

REGULAR MEETING
CITY COUNCIL

April 4, 2018

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Syracuse, Nebraska met at 6:00 P.M. on Wednesday April 4, 2018 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 Dettmer, Britton Henke; Gigstad was absent. A copy of the posting notice and acknowledgement of notice to the Council is attached to these minutes. Minutes for the March 14th, 2018 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.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on Approval of Claims. Council Member Dettmer moved to approve and pay the claims, Britton seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Henke, Britton, Dettmer. Nays: none.

Aflac	357.10
AquaChem, Inc.	656.00
B&B Pump N Go	1472.36
Beatrice Concrete	1763.13
Bound Tree	1363.34
Border States	234.83
Brandt, Horan, Hallstrom & Stilmock	3457.07
Capital Business Systems	73.42
City of Nebraska City	788.78
City of Syracuse	117.63
Conney Safety	420.72
Culligan	42.40
Dean Lamb	235.00
Delta Dental	260.27
Elan Credit Card	415.67
First Bank of Nebraska	25.00
Five Nines	2130.00
First Wireless	23.50
Gatehouse Media	18.67
Hank's Garage & Tire Repair	297.30
Ingram Library Services	422.70
International Institute of Municipal Clerks	185.00
JEO	9302.50
Joe Rehrs	200.00
John Palmtag	100.00
Johnson Service Co.	6200.00
Martin Marietta	635.97
Matheson	35.15
Midwest Alarm Systems	160.00
Moore Medical	326.71
Municipal Supply of Omaha	2476.80
Nebraska City Utilities	1058.05
NE Public Health Environ. Lab	66.00
NMPP	1227.38
One Call Concepts	27.27
Otoe County Sheriff	15,000.00
Papillion Sanitation	500.00
Right Eye Digital	265.46
Sapp Brothers Petro.	1244.70
SEI	168.00
Shaffer Communications, Inc.	4074.23
Southeast NE Girls Softball League	890.00
Syracuse Do It Best	901.73
Syracuse Lumber Co.	52.75
Syracuse Motor Supply	721.61
Syracuse Veterinary Service	149.38

Synchrony Amazon	385.30
Tim Seelhoff	35.00
Tru-West	29.95
United Healthcare	12,231.30
Verizon	142.12
Windstream	1459.21
Shayna Murrell	954.72
Todd Aksamit	1131.96
Kelly Farmer	1388.82
Derek Harms	1239.77
Mark Moerer	1155.70
Julie Slafter	883.49
Jeffrey Vogt	1901.45
Brian Vodicka	903.95
Jonathan Baugous	757.45
Brent Teten	1370.52
Tim Wilson	200.00
Marcia Scheinost	125.00
Jody Bruns	125.00
Carol Linqvist	200.00
Craig Boldt	150.00
Chris Lutjemeyer	150.00
David Sabatka	150.00
Susan Antes	1641.13
Kristina Henke	181.70
Karen Kimpel	98.13
Tomas Ortiz	454.25
Carolyn Bremer	181.70
Alan Britton	181.70
Deb Dettmer	181.70
Alfred Gigstad	181.70
Patricia Hogancamp	109.02
Leah Ganzel	351.59
Bruce Neemann	197.59

HEARING OF THOSE PRESENT – No one present.

SHERIFF REPORT – Chief Deputy Mike Holland not present. No report was submitted.

LIBRARY REPORT – Librarian Sue Antes not present; her report had been distributed prior to the meeting date. Antes reported the alarm services are now bundled with Midwest Alarm Systems for all yearly services for a total of \$668.00. These include central station of monitoring of fire alarm, 100% annual inspection of the fire alarm system per NFPA standards, annual inspection of the portable fire extinguishers, annual inspection of the sprinkler and backflow system. Mayor Ortiz would like Clerk Farmer to contact all of the department heads to put together a spreadsheet of what each facility has and when inspections are due or extinguishers expire. Spring Pre-School Storytime Sessions will begin Wednesday March 7th; 33 children enrolled. Adult programming continues to meet throughout the year. Council Member Britton moved to approve the Midwest agreement as presented, Henke seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Dettmer, Britton, Henke. Nays: none.

AMBULANCE REPORT – Tim Wilson present to a new member of SRS, Caleb Frede. Frede used to be a member that moved away and is back and would like to join as an EMA driver potentially interested in taking classes as well in the future. Council Member Henke moved to approve Caleb Frede, Dettmer seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Britton, Dettmer, Henke. Nays: none.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on closing of Mohawk Street from 5th to 6th Streets on Saturday July 14th, 2018 from 5:00 A.M. to Midnight for Germanfest. Recently Wilson, Jeff Vogt, Mayor Ortiz and members of the SVFD, NE State Patrol, Otoe County Sheriff's Department, EMS and CMH met to discuss the concert event scheduled to be held at the field west of the Syracuse Soccer Fields on this

date. If something should happen where fire and/or rescue vehicles need to be called out there will not be an issue of parked vehicles in front of the Rescue and Fire Complex. Council Member Britton moved to approve the street closing, Henke seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Dettmer, Henke, Britton. Nays: none.

