

REGULAR MEETING
CITY COUNCIL

April 12, 2017

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Syracuse, Nebraska met at 6:00 P.M. on April 12, 2017 for their regular meeting in the Syracuse City Hall Council Chambers at 495 5th Street. Notice of meeting was given by posting in three places. Mayor Ortiz requested roll call, present were Mayor Ortiz and Council members Gigstad, Britton, Dettmer, Henke. A copy of the posting notice and acknowledgement of notice to the Council is attached to these minutes. Minutes for the March 28th, 2017 meeting were approved as written. Availability of the agenda was communicated in the advance notice. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the meeting was open to the public.

The February Treasurer's Report Available; Todd Blome of BMG unable to attend. Mayor Ortiz asked if there was any discussion regarding the treasurer's report, no discussion was had. Council Member Gigstad moved to approve the Treasurer's Report and pay the claims, Dettmer second. Roll Call: Yeas: Britton, Henke, Dettmer, Gigstad. Nays: none.

AFLAC	282.68
Amazon Credit Plan	819.95
Ameritas Life Insur. Corp.	78.00
Andy Brace	160.00
Aqua Chem	150.00
Baragary Construction, Inc.	1260.00
Barco Municipal Products	864.56
B & B Pump N Go, Inc.	1103.60
Brinkman Bros.	738.15
BMG	3050.00
Brandt, Horan, Hallstrom & Stilmock	4098.55
Bound Tree Medical, LLC	739.49
Bruce Neemann	297.83
BTE Corporation	2650.00
Capital Business Systems	123.12
Cardmember Services	1658.08
Carol Linquist	500.00
Carolyn Gigstad	137.10
Chris Richardson	150.00
Chuck's Computer Repair	200.00
Creighton	100.00
City of Syracuse	739.02
City of Nebraska City	683.61
Collection Services Center	410.76
Danko Emergency Equipment Co.	45.81
Dentegra Insurance Company	380.42
EMS Billing Services, Inc.	3213.88
Eakes Office Plus	327.81
Farmer-Bocken Co.	576.95
First Bank of NE	25.00
Gatehouse Media Nebraska Holdings, Inc.	181.69
George Christolear	161.35
Graham Tire Lincoln North	960.26
Grainger	792.45
Hank's Garage	51.50
House Beautiful	7.97
Hemje Plgb., Htg. and AC	150.00
Ingram Library Services	429.36
John Palmtag	100.00
JEO Consulting Group, Inc.	4806.00
Jim Pierce	70.00
Julie Slafter	198.16
Jen Staack	390.00

Jody Bruns	40.00
Kim Parde (Bellinder)	160.00
Kody Cardinal	60.00
Krisa & Tyler LaFollette	35.00
Kan Equip	5215.00
Kriz Davis	279.13
League of NE Municipalities	85.00
Lincoln Journal Star	804.00
Linda Kastens	37.53
LARM	543.60
Laramie Werner	680.00
Marcia Scheinost	404.69
Midwest Farmers Cooperative	1178.32
Martin Marietta	246.56
Matheson Tri-Gas, Inc	33.60
Micro Marketing Association	47.67
Midwest Laboratories, Inc.	111.50
NE Dept. of Environmental Quality	150.00
Nebraska City Utilities	870.04
NE Public Health Environmental Lab	48.00
Omaha Public Power District	112,162.19
One Call Concepts, Inc.	38.85
Otoe County Sheriff	15,000.00
Otoe County Rural Water Dist. #3	21.78
Papillion Sanitation	544.36
Penworthy Co.	103.79
Pepsi Cola of Lincoln	1943.20
Petty Cash P&R	2910.00
Pioneer Underground Sprinkler	2150.00
Redbook	8.00
Ritterbusch & Piotrowski	12,200.00
Security Equipment Inc.	168.00
Simple Solutions Computer Group, Inc.	37.98
Staffing Services, Inc. Nebr. City	614.20
Sharon Morrow	360.00
State Farm	925.00
Stutheit Implement	706.45
Sue Antes	72.73
Syracuse Motor Supply	419.00
Syracuse Lumber Co.	160.79
Syracuse Do It Best	392.89
Syracuse Fire Department	554.71
Terry's Family Foods	144.89
Tami Andera	330.00
Tim Wilson	1100.00
Town & Country Pharmacy	56.95
Tree City Tees	72.00
Trevor Clark	270.00
Utility Service Co., Inc.	19,016.64
United Healthcare	11,559.34
U.S. Post Office	310.35
Verizon	419.31
Western Area Power Administration	3245.37
Windstream	1696.72
Westover Rock & Sand	446.64
Shayna R. Murrell	1862.37
Sue Antes	1514.22
Carolyn Bremer	183.87
Karen Kimpel	66.48
Todd E. Aksamit	2098.80

