

REGULAR MEETING
CITY COUNCIL

SEPTEMBER 13, 2017

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Syracuse, Nebraska met at 6:00 P.M. on September 13, 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, Henke, Dettmer. A copy of the posting notice and acknowledgement of notice to the Council is attached to these minutes. Minutes for the August 21st, 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.

SHERIFF REPORT – Deputy Holland not able to attend, Deputy Rehms present to report for the month of August. There were a total of 49 Syracuse calls for the month. Seven of the calls were vandalism/theft with three being gas drive-offs, two noise complaints, and eight traffic stops accounting for a portion of the calls. Rehms explained the department is having problems with the CAD system. The radio install for the system upgrade will happen between October and November with the records management portion happening in January 2018. Rehms spoke of the eclipse and with the traffic backed up as it was there was only one accident for the county.

The July Treasurer’s Report/Financial Statement available; Todd Blome of BMG present. Blome explained his main focus for the evening was the budget hearing unless anyone had any questions. He explained all accounts have been reconciled and everything has been accounted for. No further discussion was had. Council Member Britton moved to approve the Treasurer’s Report and pay the claims, Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Dettmer, Henke, Gigstad, Britton. Nays: none.

Mayor Ortiz opened the budget hearing and led the discussion on approval of the 2017-2018 Budget and approval of additional 1.0% increase in restricted funds, Todd Blome of BMG present. Blome explained the budget documents prepared by BMG, answering question from the Mayor and City Council. Mayor Ortiz closed the public hearing. Council Member Dettmer moved to approve the additional 1.0 % increase in restricted funds and the 2017-2018 Budget, Britton second. Roll Call: Yeas: Henke, Britton, Dettmer, Gigstad. Nays: none.

Mayor Ortiz opened the public hearing and Ordinance No. 1019 on hearing, support, opposition, criticism, suggestions, or observations of tax payers relating to proposed 2017-2018 Budget. Total property tax request for the 2017-2018 budget year is \$520,869.19. No opposition of the budget documents. Mayor Ortiz closed the public hearing. Council Member Britton and moved the statutory rule requiring reading on three different days be suspended, Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Dettmer, Gigstad, Henke, Britton. Nays: none. Mayor Ortiz read Ordinance No. 1019 by title. Council Member Dettmer moved for final passage of Ordinance No. 1019, Henke seconded. Mayor Ortiz stated the question, “Shall Ordinance No. 1019 be passed and adopted” and requested roll call vote. Roll Call: Yeas: Britton, Gigstad, Dettmer, Henke. Nays: none.

Mayor Ortiz opened the public hearing and Resolution No. 17-32 on hearing, support, opposition, criticism, suggestions, or observations of tax payers relating to setting the final tax request at a different amount than the prior tax request. No opposition of the property tax levy. Mayor Ortiz closed the public hearing. Council Member Gigstad moved to adopt Resolution No. 17-32, Henke seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Dettmer, Gigstad, Britton, Henke. Nays: none.

Aflac	282.68
Aaron Schroeder	100.00
A-1 Locksmith	166.00
Ameritas	180.72
Angela Cavanaugh	35.00
Aqua Chem	256.71
B&B Pump N Go	1456.67
Baragary Construction	6050.00
Beatrice Ready Mixed	558.75
BMG	5000.00