Ortiz discussed many more items need to be discussed before the event takes place. The committee is forecasting approximately 4000 people; the event will run from 4:00 P.M. to 10:30 P.M. Discussion has been to close J Road and will be open for foot traffic as well as what kind of fencing should be constructed and if permanent fencing should be put up around the soccer fields. Otoe County Keno funds were mentioned to be used for public improvements; more phone calls need to be made regarding this. Germanfest Committee does not want multiple buses in town but there are concerns about parking. A medical tent will be constructed; Jon, Park Manager, will be on weed control and Shayna Murrell, Rec Coordinator was asked about the lights at the ball field in the case the lights need to be turned on; Jeff Vogt will learn how to do this also on his phone. Emergency evacuation was discussed as well as City Employees driving the golf cart and gators to help with transporting individuals. Portable restrooms will be placed on the site for the event. Wilson has been speaking with Nebraska City to utilize some of their equipment and also if they will help with staffing. An additional meeting has been scheduled for May 30th with the same parties involved.

CONCESSIONS REPORT – Concessions Manager, Julie Slafter not present. Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on lowering the minimum age of concession volunteers. Ortiz explained some of the volunteer groups have dropped out so she's looking at other groups that may benefit from the money earned while volunteering their time at the Sports Complex Concessions. Groups mentioned include SDA Cheerleaders, Dance Team and Music Boosters with the age being 14 years old with at least two adults present at all times. Council Member Dettmer moved to approve the minimum age to work at City concessions be 14, Britton seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Henke, Dettmer, Britton. Nays: none.

SWIMMING POOL & PROGRAMS & PARKS REPORTS – Rec Coordinator/Pool Manager Murrell and Park Manager Baugous present. Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on mowing and trimming equipment for use at Park Hill Cemetery. Baugous asked if the new equipment for the Cemetery mowing would be paid for out of the Cemetery budget or where this will come from. Baugous received some bids for equipment for a total amount of \$3910.00. PJ Bryant has been busy trimming trees at Park Hill; Jon has helped with that. PJ's salary is to be paid out of the Cemetery's budget since it initially was to pay for the mowing contractor's invoices; an annual salary at PJ's current hourly wage is \$31,360.00. Clerk Farmer was instructed to transfer the money from the Cemetery budget to the Parks budget to cover the salary. A rear discharge mower was discussed; Baugous had heard of clogging with this type. There is concern about how the stones will be blown off timely before grass causes discoloration or sticks to the stones. Council Member Britton moved to approve the equipment bid of \$3,910.00 total, Henke seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Britton, Dettmer, Henke. Nays: none. Mayor Ortiz asked Baugous to put some mulch around the swing sets. Baugous had to postpone the Diamond Pro Application for a couple weeks because of the weather; the Complex has been de-winterized.

Murrell reported 13 pool employees have been hired. Softball teams have been set; games start May 4th, 2018. Murrell is hoping the batting cage gets finished within the next couple weeks when the weather cooperates. The sand volleyball pits will be visited at a later Council meeting. Opening day at the pool is tentatively the Friday of Memorial Weekend. Murrell has one softball tournament scheduled and is still waiting on the baseball and Legion's game schedules.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT –

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion and approval of new hire for Utility Billing Clerk position, including hourly wage approval of \$14.75/ hour, Superintendent Jeff Vogt present. Clerk Farmer explained the interview process and selection as well as gave a short description of the Council Member Britton moved to approve Nicole Vonderschmidt as the new Utility Billing Clerk at an hourly wage of \$14.75, Henke seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Dettmer, Henke, Britton. Nays: none.

Vogt reported Iowa Pump has been rebuilding the lagoon pumps. The widening of the intersection at 11th & Poplar has brought some additional work as old water shut-offs have been found and some additional concrete to be poured due to a hill being steeper than anticipated and a light pole needed to be reset. Britton notified Vogt of an old water shut-off is present in the north side of the First Bank of Nebraska parking lot; if it is currently not shut off it needs to be. Dettmer asked about a dip in 5th Street in front of the pharmacy; Vogt will have Johnson Sewer jet this area to see if the sewer pipe has broken.

JEO has completed the GIS mapping of the water; JEO will send the City a map of what they did and may need to come back to catch any missed. CMH detention cell is rolling along and electrical cabinets have been placed. Mayor Ortiz reminded Vogt the additional tv for the Council Chambers still needs to be installed. JEO did an inspection on a bridge located at 7th & Mohawk Streets. They reported the stringers need repair.

