

REGULAR MEETING
CITY COUNCIL

October 12, 2016

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Syracuse, Nebraska met at 6:00 P.M. on October 12, 2016 for their regular meeting in the Syracuse City Hall Council Chambers at 495 5th Street. Present were Mayor Ortiz and Council members Gigstad, Britton, Dettmer. Absent was Henke. Notice of meeting was given by posting in three places. A copy of the posting notice and acknowledgement of notice to the Council is attached to these minutes. The minutes for September 14th, 20th and October 3rd 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.

August's Treasurer Report available. City Treasurer, Todd Blome of BMG present. All accounts have been reconciled as well as any notes and bond payments. Blome pointed out the pledged collateral exceeds the amount of cash the City has at the bank. He also addressed the revenue break down for the County payments made to the City, only one month's shows currently; moving forward these figures will populate month to month. Britton made the motion to approve the Treasurer's Report and pay the claims, second by Gigstad. Roll Call: Yeas: Dettmer, Gigstad, Britton. Nays: None.

AFLAC	315.20
AETNA	589.77
Amazon Credit Plan	553.59
Amsterdam Printing	505.32
Art FX	643.51
B & B Pump N Go, Inc.	1024.51
BTE Corporation	350.00
BMG	2500.00
Brandt, Horan, Hallstrom & Stilmock	3134.50
Bound Tree Medical, LLC	5908.98
Burr Farms Machinery, Inc	420.00
Capital Business Systems	64.26
Cardmember Service	735.72
Channing Bete Co.	272.45
City of Syracuse	1738.22
City of Syracuse – Interest	965.22
City of Syracuse – Principal	426,780.85
City of Nebraska City	965.22
Collection Services Center	410.76
Culligan Water Conditioning	52.14
Delores Post	83.34
DHHS	139.00
Dutton Lainson Co.	476.61
Dentegra Insurance Company	148.56
EMS Billing Services, Inc.	1124.19
Farmers Cooperative	15.60
Ferguson Enterprises, Inc.	223.44
Fireguard	157.62
Gale/Cengage Learning	82.88
Gatehouse Media Nebraska Holdings, Inc.	493.32
Hawkins, Inc.	106.12
Hach	951.88
Ingram Library Services	657.48
Interstate Battery Center	85.08
Jamy Prokopec	38.89
JEO Consulting Group, Inc.	11,394.00
John Palmtag	100.00
JH Sporhase	796.70
Jeff Vogt	64.19
Kriz Davis	53,887.93

Konica Minolta	535.82
LARM	59,392.42
Matheson Tri-Gas, Inc	33.00
Mark Moerer	1868.03
Midwest Sound & Lighting	338.00
Medicare Part B	118.85
Mutual of Omaha	118.85
Micro Marketing Assoc.	51.26
Midwest Laboratories, Inc	95.00
Midwest Farmers Coop	297.69
Mike's Window Service	32.75
Mutual of Omaha	452.73
Nebraska City Utilities	248.89
NE Municipal Clerks Assoc.	25.00
Omaha Public Power District	121,966.78
One Call Concepts, Inc.	35.13
Otoe County Sheriff	15,000.00
Papillion Sanitation	420.33
PMB Pacific Magazine Billing	59.95
Pioneer Underground Sprinkler	103.75
Pepsi Cola of Lincoln	572.60
Petty Cash	173.32
Right Eye Digital	1800.00
Roxanne Smith	16.66
Sam's Club/Synchrony Bank	169.30
Syracuse Motor Supply	122.96
Security Equipment Inc.	168.00
Southeast Seamless Gutter & House	1825.00
Stutheit Implement	301.34
Syracuse Do It Best	510.85
Syracuse Lumber Co.	118.46
Syracuse Veterinary Service	87.04
Syracuse Journal Democrat	52.50
SE Nebraska Development District	6165.49
State of Nebraska	650.75
St. Paulinus Catholic Church	998.02
Syracuse Rescue Squad	350.00
Tennant Sales & Service Co.	1124.58
Terry's Family Foods	709.74
Tree City Tees	36.00
Trusted Media Brands, Inc	32.98
United Healthcare	9046.42
U.S. Post Office	357.60
Verizon	139.81
Western Area Power Administration	2169.41
Windstream	1600.63
WriteTime Communications	988.20
Shayna R. Murrell	2009.25
Sue Antes	1567.95
Carolyn Bremer	183.45
Karen Kimpel	99.74
Todd E. Aksamit	1914.13
Deb Dettmer	184.70
Alan Britton	183.45
Kelly Farmer	2336.33
Leah Ganzel	224.42
Alfred Gigstad	161.61
Derek R. Harms	1973.46
Kim Parde	183.45
Kristine Henke	161.61
Mark S. Moerer	2051.68

Chiona R. Morris	1760.83
Marcia Scheinost	184.70
Richard Sitzman	115.43
Julie J. Slafter	1500.72
Mitchell Stubbendick	2185.15
Brian Vodicka	1438.98
Jeff Vogt	2756.09
Eldon Halm	115.43
Tomas Ortiz	461.75
Timothy A. Wilson	184.70
Carol Linquist	183.45
Patricia Hogancamp	110.81
Dale Young	404.50

No one present for Hearing of Those Present.

