

REGULAR MEETING  
CITY COUNCIL

NOVEMBER 8, 2017

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Syracuse, Nebraska met at 6:00 P.M. on November 8, 2017 for their regular meeting in the Syracuse City Hall Council Chambers at 495 5<sup>th</sup> Street. Notice of meeting was given by posting in three places. Mayor Ortiz requested roll call, present were Mayor Ortiz and Council members Gigstad, Dettmer, Britton, Henke. A copy of the posting notice and acknowledgement of notice to the Council is attached to these minutes. Minutes for the October 18<sup>th</sup> and October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2017 meetings 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.

Library Report – Mayor Ortiz led the discussion, Sue Antes present. Antes spoke of the regional wide decrease in circulation brought up at a meeting she attended. Antes explained the library world is changing but she does not have any concerns regarding the circulation at the Syracuse Public Library at this time. Fall pre-school morning story time has ended; afternoon story time is still in session. Book clubs are going well and the Library took part in the Halloween parade; Antes said the only thing they would do different is to not participate in the special advertising the Journal-Democrat hosted in the future. Friends of the Library will host the soup luncheon for Tannenbaum on December 3<sup>rd</sup> and Santa Claus will be at the Library from 1:00 to 3:00 P.M. Antes is working with the Foundation on the digitizing for the Journal-Democrat; this is a \$13,000.00 project. The meeting room had ten reservations for the month of October.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on Approval of Claims and Treasurer's Report; Todd Blome of BMG not present to discuss the September Financial Report. No further discussion was had. Council Member Britton moved to approve the Treasurer's Report and pay the claims, Henke seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Britton, Henke, Dettmer, Gigstad. Nays: none.

Mayor Ortiz asked if anyone would like to speak for Hearing of those present, no one present.

Aflac	282.68
Ameritas	102.72
B&B Pump N Go	1431.95
Barco Municipal Products, Inc.	695.57
Benefit Plans Inc.	298.75
Brandt, Horan, Hallstrom & Stilmock	4171.50
City of Nebraska City	954.35
City of Syracuse	937.16
Collection Services Center	205.38
Crouch Recreation	8794.00
Culligan	9.00
DHHS	26.10
Dutton Lainson Co.	239.62
Eakes	306.17
Emergency Repair Service	442.00
EMS Billing Services	2394.90
Farmers Cooperative	16.15
Gatehouse Media	312.45
Hank's Garage and Tire Repair	804.50
Hawkins	165.19
Jesse Jewell	100.00
John Palmtag	100.00
John Voyles	35.00
Kay Anderson	200.00
Kc Ortiz	50.00
Lincoln Landscaping	250.00
Matheson	35.15
Midwest Labs, Inc.	121.40
Mike's Window Service	107.83

Municipal Supply	71.02
NE Child Support Payment Center	290.78
Nebraska City Utilities	277.89
One Call Concepts	34.77
Otoe County Sheriff	15,000.00
Papillion Sanitation	285.31
Personnel Concepts	19.00
Pioneer Underground Sprinkler	640.00
Register of Deeds	44.00
Sandry Fire Supply	728.50
Smart Apple Media	562.22
SVFD	147.11
Syracuse Do It Best	588.24
Syracuse Iron Works	585.10
Syracuse Lumber Co.	32.97
Syracuse Motor Supply	550.94
Syracuse Veterinary Clinic	249.36
Terry's	25.72
Tree City Tees	18.00
Upper Great Plains Region	1584.73
Western Sand & Gravel Co.	187.99
Windstream	1288.73
Shayna Murrell	542.28
Todd Aksamit	975.59
Kelly Farmer	1158.18
Derek Harms	1027.01
Mark Moerer	1001.84
Chiona Morris	976.02
Julie Slafter	849.17
Mitchell Stubbendick	675.53
Jeffrey Vogt	1522.57
Brian Vodicka	674.11
Jonathan Baugous	637.41

Sheriff's Report – Mayor Ortiz led the discussion, Deputy Sheriff Holland present. The Call Report for the month of October reported 56 total calls. Three of the four vandalism/theft calls were for gas drive-offs. Traffic Stops consisted of seven of the calls, a good portion of these have been up by the Love's Truck Stop location. Rescue calls took up 15 of those calls and Rescue transfers were at 14. The department is still three deputies down for medical reasons. Upgrades to the computer and radio systems have been keeping Holland busy at the office.

Zoning Report – Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on zoning codes, Bruce Neemann present. Larry Kavan, Syracuse resident present to discuss a 20'x 20' garage he would like to put up at his residence. Kavan would like to use steel siding on the garage, the code reads the building needs to keep the same look that is customary for residential construction; Neemann does not feel this siding looks as though it replicates residential construction. Kavan explained the entire building would be steel; concrete would be laid later. Kavan is having difficulties receiving quotes from companies until something is paid up front. The Mayor and Council asked Kavan to obtain additional information and pictures to better show what the garage will look like. Clerk Farmer will let Kavan know when the next Council meeting is.

