

REGULAR MEETING
CITY COUNCIL

NOVEMBER 12, 2014

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Syracuse, Nebraska met at 6:00 P.M. on November 12, 2014 for their regular meeting in Council Chambers at 495 Midland Street. Present were Mayor Ortiz, Council members Dettmer, Lutjemeyer and Henke. Council member Gigstad arrived at the meeting at 6:25 P.M. Notice of meeting was given by posting in three places. A copy of the posting notice and acknowledgement of notice to the Council is attached to these minutes. Availability of the agenda was communicated in the advance notice. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the meeting was open to the public.

Mayor Ortiz presented an Appreciation Plaque to Jameson Bennett for his planting of 27 trees at the Sports Complex for his Eagle Scout project. Mayor Ortiz praised Jameson for his dedication and hard work. Mayor Ortiz stated that the trees are a beautiful addition to the Sports Complex and will be enjoyed for years.

Mayor Ortiz presented an Appreciation Plaque to Stan & Kate Stutheit for their donation of the trees for Jamison Bennett's Eagle Scout project. Mayor Ortiz complemented the Stutheits for their willingness to help the Scouts and make our community a better place to live.

Peggy Kuser, City Treasurer, was unable to attend the meeting. The City Treasurer is requesting a monthly increase of \$250 bringing the monthly fee to \$845. After review of request, Council member Dettmer made the motion to approve an increase in City Treasurer monthly fee to \$845, second by Henke. Roll Call: Yeas: Dettmer, Lutjemeyer, Henke. Nays: None.

Council member Henke made the motion to approve the following claims, second by Lutjemeyer. Roll Call: Yeas: Lutjemeyer, Henke, Dettmer. Nays: None.

AFLAC	551.80
Allied Refuse Services	471.82
Allure	15.00
American Water Works Association	485.00
Arbor Valley Animal Clinic	43.00
Awards Unlimited, Inc.	124.00
B & B Pump N Go, Inc.	1,250.58
B & B Pump N Go, Inc.	558.78
Baragary Construction, Inc.	1,200.00
Barco Municipal Products	113.92
Benefit Plans, Inc.	298.75
Blackburn Mfg. Co.	272.95
Bound Tree Medical, LLC	139.34
Brandt, Horan, Hallstrom & Stilmock	2,555.54
Caleb Frede	325.00
Carol Linquist	250.00
Chris Richardson	25.00
Christa Neemann	100.00
Chuck's Computer Repair	50.00
City of St. Paul	83.99
Cardmember Service	832.25
Combined Revenue Bonds Pri. & Int.	25,000.00
David Partsch	100.00
Dearborn National Life Ins. Co.	127.28
Demco	142.24
Display Sales	357.50
Double Day	71.18
Douglas Tire	260.00
Dugan Business Forms	1,036.50

Dutton Lainson Co.	9,734.01
EMS Billing Services, Inc.	1,725.32
EMSAR Des Moines	636.85
Environmental Analysis South, Inc.	55.00
Farmers' Cooperative	14.60
Fire Protection Service	147.25
Fireguard, Inc.	1,443.75
First National Bank Fremont	124,666.25
Food Magazine	23.99
Garry Carman	65.71
Gatehouse Media Nebraska Holdings, Inc.	426.49
Glamour	16.00
Guy Brace II	350.00
Hank's Garage	6.00
Hawkin's, Inc.	242.55
Heiman Fire Equipment, Inc.	346.09
HGTV	24.00
Humana	413.40
Ingram Library Services	909.01
J & S Floors	185.00
Jason LaFollette	43.29
Jeff Vogt	2,000.00
JEO Consulting Group, Inc.	2,071.25
Jody Bruns	150.00
Joseph Reisdorff	25.00
Kastens Ford, LTD	547.19
Kay Anderson	200.00
Kenneth Halvorsen	25.00
Kim Parde	175.00
Kriz Davis Co.	459.02
Larry Neemann	100.00
Layne Christensen Company	460.47
Liberty National Life Ins. Company	24.00
Lincoln Landscaping	125.00
Lynn Lyon	75.00
Marcia Scheinost	75.00
Matheson Tri-Gas, Inc.	81.57
Midwest Farmers Coopeative	141.99
Municipal Service & Supply	337.65
Nebraska City Utilities	632.51
Nebraska Library Commission	500.00
NE Public Health Env. Lab.	31.00
Nebraska Rural Water Assoc.	200.00
Omaha Public Power District	100,781.86
One Call Concepts, Inc.	24.85
Otoe County	15,000.00
Peggy Kuser PCA	1,105.00
Peggy Neemann	125.00
Percival Culligan Water	35.25
Pioneer Underground Sprinklers	722.00
Petty Cash	122.40
Roy Bretthorst	53.80
Ruth Jeffrey	113.29
Scott Miles	200.00
Stutheit Implement	120.53
Sue Antes	18.87
Synchrony Bank/Amazon	308.48
Syracuse Do It Best	175.96
Syracuse Do It Best	187.82