SHERIFF REPORT – Deputy Holland presented report. There were 56 total police calls for the month of September. Holland explained three of the five vandalism/theft calls were gas drive-offs. Civil/question/assist calls were down from an average of 30 to 12 during September; traffic stops accounted for 18 of the 56 total calls. Ortiz asked how complaints were regarding dog/cat nuisances; Holland explained the department has not received any but Mayor Ortiz has been receiving many. Holland is pleased with the logging of the deputies during the night shifts. Council Member Dettmer asked about thefts; Holland said the department is still working on the vehicle theft cases from a couple months ago. In regards to one night when many vehicle thefts happened, all of the vehicles that were entered had been left unlocked. No one is off on injury leave currently and the department is fully staffed. Ortiz announced the County Commissioner has approved the one year Interlocal Agreement between the City of Syracuse and the Otoe County Sheriff’s department.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT – Bruce Neemann present and led the discussion regarding the \$10,000.00 life insurance policy. Neemann presented looking at the years of service when deciding how much coverage is provided. Council Member Britton moved to approve a revision including for those serving on the Fire Department and/or Rescue Squad 0 thru 10 years provides \$10,000.00, 11 thru 20 years provides \$15,000.00, and 20+ years provides for \$20,000.00 effective 11/1/16, Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Britton, Gigstad, Dettmer. Nays: none.

Neemann led the discussion on Certification Administrator; the SVFD is electing Thomas Neemann to represent Syracuse as its Certification Administrator. Stilmock presented Resolution No. 16-25. Council Member Britton moved to adopt Resolution No. 16-25 appointing Thomas Neemann, Dettmer seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Gigstad, Dettmer, Britton. Nays: none.

Bruce informed the Mayor and Council Rich Sitzman will be stepping down from the SVFD. He currently is Assistant Chief as well as one of the Stewards.

RESCUE SQUAD REPORT – Tim Wilson present to also discuss Certification Administrator. Attorney Stilmock presented Resolution No. 16-26. Council Member Gigstad moved to adopt Resolution No. 16-26 appointing Marcia Scheinost as Administrator for Syracuse Rescue. Scheinost currently holds the Steward position but will be moving in the Training Administrator position soon. Roll Call: Yeas: Britton, Gigstad, Dettmer. Nays: none.

Wilson led the discussion on approval of new SRS members. Kim Maddocks is interested in rejoining the SRS; she will attend a refresher course starting on October 27th, 2016 to be re-certified. Council Member Britton moved to approval Maddocks as SRS member pending general membership approval, Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Dettmer, Britton, Gigstad. Nays: none.

Wilson informed the Mayor and Council that two current members of SRS are taking the training starting on Oct. 27th. Next year is the 50th anniversary of the SRS. Training equipment has been purchased and updated with \$4000.00 help from donation funds. SRS is pursuing purchasing a new rig in the near future; Wilson will keep the Mayor and Council informed.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT – Jeff Vogt present. Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on the Street & Maintenance Employee and hourly wage. Vogt announced he has chosen Todd Aksamit to take the

position and asking for \$16.47/hour wage. Council member Britton moved to approve the starting wage of \$16.47 and waive the six-month probation period and concur with the hiring, Dettmer seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Dettmer, Gigstad, Britton. Nays: none.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on the nuisance tracker, Chiona Morris present. Morris has added ID numbers for each nuisance case. She has been taking photos and is planning to send out letters soon. Morris needed to research the classes of misdemeanors for use in the letters. Mayor Ortiz recommended making a second tab for old cases.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on the write-off list for past utility accounts, Chiona Morris explained the process of sending the accounts onto Credit Management and what the write-offs account for. Council Member Britton asked to keep these account holders on a list in the case they should come back to have utilities again. Council Member Britton moved to approve the list write-offs, Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Gigstad, Britton, Dettmer. Nays: none.

SWIMMING POOL & PROGRAMS REPORT – Rec Coordinator Shayna Murrell present. Fall baseball is over, pool has been winterized, volleyball is underway and basketball sign-ups are starting soon.

PARKS REPORT – Park Manager Aksamit presented report. WJH will be starting the rough-in of the interior rooms at the new shed at the complex; the Utilities department has been helping with the electrical. The complex and library sprinklers have been winterized. Todd will contact Ron Ross regarding aerating the Legion Field. The Park Manager position will be posted.

