

SPECIAL MEETING\_BUDGET  
CITY COUNCIL

July 31, 2018

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Syracuse, Nebraska met at 6:00 P.M. on Tuesday July 31st, 2018 for a special budget 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 Britton, Gigstad, Dettmer; Council Member Henke was absent. A copy of the posting notice and acknowledgement of notice to the Council is attached to these minutes. Minutes for the June 12<sup>th</sup> and July 11th, 2018 meetings were approved as written. Minutes for the June 20<sup>th</sup> Strategic Planning Council meeting were also presented for approval but were not approved as Council Member Britton would like to verify a statement made in paragraph five, sentence three regarding "sunset"; the approval will be postponed in order for review. 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. No further discussion was had. Council Member Dettmer moved for approval of claims, Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Dettmer, Britton, Gigstad. Nays: none.

A-I Locksmith & Security Solutions	213.00
Alan Britton	204.40
Alfred Gigstad	181.70
Amsterdam	198.00
Aqua Chem, Inc.	643.39
Baragary Construction	5250.00
Border States	161.20
Bruce Neemann	190.79
Capital Business Systems	202.61
Cardmember Services	3490.55
Carol Linquist	200.00
Carolyn Bremer	181.70
CD Signs	35.00
Chris Lutjemeyer	150.00
Casey Fricke	30.00
City of Syracuse	1563.07
Craig Boldt	150.00
Culligan	44.00
Deb Dettmer	204.40
Delta Dental	380.42
David Sabatka	150.00
Division of Public Health	115.00
Donna Harrison	200.00
Dutton Lainson	302.19
Echo	93.51
Five Nines	83.12
Grainger	36.92
Helena	840.00
Ingram Library Services	57.32
JEO	1803.25
JH Sporhase	157.50
Jim & Tamela Secord	1086.76
Jody Bruns	125.00
Karen Kimpel	359.77
Kc Ortiz	454.25
Kristi Henke	204.40
LONM	4063.00
Leah Ganzel	147.18
Marcia Scheinost	125.00
Matheson	54.44
MidAmerica Books	250.14
Midwest Farmers Coop	157.55

Mike's Window Service	107.83
My-Lor	15.50
Patty Hogancamp	109.02
Reminisce	14.98
Shaffer Communications	919.24
Signs Now	620.75
Sue Antes	1743.18
Stutheit Implement	323.75
Synchrony Bank/Amazon	272.23
Syracuse Do It Best	540.17
Syracuse Rescue Squad	128.50
Tru-Built Construction	200.00
United Healthcare	12,707.54
Unum	89.89
Verizon	231.96
Windstream	1165.04
Tim Wilson	200.00
Shayna Murrell	2393.75
Todd Aksamit	1140.60
Kelly Farmer	1223.32
Derek Harms	1179.86
Mark Moerer	1166.01
Julie Slafter	883.49
Jeffrey Vogt	1641.36
Brian Vodicka	912.89
Jonathan Baugous	702.31
Brent Teten	1189.46
Nicole Vonderschmidt	1005.13
Caitlyn Carlson	430.22
Aprille Johnson	708.95
Nate Hemje	462.20
Rhonda Iburg	306.74
August Levenhagen	483.73
Brayden Behrends	114.78
Brooke Hiller	309.27
Hunter Rumery	473.64
Grace Kuenning	434.51
Cody Pester	542.69
Cassie Katen	1050.87
Nicole Kimpel	406.05
Naudia Flores	512.61
Camryn Tompkins	231.78
Hannah Hiller	295.17
Teja Farley	388.28
Suzanna Shanks	327.36
Natalie Thies	401.18
Liz Johnson	402.80

DISCUSSION ON BUDGETS – Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on the Fire Budget; Chief Bruce Neemann present. Neemann realized he needs to remove the Social Security line item as the three Stewards no longer have that deduction. Other changes included increases in public utilities, insurances, maintenance as well as the software/computer upgrade. Capital Outlay increased by \$3000.00 for replacement of roughly 18 helmets. Funds for restrooms/shower and generator continue to be on the budget. A new item is replacement of the wood lockers with metal lockers. This would be half reimbursed by the Rural Fire Department. Neemann pointed out the street widening of Mohawk on the west side of the Fire Barn has been completed. Ortiz explained this is the first budget meeting so revisions/suggestions can be made and will be revisited at a later meeting.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on the Library budget; Librarian Sue Antes present. Antes increased the total budget by 3% except for the property insurance; Clerk Farmer added in a 6% increase to be safe as in the past the increase has been between 5% and 6%; property insurance proposals are to be discussed