Neemann also discussed Attorney Jerry Stilmock is working on a couple of items that will go in front of the Planning Commission later in November. These items consist of discrepancies in the definition of Home Occupation and what is stated as conditional use and accessory use. The term "Authorized Agent of the City" is used in the code book for zoning purposes; Neemann wants to know if this pertains to his position as Zoning/Nuisance Inspector.

Rescue Report – Tim Wilson present. Wilson gave an update on the new rig; Wilson has verbal confirmation that a donation will be made to cover the remaining amount of the new rig as well as possibly some of the cost of a second new rig. Wilson is currently speaking with a foundation he and the Mayor have been working with as well. Wilson explained call volume has been the lowest at one

month and then a record high the next month. The Rescue squad is hoping to push forward with an EMT class soon.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on contracting pay instead of using salary pay. Since the last meeting Todd Blome has reached out explaining the previous approval to add all fire and rescue volunteers to the payroll. The discussion tonight is to reverse that motion to actually make it where all fire and rescue volunteers will be off of the payroll, starting January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018 will be paid in the form of a claim where no withholdings will be included. Letters will be sent to those currently on the payroll to let them know of the change. Council Member Britton moved to approve using contracting pay instead of salary pay for the Rescue Squad as well as the Fire Department, Dettmer seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Gigstad, Britton, Henke, Dettmer. Nays: none.

Swimming Pool & Programs Report – Rec Coordinator Murrell not present, Park Manager Jon Baugous present. Baugous reported for Murrell 110 kids are signed up for basketball and Murrell recently met with the Tumbling instructor to discuss the 2018 Tumbling program. The classes will be held on Saturdays in January as they have in the past. Baugous did not have anything else to report. Baugous has not heard anything from Pester Grading on the Williams Park grading project. Baugous spoke with Todd Aksamit regarding the drainage issues at the Sports Complex Playground; at this point the only solution is to make sure the drains are not clogged. More research needs to be done to fix the problem.

Public Works Report – Superintendent Vogt not present. Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on widening the driveway going north at 11<sup>th</sup> & Poplar, Derek Grotrian of Grotrian Enterprises present to explain. Grotrian began his discussion by suggesting the best solution is to look into receiving highway access off of Highway 50 into his property; this is done by working with Nebraska Department of Roads. Grotrian used a photo of the 11<sup>th</sup> & Poplar intersection to explain it is getting more difficult for semi-trucks and trailers to make the turn to go up into the property. Storm sewers are located on both sides of the street; trucks currently run over these. Grinding the curb down was one suggestion but Grotrian showed on the picture the trucks actually go over the area where the storm drain is, not so much the curb. Grotrian suggested making the drain flush with the street with cast iron grates sturdy enough to withstand the weight of the trucks; this along with trimming a tree located on the west corner of the intersection. Grotrian also explained turning off of Highway 50 onto 11<sup>th</sup> Street is continuing to be a problem as traffic gets backed up while the turning truck has to wait if a person pointing east sitting at the 11<sup>th</sup> Street stop sign won't back up. Grotrian had been told a driveway used to be located off of Highway 50 onto his property; no one else knew of this. The Mayor and Council suggest Grotrian calling Thomas Goodbarn of NDOR first to see what feedback he receives about a Highway 50 access, then a co-authored letter from the City and Grotrian can be drafted. Grotrian also asked for the Council's nod to bring dirt in on the north side of his building to build that area up to allow trucks to drive around the building.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion and Resolution No. 17-39 on acceptance of Drinking Water Protection Plan Agreement between JEO and City of Syracuse, authorizing Mayor's signature. Dane Simonsen of JEO not present. Council Member Henke moved to adopt Resolution No. 17-39 authorizing Mayor's signature on the contract, Dettmer seconded. Roll Call: Gigstad, Henke, Dettmer, Britton. Nays: none.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on GIS Workshop, Geneie Andrews present. Best practices guidelines and a Statement of Work were distributed to the Mayor, Council and Attorney Stilmock. Andrews spoke of the cost being spread out during two budget years and between many City departments so one doesn't feel the burden of the cost as much as another. If the Council approved the agreement, the base map would be built in first then developing all of the current asset information the City has access to. All zoning information would be added then the data collection by JEO would begin. As this data is collected, JEO ships the information over to GIS where they continue to build our site. Training will begin with City employees to show them how to continue to build out the data and how to utilize the site. The process is estimated to take two to three years. After that the next set of data collection will be done, this will not be an additional charge from GIS to build in this next set of data, this is part of the maintenance. The Mayor and Council suggest allowing time for Attorney Stilmock and Superintendent Vogt to review the agreement draft and follow up with the Mayor and Council with their feedback. Data management is not really a concern for Andrews as other cities that have dozens of layers have not reached data limitations. Data input is mostly done with drop-downs and clicks; additional comments need to be entered by typing. Andrews will send the City the last audit and metadata log performed on GIS Workshop.