Deb Dettmer	161.61
Alan Britton	161.61
Kelly Farmer	2289.89
Leah Ganzel	290.90
Alfred Gigstad	161.61
Craig Boldt	115.44
Ken Parde	184.70
Derek R. Harms	2050.60
Kim Bellinder	183.87
Kristine Henke	161.61
Mark S. Moerer	1916.51
Chiona R. Morris	1722.80
Marcia Scheinost	184.70
Julie J. Slafter	1719.68
Mitchell Stubbendick	2275.70
Brian Vodicka	1315.26
Jeff Vogt	3039.79
Tomas Ortiz	461.75
Timothy A. Wilson	184.70
Carol Linquist	183.87
Patricia Hogancamp	110.82
David Sabatka	115.44
Joe Reisdorff	184.70
Dale Young	238.72
Caitlyn Carlson	7.62
Jamy Prokopec	329.56
Madison Mueller	7.85
Cody Ryan	10.62
Taylor Weiler	7.85
Viktor Werner	7.85
Cassie Katen	10.62
Brynn Krieger	7.85
Jonathon Cox	7.85
Aprille Johnson	7.85
Megan Reuter	7.85
Jacob Heitkamp	7.62
Madison Marrs	7.38

HEARING OF THOSE PRESENT – Randy Sump, Developer of Syracuse Business Center, present. Sump led the discussion on past claims in the amount of \$13,000.00 due by him from the building of the Business Center. Sump spoke of an escrow account set up for sidewalks in the Business Center. Sump is asking the Council to consider releasing the escrow funds, closing the account and the \$13,000.00 be paid in full to the City. Attorney Stilmock explained further. The Mayor and Council suggest placing this discussion on the May 2017 Council agenda.

SHERIFF REPORT – Deputy Rehrs present to report for Deputy Holland. Rehrs noted the animal complaints stemmed from barking dogs. Mayor Ortiz asked how the requested increase presence on the east end of 1st Street is working out. Rehrs works nights and doesn't see many speeders during the evening. Rehrs expressed there is a problem with failure to yield at the Love's Travel Stop on Highway 50. Discussion was had on possible parking restrictions on the shoulders of the off ramps from Highway 2. Negotiations are beginning regarding the Inter Local Agreement with the Sheriff's Office, a meeting is being held on April 28th.

RESCUE REPORT – Tim Wilson present to report on the Syracuse Rescue Squad. Wilson led the discussion on EMS Billing and explanation of the rates for the Rescue Squad. EMS Billing provides a range of rates to show where SRS falls with their rate amounts; these range rates are national. Rates are adjusted once a year. Wilson provided accounting summaries also. Around 51% of what is being billed is actually what SRS is recouping. Mayor Ortiz asked Wilson to look into collections agencies to help seek unpaid bills or if EMS has an agency they work with for collections. The discussion will be continued at the May Council meeting.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on street closing for May 21st, 2017 for SRS 50-year anniversary event. Wilson explained. A pancake feed will be on May 21st, a bounce house will be there again. The street closure would include Mohawk from 5th to 6th starting at 10:00 A.M. until 6:00 P.M. Council Member Britton moved to approve the requested street closure, Henke seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Gigstad, Britton, Dettmer, Henke. Nays: none.

FIRE REPORT – Bruce Neemann presented report. Neemann announced Eldon “Rupe” Halm and Rich Sitzman have resigned from the department; both of them were Stewards. Neemann led the discussion and approval of New Assistant Chief, Craig Hemje. Council Member Henke moved to approve Hemje, Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Dettmer, Henke, Britton, Gigstad. Nays: none.

Neemann led the discussion and approval of new Stewards, Chris Lutjemeyer and David Sabatka. Council Member Gigstad moved to approve Lutjemeyer and Sabatka as the new SVFD Stewards, Dettmer seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Gigstad, Britton, Henke, Dettmer. Nays: none.

SWIMMING POOL & PROGRAMS & PARKS REPORT – Rec Coordinator Shayna Murrell Present. Murrell announced softball tournaments are being held in the upcoming weeks. Murrell explained \$17,210.14 is still available from left over funds from the playground funds raised. Murrell will receive bids for an additional batting cage for the complex.

Murrell led the discussion on Aqua Center Bathhouse Agreement between the City and Burbach Aquatics, Inc. There is concern that the agreement may be a little premature as the funds are not currently available but it is also a concern that the bath house is not going to last very much longer. The agreement would allow Burbach to go out immediately and start receiving bids where as the City is not at this stage yet. Murrell explained the process of a State Inspector’s visit and what concerns have been expressed by the Inspector in past years. The discussion will be tabled for now, Murrell is to continue working on the bathhouse project.

