

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS

January 22, 2026

303 S. Anthony St, Kennett, MO 63857

Members Present:

John Robertson
Tony Parr
Randy Baker
Towny Sparks

Others Present:

Jamie Chitester, CEO
Marty Johnson, COO
Jill Rickman, CHRO
Crystal Dennis, CFO

Jake Crafton, Mayor
Mary Bryant, Council Member
Dennis Pelts, Council Member
Dustin Pritchett, Customer

Mr. Robertson called the meeting to order and presented the agenda for approval. Mr. Sparks made a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Parr seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

The January 6, 2026 meeting open and closed session minutes were presented for approval. Mr. Sparks made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Baker seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

The December 2025 expenditures were presented. Mr. Baker made a motion to approve the expenditures as presented. Mr. Parr seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

COO Report: Mr. Johnson provided department updates.

Mr. Johnson reported that crews are prepping for the winter weather and extra natural gas has been purchased in anticipation of additional usage during the cold weather. Number 13 engine's water leak has been fixed and should be operational this week. Due to resignation, retirement, and new positions, we have four open positions that will be posted next week.

CEO Report: Mr. Chitester provided an executive update.

Property Acquisitions: 409 E. 2nd Street – Mr. Sparks makes a motion to approve the purchase of the property for a cost of \$45,000, Mr. Baker seconded the motion, and all were in favor. 507 S. Anthony Street – Mr. Parr made a motion to approve the purchase of the property up to a price of \$80,000. Mr. Sparks seconded the motion and all were in favor. The request for the approval to purchase the property for the Water Treatment Plant has been sent to the City Attorney to present an ordinance to the City Council. The cost of that property is \$46,251.

Generation: The solar field has produced 3.5 MW over the last three days. Mr. Chitester shared plans for generation during the expected cold weather event approaching this weekend.

Sanitation: Mr. Chitester shared videos of what the cameras on the trucks record. Mr. Robertson recommended that we clean up the trash on the roads near the Transfer Station and Mr. Chitester noted that the EPA says that all trash on those road ways is considered ours due to its proximity to our transfer station. It was suggested that maybe school groups or the Sheltered Workshop might assist. A discussion was held regarding bulk pick up. Mr. Sparks made a motion that we provide the service for free for three months and then re-evaluate the need to ask the City Council to cover the costs. Mr. Parr seconded the motion, and all were in favor. Mr. Pritchett suggests that in the future for an additional cost, it would be a nice service to offer bulk pick up to landlords cleaning out rental properties. This was taken under advisement and will be reviewed by management.

Rates: Mr. Johnson is working on a rate analysis that will help us set our rate structure for 2026.

Customer Complaint: Customer, Elmer Jefferson has filed a complaint with the Missouri Attorney General. We are responding.

Other items: Mr. Chitester had some questions for the Mayor about the City's RFP for insurance broker. Staff are working with NextEra's Economic Development Department about potential sites for a new industrial park.

Miscellaneous general:

Mr. Robertson asks the board and management to review the charges for sewer on water meters that are separate and only used for irrigation.

The next meeting will be on February 3, 2026 at 11:30 a.m.

Closed Session: A Closed Session meeting was held, pursuant to the Sunshine Law, RSMo 1998, Section 610.021, (1) legal actions, cause of action or litigation, and (3) hiring, firing, disciplining, or promoting of particular employees. Mr. Sparks made a motion to enter closed session. Mr. Parr seconded the motion, and roll call vote was taken-Robertson, aye, Baker-aye, Sparks-aye, and Parr-aye. Motion carried.

Adjournment:

There being no further business, Mr. Baker made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Parr seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

Attest:

Randy Baker

Secretary