OLD BUSINESS –

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on private streets. Council Member Britton explained a meeting was had with Britton, Vogt, and JEO reps. JEO has concerns regarding mechanical items that need to be thought about. Jeff Ray of JEO would like to speak with Evan Wickersham and re-visit the request by the City to look at what options we have for private streets. JEO will come back to present to the Mayor and Council and invite the builders and developers to take part in the conversation at that time as well. Mayor Ortiz brought up the idea of Strategic Plan to capture all of the projects the City is currently working on and prioritize in order to move forward and complete these projects.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on Streambank Stability Assessment. No further information was discussed in regards to the Streambank Stability.

NEW BUSINESS –

Mayor Ortiz opened the public hearing, discussion and Ordinance No. 1031 to take action to amend the Future Land Use and Transportation Maps from Downtown Commercial to Medium Density Residential on the following-described real estate:

1. Tract B, Bauer Subdivision original Village of Syracuse, in Otoe County, Nebraska.
2. Tract A, Bauer Subdivision, formerly known as the North 68' of Lots 1 & 2 in Block 17 in the original Village of Syracuse, in Otoe County, Nebraska.
3. The South 87.17' of Lot 10, and the South 65.75' of Lots 11 & 12, Block 24, Syracuse, Otoe County, Nebraska.

The Planning Commission recommended the request to move forward for Council approval. Property owner, Wes Janssen present to discuss the significance of allowing the requested change of zoning. Mayor Ortiz closed the public hearing. Council Member Gigstad moved to introduce Ordinance No. 1031 and move the statutory rule requiring reading on three different days be suspended, Henke seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Henke, Britton, Gigstad, Dettmer. Nays: none. Mayor Ortiz read Ordinance No. 1031 by title. Council Member Dettmer moved for final passage of the Ordinance No. 1031, Britton seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Dettmer, Gigstad, Britton, Henke. Nays: none.

Mayor Ortiz opened the public hearing, discussion and Ordinance No. 1032 to take action to on Application for Change of Zoning Designation from Downtown Commercial to Medium Density Residential on the following-described real estate:

1. Tract B, Bauer Subdivision original Village of Syracuse, in Otoe County, Nebraska.
2. Tract A, Bauer Subdivision, formerly known as the North 68' of Lots 1 & 2 in Block 17 in the original Village of Syracuse, in Otoe County, Nebraska.
3. The South 87.17' of Lot 10, and the South 65.75' of Lots 11 & 12, Block 24, Syracuse, Otoe County, Nebraska.

The Planning Commission recommended the request to move forward for Council approval. Mayor Ortiz closed the public hearing. Council Member Henke moved to introduce Ordinance No. 1032 and move the statutory rule requiring reading on three different days be suspended, Britton seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Gigstad, Henke, Dettmer, Britton. Nays: none. Mayor Ortiz read Ordinance No. 1032 by title. Council Member Dettmer moved for final passage of the Ordinance No. 1032, Britton seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Britton, Dettmer, Henke, Gigstad. Nays: none.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on employee life insurance quotes, Wayne and Sharon McDermott of Diversified Benefits not present. The Mayor and Council requested the item be tabled and ask if the McDermott's attend a future meeting to present the information.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on approval of write-up, narrative and recommendation for the Otoe Countywide Housing Project 15-OTF-05, SENDD not present. Council Member Britton moved to approve the partial payment of \$24,970.00, Dettmer seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Gigstad, Dettmer, Britton, Henke. Nays: none.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion and approval for Otoe Countywide Housing Rehab Partial Payment Request and Approval Form for Project 15-OTF-10, authorizing Mayor's signature. Council Member Britton moved to approve the partial payment of \$16,820.00, Henke seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Henke, Britton, Dettmer, Gigstad. Nays: none.

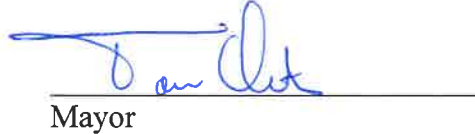
Mayor Ortiz led the discussion and approval for Otoe Countywide Housing Rehab Final Payment Request and Approval Form for Project 15-OTF-02, authorizing Mayor's signature. Council Member Henke moved to approve the final payment of \$5,645.00, Dettmer seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Britton, Gigstad, Dettmer, Henke. Nays: none.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on approval of Plumbers License. Clerk Farmer presented All Pro Plumbing for approval. Council Member Britton moved to approve the license application, Henke seconded. Roll call: Yeas: Henke, Dettmer, Gigstad, Britton. Nays: none.

Mayor Ortiz asked a Council Member to motion to adjourn. Council Member Dettmer moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:23 P.M., Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Britton, Gigstad, 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