Bound Tree Medical	740.16
Brandt, Horan, Hallstrom, Stilmock	2181.40
Brown Glass	400.00
Burr Farms	40.00
Capital Business Systems	159.40
Cardmember Services	2825.76
City of Nebraska City	1778.99
City of Syracuse	2087.26
Culligan	76.45
Dan's Tire & Repair	157.47
Deana Guhde	38.32
Dentegra	760.84
Demco	382.57
Dutton Lainson Co.	1930.83
Eakes	108.83
EMS Billing Service	1225.37
Engineering Unlimited	825.60
Feld Fire	5855.00
First Wireless	110.00
Gatehouse Media Nebraska Holdings, Inc.	41.77
Gregg Zahn	6505.00
Hank's Garage & Tire Repair	16.50
Hawkins	208.15
Hemje Plumb. & Htg.	65.00
Ingram Library Services	568.52
JEO Consulting Group, Inc.	2649.50
John Palmtag	100.00
JPW Associates	160.82
Kerns Excavating	20,164.95
Kriz Davis Co.	1690.12
Kurt Kastens Electric	650.00
League of NE Municipalities	1134.00
Marlene Dufek	23.32
Matheson	0.65
Micro Marketing LLC	64.78
Midwest Farmers COOP	118.75
Midwest Labs	134.68
Moore Medical	382.75
Municipal Supply Inc. of Omaha	86.07
Nebraska City Utilities	554.32
NE Public Health Environmental Lab	64.00
NE Waste Reduction & Recycling Fee	25.00
One Call Concepts, Inc.	37.47
OPPD	129,749.81
Otoe County Sheriff	15,000.00
Papillion Sanitation	420.31
Personnel Concepts	10.90
Phillips Healthcare	3094.40
Right Eye Digital	1800.00
Sandry Fire Supply LLC	429.20
Sargent Drilling	20,745.90
Stutheit Implement	80.36
Syracuse Do It Best	1067.99
Syracuse IronWorks	119.76
Syracuse Lumber Company	1089.99
Syracuse Motor Supply, Inc.	56.34
T&R Electric	4757.00
Tennant Sales & Service Co.	1004.89
Terry's Family Foods	28.11
The Penworthy Company	25.96

United Healthcare	11,610.15
U.S. Postal Service	622.12
Verizon	230.91
Western Area Power Administration	2851.62
Windstream	1732.50
Shayna R. Murrell	1862.39
Sue Antes	1597.60
Carolyn Bremer	183.87
Todd E. Aksamit	1976.01
Deb Dettmer	161.61
Alan Britton	161.61
Kelly Farmer	2250.04
Leah Ganzel	191.16
Alfred Gigstad	161.61
Craig Boldt	115.44
Ken Parde	184.70
Derek R. Harms	2103.80
Jody Bruns	115.44
Kristine Henke	161.61
Mark S. Moerer	1935.68
Chiona R. Morris	1742.12
Marcia Scheinost	115.44
Julie J. Slafter	1674.98
Mitchell Stubbendick	2275.67
Brian Vodicka	1293.78
Jeff Vogt	2807.12
Tomas Ortiz	461.75
Timothy A. Wilson	184.70
Carol Linqvist	183.87
Patricia Hogancamp	110.82
Bruce Neemann	318.60
Chris Lutjemeyer	115.43
David Sabatka	115.43
Joe Reisdorff	184.70
Jon Baugous	1549.32
Caitlyn Carlson	99.05
Jamy Prokopec	814.72
Taylor Weiler	98.12
Cassie Katen	140.39
Aprille Johnson	99.85
Madison Marrs	81.26

HEARING OF THOSE PRESENT – County Commissioner James Parsons present. Parsons thanked the Mayor and Council for the smooth process renewing the Inter local Agreement between the City and Otoe County Sheriff Department. Parsons spoke of the GIS tab available on the county website to show roads information such as construction, plans, projects, etc. The next County Commissioners meeting is scheduled for September 26, 2017 at 8:30 A.M. County Road K south of town is making progress; Parsons is working on trying to implement a turning lane off of the highway onto K Road.

FIRE REPORT – Bruce Neemann out of town, Keith McWilliams, SVFD Safety Officer present. Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on approval of Tony Slupe as a member of the SVFD. Slupe is a Syracuse resident with experience on Dunbar's Fire Department. He has experience running the pump which is currently an area SVFD is in need of. No further discussion was had. Council Member Gigstad moved to approve Slupe, Dettmer seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Henke, Britton, Dettmer, Gigstad. Nays: none.

