

REGULAR MEETING
CITY COUNCIL

September 12, 2018

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Syracuse, Nebraska met at 6:00 P.M. on September 12, 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 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 August 8th, 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 question in the June 20, 2018 Strategic Planning Council Meeting Minutes. This discussion was tabled to allow Clerk Farmer to visit with Attorney Stilmock.

Mayor Ortiz led the approval of claims and Treasurer's Reports, Todd Blome of BMG present. BMG has sent the July and August reports for the Mayor and Council to review. Blome did not see anything out of the ordinary with the financials for those two months. He will be visiting about the year in review at a future meeting in anticipation of the City's annual audit. Council Member Gigstad moved to approve the July and August Treasurer's Reports and pay the claims, Dettmer seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Henke, Britton, Gigstad, Dettmer. Nays: none.

Mayor Ortiz opened the budget public hearing and led the discussion on approval of the 2018-2019 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 questions from the Mayor and City Council. Mayor Ortiz closed the public hearing. Council Member Gigstad moved to approve the additional 1.0 % increase in restricted funds and the 2018-2019 Budget, Dettmer second. Roll Call: Yeas: Henke, Britton, Gigstad, Dettmer. Nays: none.

Mayor Ortiz opened the public hearing and Ordinance No. 1040 on hearing, support, opposition, criticism, suggestions, or observations of tax payers relating to proposed 2018-2019 Budget. Total property tax request for the 2018-2019 budget year is \$557,320.50. 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, Dettmer seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Gigstad, Henke, Dettmer, Britton. Nays: none. Attorney Stilmock read Ordinance No. 1040 by title. Council Member Dettmer moved for final passage of Ordinance No. 1040, Britton seconded. Mayor Ortiz stated the question, "Shall Ordinance No. 1040 be passed and adopted" and requested roll call vote. Roll Call: Yeas: Dettmer, Henke, Britton, Gigstad. Nays: none.

Mayor Ortiz opened the public hearing and Resolution No. 18-20 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 Britton moved to adopt Resolution No. 18-20, Dettmer seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Gigstad, Dettmer, Britton, Henke. Nays: none.

Aflac	357.10
All Roads Barricades, Inc.	379.82
Ameritas	80.56
Aqua Chem, Inc.	1887.13
Awards Unlimited	15.46
B&B Pump N Go	1990.94
Beatrice Concrete	284.38
BMG	5000.00
Border States	122.26
Border States	19,301.69
Brandt, Horan, Hallstrom, Stilmock	2526.00
Capital Business Systems	172.15
Cardmember Services	5131.20
City of Nebraska City	868.01
City of Syracuse	1951.91

Consumer Reports	30.00
Country Extra	8.00
Country Magazine	12.98
Culligan	9.00
Delta Dental	340.37
Eakes	240.38
Eco-Green	52,480.00
EMS Billing Service	1429.34
Danko	1106.17
DHHS	115.00
Echo	175.73
Gatehouse Media	203.19
Feld Fire	5848.21
FireGuard	87.25
Five Nines	2177.83
Great America	1483.32
Hawkins	164.35
Heath Sports & Tees	415.00
Ingram Library Service	321.53
Iowa Pump Works	31,647.73
JEO	2966.25
Joe Reisdorff	1200.00
John Palmtag	100.00
Kan Equip	718.88
Kenneth DeRoe	100.00
Kevin Booker	135.00
League of NE Municipalities_Util. Section	1180.00
Micro Marketing	45.36
Martin Marietta	213.41
Matheson	38.51
Midwest Farmers Coop	185.55
Midwest Labs	134.68
Moore Medical	320.57
Municode	950.00
Municipal Supply Inc	6709.94
Nebraska City Utilities	277.01
NE Dept. of Revenue	25.00
Nebraska.Gov	116.70
NE Public Health Environmental Lab	48.00
NZ Construction	35.00
OPPD	149,736.38
One Call Concepts	38.25
Otoe County Sheriff	15,000.00
Paper Tiger Shredding	362.18
Papillion Sanitation	68.00
Pepsi	333.00
Sandry Fire Supply	961.59
Shaffer Communications Inc.	548.74
Stock Seed Farms Inc.	102.50
Stutheit Implement	1821.80
Sue Antes	1733.87
Synchrony Bank/Amazon	660.72
Syracuse Do It Best	627.63
Syracuse Iron Works	144.24
Syracuse Lumber Co.	1858.64
Syracuse Motor Supply	564.62
Syracuse Utilities Dept.	2027.55
Teledyne Instruments	283.29
Tennant	54.09