Syracuse Do It Best	4.58
Syracuse Lumber	112.78
Syracuse Motor Supply	245.91
Swimming Pool Bonds 2009	66,121.00
Terry's Family Foods	424.04
The Added Touch	52.50
Tim Antes	113.09
Tim Wilson	689.37
TKK Electronics, LLC	7,134.00
Todd Binder	50.00
Tree City Tees	28.00
Tree City Tees	420.00
Tri-State Office Products	750.00
Trugreen	526.11
Turf Supply Company, Inc.	720.00
United Healthcare	13,873.61
USA Blue Book	670.08
Verizon Wireless	332.27
Windstream	1,528.51
Windstream	46.45
Western Area Power Administration	1,876.15
US Postal Service	320.73
Connie Albers	80.35
Todd Aksamit	1,709.88
Susan Antes	1,513.39
Timothy Antes	115.44
Carolyn Bremer	183.45
Roy Bretthorst	218.44
Garry Carman	2,626.88
Deborah Dettmer	92.35
Kelly Farmer	1,748.62
Caleb Frede	115.44
Alfred Gigstad	92.35
Carol Graham	92.35
Eldon Halm	115.44
Eldon Halm	2,006.64
Derek Harms	1,954.31
Kristina Henke	92.35
Peggy Hobscheidt	1,811.36
Karen Kimpel	113.82
Jason LaFollette	1,903.59
Carol Linquist	115.44
Chris Lutjemeyer	92.35
Morgan Mueller	118.20
Shayna Murrell	1,689.63
Cassandra Oestmann	13.39
Tomas Ortiz	369.40
Julie Slafter	1,401.26
Richard Sitzman	115.44
Mitchell Stubbendick	2,063.30
Jeffery Vogt	2,236.54
Timothy Wilson	115.44

SHERIFF REPORT – Report presented by Chief Deputy Mike Holland. There were 97 calls in October, 40 being Rescue calls. Mayor Ortiz requested that Chief Deputy Holland have the deputies patrol Highway 50/Park Street during the evening hours and check for violators of the City ordinance against using audible compression brakes.

PARKS & RECREATION REPORT – – Park Manager Todd Aksamit presented the Park report. Park Manager Aksamit reported stated that he and Superintendent Garry Carman will be checking out the irrigation pumps at the Sports Complex for a filter system. Park Manager Aksamit would also like to purchase permanent covers for the dug outs at complex, he will obtain a cost and report back to Mayor and Council.

Recreation Coordinator Shayna Murrell reported that there were 7,985 patrons at the swimming pool this season which was a decrease from the 2013 season where 8,286 patrons visited the pool.

Boys & Girls basketball practice has started and plans are to try and have an adult basketball league.

Mayor Ortiz stated that Shayna Murrell has completed her six month probation period and he is recommending 25 cents per hour raise.

Council Lutjemeyer made the motion to end the probation period of Shayna Murrell and increase salary 25 cents per hour, second by Gigstad. Roll Call: Yeas: Lutjemeyer, Henke, Gigstad, Dettmer. Nays: None.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT – Report presented by Superintendent of Public Works Garry Carman. Superintendent Carman stated that the Christmas tree will be coming from Mary Lou Haynes of Auburn and he will get the tree on November 30th.

Mayor and Council reviewed Maintenance Agreement No. 45 for maintenance of Highway 50/Park Street. The maintenance agreement covers snow removal and maintenance for 4.10 lane miles in the amount of \$500 per mile for a total fee of \$2,050. The fee is an increase of \$512.50 from last year.

