.

Ernest Kabourek made the motion, seconded by Dave Havlovic to adjourn the meeting at 11:15P.M.

Voting aye: Behne, Foral, Fortik, Havlovic, Kabourek

Voting nay: none

The motion carried