

REGULAR MEETING  
CITY COUNCIL

November 9, 2016

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Syracuse, Nebraska met at 6:00 P.M. on November 9, 2016 for their regular meeting in the Syracuse City Hall Council Chambers at 495 5<sup>th</sup> Street. Present were Mayor Ortiz and Council members Dettmer, Gigstad, Britton and 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. Minutes for the October 12<sup>th</sup> 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.

September'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 account # 4121 accounts for property taxes and #4128 is a cumulated amount of fees, licenses, permits paid to the City. Starting with the October Treasurer's Report, the budget vs. actual numbers will be more helpful. Britton made the motion to approve the Treasurer's Report and pay the claims, second by Henke. Roll Call: Yeas: Britton, Dettmer, Gigstad, Henke. Nays: None. In addition to the Treasurer's Report, Blome explained the City is not required to pay taxes on any income brought in from leasing City property.

AFLAC	315.20
All Roads Barricade	122.66
Anthem Sports, LLC	1386.51
Amazon Credit Plan	549.94
American Water Works Association	300.00
Andy Brace	360.00
Arbor Valley Animal Clinic	40.00
Baragary Construction, Inc.	14,795.00
B & B Pump N Go, Inc.	1010.75
Benefit Plans Inc.	295.00
BTE Corporation	5500.00
BMG	9000.00
Brandt, Horan, Hallstrom & Stilmock	2399.50
Bound Tree Medical, LLC	2040.30
Burr Farms Machinery, Inc	900.00
Capital Business Systems	6057.00
Capital City Lock & Key	253.00
Cardmember Service	1563.48
Chris Richardson	100.00
Christa Reisdorff	120.00
City of Syracuse	998.52
City of Nebraska City	642.48
Collection Services Center	410.76
DHHS	751.00
Dutton Lainson Co.	1412.39
Dentegra Insurance Company	148.56
EMS Billing Services, Inc.	2181.56
Emergency Repair Service	462.00
Eakes Office Plus	314.73
Environmental Analysis South, Inc.	238.00
Farmers Cooperative	15.60
Ferguson Enterprises, Inc.	223.44
Fireguard	1397.66
FirstBank of Nebraska	9.81
Gatehouse Media Nebraska Holdings, Inc.	305.01
Hawkins, Inc.	69.07
Helena Chemical Company	620.00
Hemje Plbg, Htg, & AC	249.65

Ingram Library Services	499.23
Interstate Battery Center	27.00
Jamy Prokopec	415.79
JEO Consulting Group, Inc.	6210.50
John Palmtag	100.00
JH Sporhase	37.50
Jody Bruns	120.00
Joe Reisdorff	214.70
Kriz Davis	2930.72
Kay Anderson	200.00
Kody Cardinal	30.00
Laramie Werner	924.20
Matheson Tri-Gas, Inc	218.32
Mannschreck Masonry	11,350.00
Martin Marietta	403.89
Medicare Part B	215.03
Mutual of Omaha	118.85
Micro Marketing Assoc.	46.77
Midwest Laboratories, Inc	603.10
Municipal Supply of Omaha	1354.58
Mike's Window Service	75.08
Municipal Emergency Services	1315.66
Nebraska City Utilities	308.65
NE Municipal Power Pool	491.10
NE Rural Water Assoc.	200.00
Omaha Public Power District	105,924.04
One Call Concepts, Inc.	40.89
Otoe County Sheriff	15,000.00
Papillion Sanitation	420.31
Process Measurement Co.	216.23
Panko Rahe Law	812.50
Pioneer Underground Sprinkler	620.00
Roger Jun	199.50
Schmitz Land Surveying	646.50
Simple Solutions Computer Group, Inc.	602.51
Stephanie Oelke	30.00
Syracuse Vol. Fire Dept.	394.65
Syracuse Motor Supply	224.90
Superior Lighting	57.50
Southeast Seamless Gutter & House	1825.00
Syracuse Iron Works	139.79
Syracuse Do It Best	650.06
Syracuse Lumber Co.	2385.04
Shaffer Communications	766.50
Susan Kraft	20.00
Tami Anderal	300.00
The Added Touch	127.50
Trevor Clark	210.00
Tennant Sales & Service Co.	2355.78
Terry's Family Foods	301.57
United Healthcare	8166.35
U.S. Post Office	314.22
Verizon	661.20
Western Area Power Administration	1876.15
Westover Rock & Sand	591.55
Windstream	1559.39
WriteTime Communications	675.84
Shayna R. Murrell	1891.17
Sue Antes	1653.66
Carolyn Bremer	183.45
Karen Kimpel	74.80