Mayor Ortiz introduced Jon Baugous as the City’s new Park Facilities Manager. Mayor recommends starting pay at \$15.00/hour with a 6-month probation period. Murrell explained four seasonal employees have been hired for the Parks department. Council Member Britton moved to approve Baugous as the new Parks Manager with a starting wage at \$15.00 with a \$.25 raise after six month probation. Henke seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Henke, Dettmer,, Gigstad, Britton. Nays: none.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT – Jeff Vogt present. Vogt opened his discussion on Suez Antenna Maintenance Program in regards to use of the Syracuse Water Tower, Suez Water System Consultant Nikki present to explain; Future Tech also in attendance. Nikki explained how Suez can market the City’s water tower to larger cellular companies, bringing in 70% of that revenue to the City. The downside would be having this larger equipment on the tower could cause wear and tear, possibly damaging the tank. Another option is geared more for smaller companies ranging in cost of \$500-\$800 to the vendor as well as the cost of welding the small-cell antenna on the tank which can be very costly to the vendor; bolts and clamps are not to be used. Nikki will follow up with an additional rep from Suez to speak with Vogt regarding additional questions. Scott from Future Tech expressed his company will not be able to put forth the costs of higher a welder. Future Tech proposes 80% of the town could have service if placed on the Syracuse Water Tower. The discussion has been tabled for a future Council meeting.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion and Resolution No. 17-12 on agreement between City and JEO to complete the Cost of Service Electrical Rate Study Update and Sanitary Sewer and Water Budget Review authorizing Mayor’s signature. Dane Simonsen present. The agreement looks at rates in regards to total revenues with total expenses as well capital expense items. Council Member Britton moved to adopt Resolution 17-12 for a lump sum fee of \$9,000.00, Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Dettmer, Henke, Britton, Gigstad. Nays: none.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on selling of fixtures. Vogt explained 17 100-watt used light fixtures are available for people to purchase. Stilmock explained this will need a resolution therefore the discussion will be tabled until the May 10th Council meeting.

OLD BUSINESS –

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on Syracuse Streambank Stability Assessment. Attorney Stilmock is

waiting on reply from Chuck Porter. At that time, Stilmock will report back to Council at a future meeting.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on Subcommittee Report on Love’s Pioneering Agreement. Attorney Stilmock explained and clarified Item 6 in the agreement. Item 9 pertaining to a dump station was discussed pointing out that Love’s charges \$10.00 per use. Attorney Stilmock will move forward with the agreement revisions; the discussion will be continued at the May Council meeting.

Page 4 – Apr. 12, 2017

NEW BUSINESS –

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion and approval of Casey’s General Store liquor license upgrade from a Class B to a Class D. Council Member Henke moved to approve the upgrade of the liquor license, Dettmer seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Gigstad, Britton, Dettmer, Henke. Nays: none.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on approval to obtain contract signatures on Project 15-OTF-02 of the Otoe County-Wide OOR Program. Council Member Britton moved to approve the project recommended by SENDD. Roll Call: Yeas: Dettmer, Henke, Britton, Gigstad. Nays: none.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on future acreage development requirements, Bruce Meyer present. Meyer is concerned about the requirement for acreage developments to have to put in paved streets and is asking if the rule can be amended. Meyer explains the cost of acreages would significantly increase in order to cover the additional cost of putting in paved streets thus preventing the acreages from being sold. Council Member Britton is concerned looking into the future when someone does want to put in a paved road, who is going to be responsible for the cost? Mayor Ortiz asked Meyer to give he and the Council time to think about this and plan to come back for the May 10th, 2017 Council meeting.

LIBRARY REPORT – Sue Antes present. Antes discussed the overdrive that was a concern at the April meeting. Antes will not put the overdrive usage noted on her report into the circulation until the new budget year begins October 1, 2017. Antes has purchased two Slow, Children at Play Signs for the Library. Antes thanked Jeff and the Utilities staff for everything they do for her and the Library. The Foundation has purchased an overhead projector and laptop for the meeting room. Eleven meetings were booked at the Library during the month of March. No complaints have been made regarding the after-hours wi-fi usage.

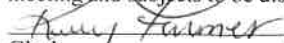
Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on approval of Electricians and Plumbers for 2017-2018. Clerk Farmer provided a list of those who have turned in applications. Council Member Britton approved those on the list, Henke seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Henke, Britton, Gigstad, Dettmer. Nays: none. A list of Plumbers and Electricians is kept current at City Hall.

Mayor Ortiz requested at this time a Council Member to make motion to go into Closed Session to discuss acquisition of real estate. Council Member Dettmer moved to go into Closed Session at 8:19 P.M., Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Henke, Dettmer, Gigstad, Britton. Nays: none.

Council Member Dettmer motioned to come out of Closed Session at 9:02 P.M., Britton seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Gigstad, Britton, Henke, Dettmer. Nays: none.

Mayor Ortiz asked a Council Member to motion to adjourn. Council Member Henke moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 P.M., Dettmer seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Gigstad, Britton, Dettmer, Henke. Nays: none.

I the undersigned Clerk hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the proceedings had and done by the Mayor and Council; that all of the subjects included in the foregoing proceedings were contained in the agenda for the meeting; kept continually and available for inspection at the office of the City Clerk; that such subjects were contained in the said agenda for at least twenty-four hours prior to the said meeting; that at least one copy of the reproducible material discussed at the meeting was available at the meeting for the examination and copying by members of the public; that the said minutes were in written form and available for public inspection within ten working days or prior to the next convened meeting of the body; that all news media requesting notification concerning time and place of said body were provided advance notification of time and place of said meeting and subjects to be discussed at said meeting.


Clerk




Mayor