SWIMMING POOL & PROGRAMS & PARKS REPORT – Rec Coordinator Shayna Murrell not present, Park Manager Jon Baugous in attendance. Baugous spoke with Cheever Construction regarding drawing up a couple plans for a concessions/restroom building out at the soccer fields. Cheever may not be able to do something for the cost of \$10,000.00 currently budgeted but would help with ideas. Pester

Grading plans to start working on the grading of the pond at Williams Park in the next couple weeks. The swimming pool is scheduled to be drained soon; Mayor Ortiz has asked Baugous to be involved in the process. Mayor Ortiz announced Hemje Heating and Plumbing has repaired the water heater at the Aqua Center. Volleyball games start on September 23rd. Batting cage information for the Sports Complex was looked over; the discussion will be continued at a future Council meeting when Murrell can explain. Ortiz showed pictures of the Williams Park shed Murrell has renovated into an enclosed shelter. The shelter is available to rent for gatherings.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT – Jeff Vogt present. Mayor Ortiz led the discussion and resolution on Agreement between City and NeonLink for online bill pay. Billing Clerk Morris explained there are a few items in #10 of the agreement in question, the discussion will be tabled until the agreement items are hashed out.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on utility upgrade expenses at CMH rebuild site. Nate Buss and Justin Stark of Olsson Associates present along with Evan Wickersham of JEO. Wickersham feels the City and Olsson are on the same page regarding the sewer. Buss explained the sanitary sewer will now run along the west and connect with the existing sanitary sewer along Highway 2 right-of-way which is deeper and more feasible with possible future expansion of the area. A ballpark fee of \$10,000.00 for the sewer costs had been previously agreed upon by the Mayor and Council. Contractors have not put out a number for increasing water pipe from a 4”-6” to an 8” main; Olsson is still looking at numbers for the water detention cell; the cell will detain up to 100-year storm. Any drainage to the West is set up in a separate detention cell. Olsson is asking for the City’s consideration for additional charges for roadway and storm water expenses. Olsson will review these charges and return to a future Council meeting for consideration.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion and pay application for WWTP Aeration Project. Vogt presented the information from Caleb White of JEO and explained the timeline of the project. Council Member Britton moved to approve the partial payment of \$20,164.95 to Kerns Excavating, Dettmer seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Gigstad, Britton, Henke, Dettmer. Nays: none.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion and Pay Application No. 1 in the amount of \$20,745.90 for test well drilling services performed by Sargent Drilling; Dane Simonsen of JEO not present. Vogt and Britton explained the test wells went well. Council Member Britton moved to approve the Pay Application No. 1 in the amount of \$20,745.90 to Sargent Drilling, Dettmer seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Dettmer, Henke, Britton, Gigstad. Nays: none.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on test well results and consideration of completion of remaining tests. Council Member Britton explained the results of the two first wells drilled. The second well drilled at 190 feet tested the lower aquifer, nitrate levels tested at .983 and no measure for arsenic. Thirteen to fourteen tests were performed showing good quantity as well as quality. The City has received approval of a grant that will help protect the water source. Our existing wells show a 5.37 on north well and 6.7 on south for nitrate levels. The next phase involves DHHS; they require a much more thorough testing at a substantial expense. With this information, the Mayor and Council agreed to move forward with the testing of the deep well as well as drill two more test wells.

RESCUE REPORT – Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on contracting officer pay instead of using salary pay; this was tabled item from the August 21st Council meeting. Attorney Stilmock has not reached out to Tim therefore the discussion will be tabled until a future Council meeting. Wilson said estimated delivery date for the new rig is the week of January 22nd; he will be approaching the Council in the next few months after more grant work is completed.

LIBRARY REPORT – Librarian Sue Antes present. August circulation was good. 28 are enrolled in preschool story time; book clubs are kicking off this fall. Book Club I has 25 members, Book Club II has 10 and Book Club III has 10-12 members. The Library Foundation has decided to be part of the Nebraska Community Foundation; an article was featured in their circular regarding the Bright Lights program.