Council member Lutjemeyer made the motion to adopt RESOLUTION NO. 14-17: A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SYRACUSE, OTOE COUNTY, NEBRASKA TO APPROVE, RATIFY AND ACCEPT THE AGREEMENT FOR RENEWAL OF MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT NO. 45 BETWEEN THE CITY OF SYRACUSE, OTOE COUNTY, NEBRASKA AND THE STATE OF NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF ROADS, REGARDING THE STANDARDS OF DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF STATE HIGHWAY 50; TO PROVIDE FOR THE EXECUTION THEREOF, second by Gigstad. Roll Call: Yeas: Henke, Gigstad, Dettmer, Lutjemeyer. Nays: None.

A true, correct and complete copy of said resolution is attached hereto and made a part hereof by reference.

City Attorney Jerry Stilmock stated that he has the ordinance ready for passage for the increase of \$100 per month for Mayoral salary. The increase will bring the monthly salary of the Mayor to \$500.00 per month.

Council member Lutjemeyer introduced Ordinance No. 961 entitled: AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SYRACUSE, OTOE COUNTY, NEBRASKA SETTING THE COMPENSATION FOR THE ELECTED POSITION OF MAYOR; TO PROVIDE FOR THE REPEAL OF CONFLICTING ORDINANCES OR SECTIONS; AND TO PROVIDE FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE and moved that the statutory rule requiring reading on three different days be suspended. Council member Henke seconded the motion to suspend the rules and upon roll call on the motion, the following Council members voted YEA: Lutjemeyer, Henke, Gigstad, Dettmer. The following voted NAY: None. The motion to suspend the rules was adopted by three-fourths of the City Council, and the statutory rule was declared suspended for consideration of said ordinance.

Said ordinance was then read by title, and thereafter Council member Henke moved for final passage of the ordinance which motion was seconded by Council member Dettmer. The Mayor

then stated the question, “Shall Ordinance No. 961 be passed and adopted?” Upon roll call vote the following Council members voted YEA: Henke, Gigstad, Dettmer, Lutjemeyer. The following Council members voted NAY: None. The passage and adoption of said ordinance, having been concurred in by a majority of all members of the City Council, the Mayor declared the ordinance adopted, and the Mayor in the presence of the City Council, signed and approved the ordinance, and the Clerk attested the passage and approval of the same and affixed her signature thereto.

A true, correct and complete copy of said ordinance is attached hereto and made a part hereof by reference.

Council member Gigstad made the motion to continue the public hearing concerning the following-described real estate: Southwest Quarter (SW ¼) W & S of Railroad Right-of-Way and Southeast Quarter (SE ¼) Northwest Quarter (NW ¼), Section Twenty-two (22), Range Eight (8), Township Eleven (11), Otoe County, Nebraska to change the Comprehensive Plan and Future Land Use Map from Transitional Agricultural to Light Industrial, public hearing on application for a change of zoning designation for the following-described real estate: Southwest Quarter (SW¼) W & S of Railroad Right-of-Way and Southeast Quarter (SE ¼) Northwest Quarter (NW ¼), Section Twenty-two (22), Range Eight (8), Township Eleven (11), Otoe County, Nebraska from TA-1 Transitional Agricultural to I-1 Light Industrial and to Change the official zoning map and public hearing on application for a conditional use permit pursuant to Syracuse Municipal Zoning Code Section 5.13.03.04 Grain storage and Elevators on the following-described real estate: Southwest Quarter (SW ¼) W & S of Railroad Right-of-Way and Southeast Quarter (SE ¼) Northwest Quarter (NW ¼), Section Twenty-two (22), Range Eight (8), Township Eleven (11), Otoe County, Nebraska until the December 10, 2014 at 6:00 P.M., second by Henke. Roll Call: Yeas: Dettmer, Lutjemeyer, Henke, Gigstad. Nays: None.

Discussion was held on ownership of personal property Fire equipment. City Attorney Stilmock explained to Mayor and Council that the Fire Department owns equipment that has been purchase by the City, Syracuse Rural Fire District and with the Department’s donation funds. LARM is suggesting that in order to be certain that all the equipment not double insured, the Fire District sign a bill of sale and give the City total ownership of equipment purchased by the City and the City will also sign bill of sale giving the Rural Fire District ownership of the equipment the District has purchased.