CEMETERY REPORT – Jim Volker present to report. The south entry pillars at Park Hill Cemetery need to be redone. The Board would like to increase this entry from 14 feet to 22 feet. The Board has received a bid on the concrete work for \$11,350.00, but will need help from the Utilities department with moving the canon and removing the current pillars. This work was not included in the current budget so there is no money allocated for this project, Perpetual Care funds was discussed as a source of the funding, more information on this is located in the Syracuse Code of Ordinances. Council Member Britton moved to accept the bid of \$11,350.00 for reconstruction of the columns and canon base and the associated concrete work to be performed by Baragary Construction to be paid with funds from the Perpetual Care funds, Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Gigstad, Dettmer, Britton. Nays: none.

The Cemetery Board would like to look at using the ground at the north end for a possible sign location. Attorney Stilmock suggests keeping the sign inside the property line.

OLD BUSINESS –

Mayor Ortiz tabled the discussion on the agreement between the City and SDA School District for a guard-wire on Highway 50. The School Board's attorney would like to combine the two agreements into one. The SDA School Board meets later in the month.

Mayor Ortiz tabled the discussion on the agreement between the City and NDOR regarding the Highway 50 guard-wire.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on hourly wage increase for Office Clerk/Concessions Manager position. The Mayor and Council suggested tabling the discussion until the November 9th, 2016 Council meeting as Julie is not able to attend the meeting. Kristy Henke voiced to the Mayor that she suggests an increase in Julie's wage due to tenure and increase in responsibility.

Mayor Ortiz led the continued discussion and Resolution No. 16-27 on the request for no parking allowed on either side of the street on 9th Street from Mohawk to Midland Streets. Jason Morgan present. Council Member Gigstad moved to adopt Resolution No. 16-27 allowing no parking on 9th Street from Mohawk to Midland, Dettmer seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Britton, Gigstad, Dettmer. Nays: none.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on a Welcome to Syracuse Sign. A sign committee has been looking through a number of different designs provided by Dolphin Design and Sign. They have worked with Henry Doorly Zoo as well as the Village of Avoca. Electricity would be needed and signs are hoping to be placed at the north and south ends of town at approximately \$13,000.00 per sign. SAEDC, Syracuse

Chamber of Commerce, and Syracuse Foundation are looking at a couple of grant options. Attorney Stilmock is working on an agreement between the property owner of the North sign placement and the City, the discussion on the agreement will be continued at a later Council meeting.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on Syracuse Streambank Stability Assessment. Attorney Stilmock will be having a meeting within the next couple of weeks. This discussion will be tabled until the November Council Meeting.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion and Resolution No. 16-28 authorizing Mayor to sign Inter Local Agreement between City of Syracuse and Nebraska City regarding building and inspection services. The City has been pleased with the work performed by Alan Viox and is seeking renewal for one year. Council Member Dettmer moved to adopt Resolution No. 16-28, Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Britton, Gigstad, Dettmer. Nays: none.

Mayor Ortiz led discussion on removal and disposal of yard waste. The City has received no bids for this service. Superintendent Vogt does not have any recommendations. Dettmer mentioned obtaining a spreader and taking it down to the acreage the City recently purchased. Clerk Farmer will send out a message on clerk net to see what other communities do. Britton mentioned the seven acres west of the soccer field; Vogt will check on prices of spreaders.

LIBRARY REPORT – Librarian Antes presented her report. Good circulation for the month. Handicap-accessible doors have all been installed. Nine meetings took place in September. Total books circulated for both print and e-readers is up from this time last year. The Fall Programming schedule was presented. Antes has started planning for the festivities taking place during Tannenbaum. Mayor Ortiz brought up wi-fi usage at the Library. Wi-fi customers are to be re-directed to sit in the front of the library instead of in the back. Also, Sue is to hang signs in the two parking stalls in the back of the Library informing patrons those are for Library employees.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on speed awareness yard signs campaign, Christa Reisdorff present to give an update. An example of one of the signs was presented as well as a sponsor sign. A suggestion was made to decrease the sponsor sign size by half. The prototype signs will be placed along the street at Williams Park, Utilities will help with this. Christa will bring ten names to the November 9th, 2016 Council meeting. Henke would like to make sure people understand if they volunteer to put a sign up in their yard, it will be there indefinitely.

NEW BUSINESS –

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on Request for Dues for 2016-2017 SENDD Membership Dues and Voluntary Housing Dues. Council Member Britton moved to approve the payment of both the Membership Dues and Housing Dues in the amount of \$2234.00, Dettmer seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Gigstad, Dettmer, Britton. Nays: none.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on employee health insurance renewal and options. Sharon and Wayne McDermott of Diversified Benefits present to explain. The current plan the City uses is unlike any other plan available but the renewal for the current plan is increasing by 17%. Sharon and Wayne previously met with the employees; overall the employees prefer to stay with the current plan. Council Member Britton asked about plans involving HSA (Health Savings Account), Sharon and Wayne will put some information together and send to Clerk Farmer to send out to the Mayor and Council for review.

Council Member Dettmer moved to adjourn at 8:54P.M., Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Gigstad, Dettmer, Britton. Nays: none. The next Council meeting is scheduled for Wednesday November 9th, 2016.

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.

Kelly Farmer

City Clerk

Don Ort

Mayor