Terry's	549.01
Tree City Tees	9.00
United Healthcare	9,525.54
Unum	160.67
Verizon	231.96
Windstream	1592.13
WAPA	2429.01
Writetime	549.29
Todd Aksamit	2073.92
Kelly Farmer	2374.20
Derek Harms	2308.94
Mark Moerer	4454.53
Julie Slafter	1766.97
Jeffrey Vogt	3152.13
Brian Vodicka	1637.60
Jonathan Baugous	1680.32
Brent Teten	2552.76
Nicole Vonderschmidt	2010.28
Jill Crook	1215.23
Aprille Johnson	233.89
Nate Hemje	298.32
August Levenhagen	515.45
Brayden Behrends	195.16
Brooke Hiller	120.59
Hunter Rumery	938.74
Grace Kuenning	233.65
Cody Pester	1863.22
Cassie Katen	454.79
Nicole Kimpel	337.12
Naudia Flores	474.42
Camryn Tompkins	48.72
Hannah Hiller	86.85
Teja Farley	119.35
Suzanna Shanks	344.21
Natalie Thies	324.85
Liz Johnson	58.14
Jamy Prokopec	1050.41
Caitlyn Carlson	262.47
Kristy Henke	158.99
Karen Kimpel	179.88
Tomas Ortiz	454.25
Carolyn Bremer	181.70
Alan Britton	158.99
Deb Dettmer	158.99
Orv Gigstad	136.27
Patty Hogancamp	109.02
Leah Ganzel	188.05
Bruce Neemann	190.78

HEARING OF THOSE PRESENT – No One present.

LIBRARY REPORT – Librarian Antes present. Antes' report for August 2018; circulation was good. Mrs. Mueller's preschoolers will be participating in the Fall pre-school story time along with additional enrollees. The meeting room had six uses for the month. Adult Programming continues to meet at various times throughout the year. Donations made to the Library for the month of August totaled \$150.00.

SHERIFF REPORT – Chief Deputy Mike Holland present. Holland reported 28 total incidents for the month of August within the City. Holland is concerned there may have been a computer issue as the reports do not show when he knows a deputy was in town; he will look to have this corrected at the next

month's meeting. Holland discussed the situation at SDA High School the same day as the meeting. Holland commended Deputy Caudill for his participation in handling the situation. Mayor Ortiz thanked Holland and the County Sheriff's Office for their work handling the situation. Deputies were present in all three SDA school buildings. Kyle Gress was present from the State Patrol training as part-time help for the County Sheriff's department while they are short-handed.

CEMETERY REPORT – Board Member Bob Volker as well as others present. Volker asked about the sinking fund; Mayor Ortiz gave him clarification. Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on bid proposal for Park Hill Cemetery Sign and North Gate Columns. Council Member Britton suggested splitting the job between the current budget and the 18-19 Budget so 50% could be paid down to Mannschreck Masonry and Syracuse Iron Works with the approval of the Council. An issue was brought up recently regarding a headstone that was placed on top of another headstone at some point; new Parks and Rec Manager Jill Crook and the Parks department workers has been working with the family to get the issue resolved bringing in the Cemetery Board as the Parks department did not move the headstone. Bob Volker and Kay Bremer commented the correct placement for the headstone has been flagged so the stone can be moved back. Mayor Ortiz would like himself and Crook to attend a Cemetery Board meeting in the future. Council Member Gigstad moved to approve the payments of \$3325.52 and \$8423.00 to Syracuse Iron Works and Mannschreck Masonry, Britton seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Henke, Dettmer, Britton, Gigstad. Nays: none.

SWIMMING POOL & PROGRAMS REPORT –Parks and Rec Manager Jill Crook present. Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on engineering plan for the Aqua Center pool bathhouse; Jamy Prokopec in attendance to help Crook present. Prokopec explained in July 1959 a bond was passed to build the pool and existing pool bathhouse. She has a committee formed for fundraising, has set up a Facebook page, and are looking into a grant that is current available. Britton doesn't feel the deadline for the grant is feasible as engineering needs to be done as well as funding and what the bottom dollar is in reality; this includes finding blue prints from past research. Mayor Ortiz explained the original \$350,000.00 price tag for a new bathhouse came from data based on how Nebraska City constructed their new bathhouse. Carolyn Gigstad who is researching the grant explained the grant funds need to be used within two years upon receipt. The committee can help in the design process. The Syracuse Foundation has set up an account for people to make donations to the new bathhouse.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion and approval for purchase of picnic tables, a bench and gutter with guards. The Council would like Crook to negotiate the shipping costs with the company. Council Member Britton moved to approve the purchase of two picnic tables, a an 8' bench for the Sports Complex at \$2083.00 to be paid out of the 17-18 Parks Budget, Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Dettmer, Henke, Britton, Gigstad. Nays: none.