OLD BUSINESS –

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on private streets. The discussion was tabled until the October Council meeting.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on expiration of Agreement between City and Waste Connections for garbage hauling and disposal. The discussion was tabled until the October Council meeting. Three companies who have shown interest in the past will be approached to see if interest is still there.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion and Resolution No. 17-33 on renewal of Inter Local Agreement with City of Nebraska City for use of Building Inspection Department. A rate change has been proposed by City of Nebraska City. No further discussion was had. Council Member Gigstad moved to adopt Resolution 17-33 to renew the agreement, Dettmer seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Henke, Gigstad, Britton, Dettmer. Nays: none.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion and Resolution authorizing advertisement for bids for equipment held in upstairs of City Hall. The discussion was tabled. The drafted resolution included two gas stoves, which one is located on Jeremy Wilhelm's side. Also included was a wooden wardrobe which cannot be removed as it is built in. The stove will be checked on when the theatre seats start being broken down into groups.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on employee wages. Mayor Ortiz recommended going with a 1.4% COLA hourly pay increase keeping in mind the employee health insurance will be coming up for discussion which is considered a benefit for each employee. Council Member Britton explained a project he's been working on which provides information for both the employee and the employer. The form breaks down how much an employee's benefits are when looked at in an hourly format. These include overtime, holiday, vacation, sick hours, retirement, workers comp, life and health insurance including deductible payments among other items. Britton is planning on getting an annual statement out by February after the employee W-2's have been distributed. Council Member Britton moved to approve the COLA of 1.4% hourly pay increase and adjust the step plan accordingly, Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Henke, Dettmer, Britton, Gigstad. Nays: none.

NEW BUSINESS –

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on increasing limit of licensed pets allowed at a residence. John and Krista Voyles present. Documentation was presented by the Voyles showing what other municipalities allow for dogs and cats. The Council suggests increasing the number allowed within the corporate limits to three dogs and three cats as well as increasing the licensing fees to \$25.00 per pet for non-spayed or neutered and \$7.00 per pet for spayed or neutered. The discussion will be continued at the October 11th, 2017 Council meeting.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion and approval for Otoe Countywide Housing Rehab Payment Request and Approval Form for Project 15-OTF-10 for the amount of \$16,767.50, authorizing Mayor's signature. SENDD not present. No discussion was had. Council Member Britton moved to approve the payment request of \$16,767.50 for Project #10, Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Britton, Gigstad, Dettmer, Henke. Nays: none.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion and approval for Otoe Countywide Housing Rehab Payment Request and Approval Form for Project 15-OTF-11 for the amount of \$24,718.10, authorizing Mayor's signature. SENDD not present. No discussion was had. Council Member Britton moved to approve the payment request of \$24,718.10 for Project #11, Henke seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Henke, Dettmer, Gigstad, Britton. Nays: none.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion and approval for Otoe Countywide Housing Rehab Payment Request and Approval Form for Project 15-OTF-16 for the amount of \$24,995.00, authorizing Mayor's signature. SENDD not present. No discussion was had. Council Member Gigstad moved to approve the payment request of \$24,995.00 for Project #16, Dettmer seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Gigstad, Dettmer, Britton, Henke. Nays: none.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on SENDD Request for Consideration of 2017-2018 Membership Dues and Housing Dues; Tom Bliss of SENDD not present. Concern was had questioning what value the City has gained from membership with SENDD including the amount of turnover within SENDD and lack of

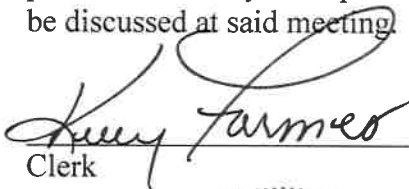
organization. The Mayor and Council suggest not renewing the City's membership with SENDD at this time.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on request for Oak Street closure from 1075 Oak south to dead-end on Saturday, October 28th from 8:00 A.M. to 10:00 P.M. for the purpose of a block party, Justin Stark present. Council Member Gigstad moved to approve the street closure, Dettmer seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Gigstad, Dettmer, Britton, Henke. Nays: none.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on consideration of request for refund on building permit fee; Corey Hiller not present. The 2012 International Code says the City would refer to the City's policy; if no policy is in place the Building Inspector decides. Building Inspector Viox said Nebraska City goes with the City keeping 1/3rd of the building permit application fee with the applicant receiving 2/3rds of the fee back along with the deposit placed at the time. Council Member Gigstad moved to approve the fee reimbursement of 2/3rds along with the deposit, Henke seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Britton, Dettmer, Gigstad, Henke. Nays: none.

Mayor Ortiz asked a Council Member to motion to adjourn. Council Member Dettmer moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 P.M., Henke seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Gigstad, Britton, Henke, 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.


Clerk


Mayor