Council Member Britton inquired on alternative options to acquire power. Peterson explained there are options that are significantly cheaper but feels it may not be a good fit for Syracuse Utilities; it is also more work. He mentioned that the City has many ties currently with OPPD. Britton suggests it would be good to inform the City of these alternatives to use for when contracts are renewed with OPPD; Peterson will work on this and be in touch.

OLD BUSINESS –

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion and update on Keep Kids Alive, Drive 25 Campaign, Phase 2; Christa Reisdorff and Madi Werner of SDA FBLA present. Ten additional signs have been purchased by sponsors with five of those signs having placement established. The Council requested an updated map from Reisdorff. The FBLA group is anticipating taking the next year off then younger members of FBLA, Megan Wallman and Lauren Meyer, will take over as Madi is graduating this year. Madi presented results from a survey given to SDA students and faculty regarding the signs posted. 90% of high schoolers completed the survey with 80-85% noting they had seen the signs and noticed them. Fifty teachers responded to the survey noting they felt the signs were a good addition. Reisdorff asked Stilmock about an agreement that needs to be signed by the property owners of where the signs are being placed, Stilmock will visit. Council Member Dettmer moved to accept Phase 2 of the Campaign, Henke seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Britton, Henke, Dettmer. Nays: none.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion and update on City facilities computer project; Five Nines reps not present. Council Member Britton briefed the Mayor and Council on where the project is currently. Britton explained he, Clerk Farmer and Rescue Chief Tim Wilson met with Scott and Jeff of Five Nines that afternoon. Emergency recovery in regards to battery capacity was discussed as well as the SCADA system. Phone system was discussed and Internet Service Provider (ISP) will need to be addressed. The current scope is sitting at roughly \$89,000 although additional needs were mentioned at the private meeting possibly increasing this. Five Nines will be attending a future meeting to go over the scope and seek approval for the project. A lease option is available where it would be paid for over three years or the full amount would be paid; Britton mentioned using some Keno funds but not deplete the Keno funds.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on costs for Five Nines services. Britton continued his discussion regarding Five Nines explaining the costs currently having to be paid already for the loaner server and labor were not expenses the individual departments budgeted for. Britton presented a sales tax graph showing the sales tax accrued over the years. Britton mentioned taking the funds out the budgets but the funds will need to be allocated from somewhere in order for the departments to stay in the black. The server rental does not affect all departments as it did not cause them to go down as it did the Utilities and General departments therefore they really should not have to accrue the expense of the server rental but the monthly IT should be broken down by each department. Supplementing these expenses for the existing budget year was discussed and then adding in the additional amounts needed in the budgets starting October 1, 2018. Mayor Ortiz explained the possible need of funds for this project was brought up to members of the Library Foundation. Council Member Britton moved to approve moving \$19,170.00 from Keno funds to General to supplement each department's expenses from Five Nines, Dettmer seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Henke, Dettmer, Henke. Nays: none.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on Projects In Motion; Council Member Dettmer explained. Information presented by JEO is not clear; the discussion was tabled. Deb and Jerry have met to draft letters to other communities. Deb added some of the projects are currently or have already been completed. The major areas are the Utilities. Britton feels a sidewalk study should be done to address repairs as well as where sidewalks should be installed. He feels the liability out-weighs other issues and the City is assuming much risk. The sidewalk is the property owner's responsibility as the curb is considered part of the street and is the City's responsibility.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion and update on private streets zone development. Jerry has spoken with Jeff Ray and directed him to prepare documents to share with the Mayor and Council; he is waiting for Jeff's response in layman's terms. Britton had mentioned "ghost platting" as done in Hickman.

NEW BUSINESS –

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on request for use of Williams Park on Sunday, May 6th, 2018 for fundraising running event as well as discussion regarding the Certificate of Liability amount required; Cheyenne Lowman not present. Stilmock asked Clerk Farmer if the minimum amount is required to be \$1,000.00.00 and if this changes due to number of people involved.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion and approval for Otoe Countywide Housing Rehab Partial Payment Request and Approval Form for Project 15-OTF-21. Council Member Britton moved to approve the payment request in the amount of \$11,443.00, Henke seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Britton, Henke, Dettmer. Nays: none.


Mayor Ortiz led the discussion and approval for Otoe Countywide Housing Rehab contract award for Project 15-OTF-18. Council Member Britton moved to approve contract award for Project # 18 in the amount of \$16,740.00, Dettmer seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Dettmer, Henke, Britton. Nays: none.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion and approval for Otoe Countywide Housing Rehab contract award for Project 15-OTF-19. Council Member Britton moved to approve contract award for Project # 19 in the amount of \$20,705.00, Dettmer seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Britton, Henke, Dettmer. Nays: none.

Mayor Ortiz discussed the coyote nuisance issue currently happening within the city limits. Complaints of coyotes have been sighted by the pool, golf course as well as the southwest edge of town.

Mayor Ortiz asked a Council Member to motion to adjourn. Council Member Britton moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:56 P.M., Henke seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Dettmer, Britton, 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