at the next regular Council meeting. Building and Grounds expense include maintenance to the handicap door and air conditioners. Antes confirmed the technology: software line item is for the computer upgrades at the Library. Ortiz added he would like to speak with the Library Foundation regarding the funding of the Library's portion. Ortiz explained to Antes Five Nines is the IT support for the City and its entities therefore when she has an issue she can reach out to Five Nines. Ortiz went over how much of the Library budget has been executed.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on the Ambulance budget; Chief Tim Wilson present. Wilson explained his budget and that there have not been many significant changes. Changes include refund of billing services expense line item. Capital Expenses decreased since last year the new rig was written in; pagers will need to be replaced. Ortiz mentioned as the GermanFest continues to grow that maybe additional items need to be budgeted for to enable the SRS to do their job efficiently. Wilson mentioned having a gator would be nice to use when they are in an area where an ambulance may not be able to enter; an example of this would be the high school football games. Britton mentioned the total purchase price for another new rig should be included in the budget under Capital Expenditures. Wilson will modify the budget as needed for the next budget meeting.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on the Cemetery budget; Cemetery Sexton Kay Bremer and Board Members Buchholz and Sutton present. Mowing/Salaries includes an increase. The board included a sign but they're not sure on costs at this time. Britton mentioned an additional account at First Bank of NE that needs researched as to when it was established and by whom. Clerk Farmer will contact Attorney Stilmock to schedule a meeting with the three of them to look into this and if these funds are able to be used for Park Hill Cemetery. Discussion was had on two proposals included on the budget regarding payment for the sign. One includes using leftover funds from the 17-18 budget and the other using Perpetual Care funds. Dettmer asked if the Perpetual Care Fund account balance is unusually large; Bremer explained they have not used the funds from some time and that if they do use it they are only allowed to use a certain percentage of the funds.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on the Concessions budget; Concessions Manager Julie Slafter not present. Ortiz discussed the cheese machine being on the current year's budget and that a new one was not purchased as the current machine did not break; this will be carried over to the next budget. Other items include money for mats and possible replacement of additional equipment if needed. Britton would like Slafter to reach out the State Health Inspector to check on if a certain type of mat is recommended. As far as profit, not as much was brought in as the complex did not have the tournaments this season as had been scheduled in the past.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on Parks budget; Park Manager Jon Baugous present. Baugous does not have too many changes compared to last year. Bleachers are budgeted for. Dettmer asked about parking lot grading; Derek Harms helps with the grading as he has a grader and additional rock is available at the complex. Britton suggested lengthening the parking lot at the west soccer field. Dettmer asked about capital improvements currently on the budget for the soccer fields. Bathrooms have been estimated by one company at \$85,000.00; Ortiz added a sinking fund could be used for the soccer bathrooms. The Mayor and Council agree the Aqua Center bathhouse needs to be priority and the soccer bathrooms could be on the Strategic Planning list currently in progress. Ortiz asked Baugous to reach out to members of the Syracuse Soccer Committee to see what they would like to see for the soccer fields. Ortiz asked Baugous to take over the research on a dog run; Ortiz has a donor to help with the funds. Baugous would like to see it done this fall. The sand volleyball courts are about finished; one more net needs to be put up and the foul lines marked. Ortiz asked Clerk Farmer to follow up where previous Rec Coordinator Murrell left off on researching alcohol being served at City facilities; this may be an option at the sand volleyball courts. Farmer will check with Unadilla and send out an inquiry on clerk-net; insurance will need to be involved to see if anything is affected there.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on Rec Programs budget. Ortiz led the discussion by explaining the tumbling program may not continue through Parks and Rec in the future. Ortiz will touch base with Murrell as the past instructor has resigned. She may be starting up her own program. Funds for ball equipment have been included. Additional items to be added to the budget include those for the sand volleyball courts such as picnic tables and lights.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on the Aqua Center budget. Britton mentioned security cameras be considered. Pool employee, Jamy Prokopec may have some additional information or items to add to the budget; Clerk Farmer will reach out to her.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on the Street budget; Superintendent Vogt present. Vogt decreased the salary and kept the \$13,000.00 for a mower and added funds for a building at the Utility Complex. The building will be a pole building and sized around 40' x 60'. This will clean out the back room at the current Streets dept. location for available space for the fire department and possibly the rescue as well. A generator was also added but divided by the street and utility departments as was the building.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on the Electric budget, Superintendent Vogt present. Increased items include salaries, auto/truck for work on the bucket truck and a few minor things, software maintenance, property insurance, and power purchases in anticipation of the new hospital. One more reclosure needs to be purchased. Discussion was had on the proposed generator; there was question regarding what the hospital is going to do with the generator at the current hospital location after they move. A percentage of the building for the Utility Complex was added. Vogt explained electrical work budgeted for after his discussion with JEO's Dave Peterson. LED street light swap-outs were discussed as well as lighting at the new hospital site.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on Sewer budget; Vogt present. Salaries down a little. Increases include software maintenance; property insurance. The generator is part of the capital improvement line item.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on Water budget; Vogt present. Britton suggested adding the USDA funding into the budget as a capital expenditure. We don't know this will be completed in the next budget but at least it will be present. Rates were discussed for both electric and water; Dave Peterson will be briefed and the discussion will be continued.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on General budget; Clerk Farmer presented. Zoning/Building Inspection fees increased; many of the increases and decreases were based off of current numbers in the expenditure report. Ortiz announced Building Inspector Alan Viox turned in his retirement notice; he is scheduled to retire at the end of 2017. The City will reach out to Nebraska City as to what their plans are. Engineering fees have been increased based on what has been spent in the 17-18 budget year. The software maintenance increased due to the main hub of the upgrade project being at City Hall. Clerk Farmer will follow up with Five Nines regarding the timeline of the installation of the systems.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on Building budget; Clerk Farmer presented. Property insurance was increased based on past annual increases. Farmer added in a line item for telephone system upgrade thus off-setting the maintenance line item which is usually a flat \$30,000.00. The Council would like to see the maintenance stay the same and the phone be included in the same line item.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on Keno budget; Clerk Farmer presented. She explained Keno proceeds are down for the current year and forecasts not much of a change for the 18-19 year.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on Sales Tax budget; Clerk Farmer presented. Farmer decreased sales tax proceeds for the 18-19 budget year based on current numbers shown for the 17-18 budget year.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on Sheriff 's budget; Clerk Farmer presented. No changes were made to the Sheriff's budget. The Mayor and Council suggest adding in the expiration of the Interlocal Agreement on the budget.

Mayor Ortiz asked a Council Member to motion to adjourn. Council Member Britton moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 P.M., Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Gigstad, Dettmer, Britton. 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