Todd E. Aksamit	2120.45
Deb Dettmer	161.61
Alan Britton	161.61
Kelly Farmer	2350.66
Leah Ganzel	83.11
Alfred Gigstad	161.61
Craig Boldt	115.44
Ken Parde	725.34
Derek R. Harms	2163.29
Kim Parde	463.45
Kristine Henke	161.61
Mark S. Moerer	2230.70
Chiona R. Morris	1815.10
Marcia Scheinost	614.33
Julie J. Slafter	1556.87
Mitchell Stubbendick	2392.91
Brian Vodicka	1600.60
Jeff Vogt	3255.75
Eldon Halm	115.44
Tomas Ortiz	461.75
Timothy A. Wilson	934.70
Carol Linquist	533.45
Patricia Hogancamp	110.82

No one present for Hearing of Those Present.

SHERIFF REPORT – Deputy Holland presented report. There were 64 total police calls for the month of October. Holland explained an armed robbery occurred in Syracuse. The responsible party was arrested later that evening and the stolen money was recovered. Additional supervision has been added to night shifts and the hours are being accounted for more accurately. Civil/question/assist calls continue to be down with 14 reported in October; traffic stops accounted for 16 of the 64 total calls.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT – Bruce Neemann present and led the discussion regarding purchasing of one thermal imaging camera. In the past funds from memorials and donations have been used, Neemann is asking the use of up to \$2000.00 of the department's funds, the rest will come from memorials and donations. The current camera is 13 years old and is no longer supported. Council Member Britton moved to the purchase of the camera, Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Henke, Dettmer, Gigstad, Britton. Nays: none.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT – Jeff Vogt present. JEO has been down going over some things at the Wastewater Treatment Facility, they will be down in the future to address the Council. The County is doing some bridge work at 28<sup>th</sup> & P Road; they will pay to replace the 12" water main currently located in the right of way, Vogt suggested the City possibly contribute the additional amount to make it a 16" line. Britton inquired if JEO will pay for the engineering/design along with the construction, Vogt will speak with Evan Wickersham regarding this. The water tower wash out went fine. A water main break at Thorne Street has been repaired. The pillars at Park Hill Cemetery have been removed by the Utilities Department, OPPD helped moved the canon. A leaking fire hydrant located at 6<sup>th</sup> & Midland will be addressed and Vogt will look into having the fire hydrants re-painted.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on the nuisance tracker, Chiona Morris present. A current nuisance regarding cats was addressed. The cats have been licensed, otherwise Morris has been unsuccessful catching any cats running at large. Seven letters have been sent out to five properties. The property located at 6<sup>th</sup> and Midland is close to become property of the City's, Council agreed for Stilmock to move forward.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on Resolution No. 16-29 regarding Maintenance Agreement No. 45 for Highway 50/Park Street between NE Dept. of Roads and City of Syracuse. Council Member Dettmer moved to adopt Resolution 16-29, Henke seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Gigstad, Dettmer, Henke, Britton. Nays: none.

SWIMMING POOL & PROGRAMS REPORT – Rec Coordinator Shayna Murrell present to report the bid from Precision Concrete for grinding/evening out some of the concrete at the Aqua Center. Council member Britton approved to move forward with the bid of \$1397.10 and to pay the claim out of the Park salary since that position is not active at this time, Dettmer seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Henke, Gigstad, Britton, Dettmer. Nays: none. Also reported, basketball has 106 signed up with the first games scheduled for January 7<sup>th</sup>. Tumbling registrations are currently be taken as well as the 3-on-3 basketball league.

PARKS REPORT – Street Employee Todd Aksamit presented reported the Sports Complex has been winterized the sprinkler controllers damaged by lightning have been replaced, new motors will be installed later in the week. The claim has been submitted to insurance. Aksamit explained the legion field will be aerated in the spring by Ron Ross; Ross has the equipment to do the fertilizing and aerating. Mayor Ortiz is currently reviewing applications for the Park Manager position and meeting with Council members to discuss.

#### OLD BUSINESS –

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on the agreement between the City and SDA School District for a guard-wire on Highway 50. Stilmock explained the school board's attorney is working on a proposal. The attorney is communicating with the NDOR to see if an explanation to the school board regarding the effectiveness of a guard-wire would be justified by the school board in order to move forward. Stilmock is waiting on reply from the school board's attorney.