City Attorney Stilmock will draw up a bill of sale and inventory list for the Presidents of the Volunteer Fire Department and Rural Fire District to sign and acceptance of equipment will be placed on the December meeting agenda.

Council member Henke made the motion to approve Ben Fritzwater as new member of Volunteer Fire Department, second by Dettmer. Roll Call: Yeas: Henke, Gigstad, Lutjemeyer, Dettmer. Nays: None.

Jason Ross appeared before Mayor and Council to discuss the noise and light pollution due to the proposed truck stop. Mr. Ross stated that he was concerned about noise of the truck running while parked at truck stop and lights during the evening hours.

Mayor Ortiz informed Mr. Ross that Love’s are planning on putting up a fence along the residential property as a buffer to the noise and truck lights. Love’s will also be using directional lighting which will help with the light problems caused by the buildings.

City Clerk Hobscheidt informed Mr. Ross that she would keep him apprised of all the developments at the truck stop and Mayor Ortiz thanked Mr. Ross for his comments and concerns.

Carolyn Gigstad, Executive Director for the Syracuse Chamber of Commerce, appeared before Mayor and Council to request the City’s help in purchasing welcome banners. Mrs. Gigstad

stated that they have 47 banners currently sponsored and is currently seeking help with purchasing 13 additional banners.

Mrs. Gigstad is hoping to receive \$500 from the Syracuse Foundation and \$2,500 from the Syracuse Economic Development Corp. and is requesting a donation of \$1,000 from the City. The banners purchased by the City will be placed along Highway 50/Park Street and will be generic in nature.

Mayor Ortiz questioned Superintendent Carman as to how many man hours will be needed to hang the banners. Superintendent Carman stated that it would take approximately 120 hours which will be a cost to the City of \$2,040.

Council member Gigstad made the motion to donate \$1,000 for the purchase of four banners with Street funds, second by Dettmer. Roll Call: Yeas: Dettmer, Lutjemeyer, Henke, Gigstad. Nays: None.

Mayor Ortiz informed the Council that the lease agreement with Mt. Moriah Lodge for meeting room located above the Council Chamber has expired. The 99 year lease was signed in 1907. Mayor Ortiz stated that he and Superintendent Carman had inspected the area and it is need of renovation and electrical work.

City Attorney Stilmock will work on drawing up a new lease and Superintendent Carman will check into cost of electric renovation.

Mayor Ortiz stated that there are funds in the budget to renovate the Council Chambers and purchase an audio/visual system. Mayor Ortiz explained that beside a new audio system, he would like to have a screen where individuals in the Council Chambers during meetings would be able to see all documents and pictures that the Mayor and Council are reviewing.

Mayor Ortiz has talked with Lincoln Sound & Lighting and will contact two additional companies.

Mayor Ortiz questioned overtime pay virus compensatory time for employees working over 8 hours per day. City Attorney Stilmock will look into the legalities and report back to Mayor and Council.

Mayor Ortiz stated that he has received information from three of the Council members on their recommendations for the Employee Salary Step Program. Mayor Ortiz will review, compile and send out to the Council members the information for their review and would like to meet to discuss the findings.

Mayor Ortiz also informed the Council that when Superintendent Garry Carman retires in 2015 there will be no one qualified to do the electrical inspections. The inspections must be performed by a certified electrical inspector. The City must have someone in place to do the inspections at that time.

Mayor Ortiz stated that he, Deputy Clerk Kelly Farmer and City Attorney Stilmock will be meeting with James Bonneville of Municode on November 19th to review his recommendation and proposal for getting the City ordinances on the City website.

City Clerk Hobscheidt stated that she had spoken with Bob Bouke of Bockman Inc. and they would honor the proposal submitted in July for removal of asbestos at the Martin property but could not lower the fee. The cost would be \$740 for field observation, bulk collection, report generation and travel expenses.

City Attorney Stilmock again explained to those attending the meeting that even if the City paid for asbestos report and demolition, that the City may not be able to recoup the funds. The Mayor and Council will take this under advisement.

Council member Gigstad made the motion to adjourn at 8:20 P.M, second by Dettmer. Roll Call: Yeas: Lutjemeyer, Henke, Gigstad, Dettmer. 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.

City Clerk

Mayor