Crook explained she has been working with Fry and Associates regarding the poor drainage at the playground at the Sports Complex. While looking into the playground issues it was discovered the dugout drainage issue can also be fixed. The new batting cages collapsed during a wind storm; Crouch Recreation will be coming down to reconstruct the batting cages. There are currently two broken toys at the playground at the Sports Complex; Fry and Associates will honor the recently expired warranty to replace these as well as the bench located at the playground that has rusted. The two fields' dugout covers will be constructed by Advanced Exteriors this month before the budget year closes. The utility staff along with Crook, Prokopec and Parks staff will be helping with the winterizing of the pool. Volleyball registration is complete; rosters have been formed and volunteer coaches have scheduled practices. The weekend games will be worked by not only Crook but Park employee Cody Pester will help with these weekends. SDA Schools has worked with Crook giving her additional keys for the City and coaches. Crook mentioned the issues with her emails; this will be corrected after the IT project and email migration has been completed. The mower purchased for the cemetery has been damaged; Stutheit Implement will be replacing the deck. Kathy Bruns recently met with Crook and Mayor Ortiz. She and other members of Bob Bruns' family would like to donate funds toward constructing a shade cover for the Legion Field at the Sports Complex for both team sides. Ed Zastera has volunteered to construct these. Crook also mentioned a program Louisville recreation uses to allow for parents to go online and sign up and pay for whatever rec programs they are signing their children up for. This takes a lot of the data entry time away from the job; Crook feels this would be very beneficial for Syracuse residents. Attorney Stilmock would like Crook to send him a copy of the details of the program for him to review as she finds more out.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT –

Superintendent Jeff Vogt present. Mayor Ortiz led the update on USDA Rural Development preparations for well-field financing; Anthony Fitzgerald present. Fitzgerald spoke of the upcoming WWAC meeting. The question from USDA is going to be how the well field was originally paid for and out of what department this money was pulled from. Fitzgerald asked about refinancing any of our bonds that pertain to water projects. Fitzgerald said don't be surprised if the USDA RD asks about unrestricted funds or tax funds that flow into the general; he also clarified the water tower agreement terms the City currently has with Suez. After online applications are completed by Mayor Ortiz and Clerk Farmer, the underwriting process will begin after that.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on contract between City of Syracuse and OPPD. Attorney Stilmock explained he and Dave Peterson are working on this item which requires 3-year notice.

Vogt led the discussion and approval to purchase generator for Utility shop. Council Member Britton moved to approve the purchase of new natural gas generator for \$13,300.00, Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Henke, Dettmer, Gigstad, Britton. Nays: none.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on clean up bids for 324 6th Street property. Two bids were submitted. Council Member Britton moved to approve the bid for the clean-up for the amount of \$6400.00, Henke seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Gigstad, Dettmer, Henke, Britton. Nays: none.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on sale of old wire. This wire is currently in the street room to be used by the SVFD in the future. Vogt would like to take it to scrap if possible as it is outdated and un-usable by the City. Attorney Stilmock will visit the codes and see what the City is required to do.

OLD BUSINESS – Mayor Ortiz led the discussion regarding Commercial Lease Agreement between City of Syracuse and Future Technologies Wireless. Scott Bornemeier unable to attend. Attorney Stilmock explained he recently sent out a letter to the Mayor and Council suggesting the agreement be reviewed based on questions he brought forward. The Mayor and Council would like to see additional providers possibly be offered to Syracuse residents therefore they suggested Attorney Stilmock continue to look at an agreement.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on Verizon Small Cell Antenna. Attorney Stilmock is currently working on a conversation with Verizon negotiating annual payment to the City.

NEW BUSINESS – Mayor Ortiz led the discussion and request for Oak Street closure from 1075 Oak south to dead-end on Saturday October 13th from 8:00 A.M. to 10:00 P.M. for the purpose of a block party; Justin Stark present. Council Member Britton moved to approve the street closure, Henke seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Gigstad, Dettmer, Britton, Henke. Nays: none.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion and Resolution regarding agreement with quotes for dedicated internet and DSL upgrades; no one from Windstream present. The item to be tabled as additional time is needed to review the information recently submitted for review.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on request for Letter of Support and funds for Blue Rivers Area Agency on Aging to accompany Transportation Application; Beth Williams and Carla Fries of Blue Rivers present. Council Member Britton moved the approval of payment of the \$1300.00 and Letter of Support, Dettmer seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Gigstad, Henke, Britton, Dettmer. Nays: none.

Mayor Ortiz led discussion and request for street use for 4-H Stampede Fun Run/Walk on Saturday October 13th at 9:00 A.M.; Mike Wieckhorst of Otoe County 4-H present. This is the first time for this Fun Run/Walk. Council Member Gigstad moved to approve the street use, Henke seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Britton, Dettmer, Gigstad, Henke. Nays: none.

Mayor Ortiz led discussion on proposal from Paul Davis regarding cleanup of City Hall basement. Clerk Farmer explained the current state the City Hall basement is in and growth of mold. Clerk Farmer will check with LARM regarding an insurance claim. Council Member Britton moved to approve the bid from Paul Davis in the amount of \$12,137.54 to be paid out of the 17-18 Building budget, Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Henke, Dettmer, Britton, Gigstad. Nays: none.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on bid for IT cabling at City buildings. This cabling will be used for installation of the new server and the networking at the four City buildings as well as access points for internet access. Council Member Britton moved to approve the bid from Complete Cabling Solutions in the amount of \$8435.00 to be paid out of the 17-18 Building budget, Henke seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Gigstad, Dettmer, Henke, Britton. Nays: none.

Mayor Ortiz asked a Council Member to motion to adjourn. Council Member Henke moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 P.M., Dettmer 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



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CITY COUNCIL

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Clerk


Mayor