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 the Office Clerk/Concessions Manager position. Council Member Dettmer moved to approve a pay increase to \$14.00/hour for Office Clerk Julie Slafter, Henke seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Gigstad, Britton, Henke, Dettmer. Nays: none.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on a Welcome to Syracuse Sign. Carolyn Gigstad along with Mayor Ortiz, LuRae Hallstrom and Bruce Meyer have been working on sign designs and discussing locations. The committee has been working with Dolphin Designs and has come up with a natural design including help with landscaping. A grant is being sought through Nebraska Arboretum. A site is being considered on land owned by Randy Sump located across from Cubby's as well as a secondary location south of Syracuse by the Utilities shop. The design company has dropped the price of each sign down to \$12,000.00 each; the signs will be lit. Dirt is being donated but the committee is looking at purchasing some rocks to go around the sign. Dolphin is planning to work on the signs over the winter. Randy Sump will need to approve the design, then the committee will need to go to the Department of Roads. The Council would like to know more of who will be paying for the signs before moving forward with approving a sign agreement but the Council did like the design.

RESCUE REPORT – Tim Wilson present to report Sharon Morrow as well as Jen Staack for approval as new members of SRS. Council member Dettmer moved to approve Morrow and Staack, Henke seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Gigstad, Dettmer, Britton, Henke. Nays: none.

Wilson briefed the Council regarding issues with the Rescue Squad's primary rig not running well thus causing the squad to accelerate their plan to purchase a new vehicle. This includes financing of roughly \$200,000.00 for a new rig. If the current primary rig can be fixed anything new will still be considered but at a later date. Wilson is seeking an AFG grant to help with financing. The old rig would possibly bring \$10,000.00 for trade-in. Wilson will keep the Council updated.

LIBRARY REPORT – Librarian Antes presented her report. Good circulation for the month. Plans are underway for Tannenbaum, Sunday December 4<sup>th</sup>. Plans include Santa at 3:00 P.M. and the Soup Supper from 4:00 – 7:00 P.M. with music provided by Nina Jean Rolfs. Fall Programming has been scheduled and consists of pre-school storytime and three book clubs. Both computer and paper book usages are up with eleven new cards issued during the month of October.

OLD BUSINESS CONTINUED –

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on Syracuse Streambank Stability Assessment. Attorney Stilmock explained a group including Gary Kuenning and Randy Peterson recently met to discuss a design to re-route water to keep from flooding 1<sup>st</sup> Street. Council Member Britton has also been involved in the discussions and meetings. Peterson is planning to go the FSA office to gather more information where they will help with design and layout as well as a proposal for cost estimate. Issues are possible cost and whether there should be contribution by others.

Mayor Ortiz led the continued discussion on employee health insurance renewal and options. Sharon and Wayne McDermott of Diversified Benefits present to explain. The two have put together information for HSA options per the request of the Council at the October meeting. Council Member Britton moved to renew the existing health insurance plan, Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Henke, Dettmer, Gigstad, Britton. Nays: none.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on survey of 495 Midland Street, Attorney Stilmock explained the findings included the interior steps located at the west side of City Hall are located on the City Hall's property.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on Ordinance No. 1005 for new ordinance regarding CMH conditional use permit, Attorney Stilmock explained the new Ordinance reads the correct language. Council Member Henke moved the statutory rule be suspended, Britton seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Gigstad, Dettmer, Britton, Henke. Nays: none. Attorney Stilmock read Ordinance No. 1005 by title. Council Member Dettmer moved for final passage, Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Henke, Britton, Dettmer, Gigstad. Nays: none.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on bid for removal and disposal of yard waste submitted by Derek Harms. Attorney Stilmock stated employee handbook referenced Section 1.2 and Section 1.10 regarding any possible conflicts of interest. Council suggested the discussion be tabled to seek other alternatives.

NEW BUSINESS –

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on purchasing of tablets and accessories, Chiona Morris explained the capabilities as well as benefits of the Mayor and Council going to using tablets for the Council meetings. The tablet bids include keyboard covers. Morris has been working with Best Buy for Business. Morris is checking on accessibility of excel/word for the tablets and will follow up with a separate item. Council Member Britton moved to approve the bid from Best Buy for Business for \$2216.36 plus \$549.95 with a 10% allowance for additional expenses, Dettmer seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Henke, Britton, Gigstad, Dettmer. Nays: none.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on increase of permit application fees. Attorney Stilmock and Chiona Morris explained the purpose of the proposed increase of fees. The proposed documents and Master Fee Schedule will be discussed together in the future after the Mayor and Council have time to review and possibly be discussed in December. Morris would like to implement the changes at the first of the year. Also included are proposed permit revisions thus combining the various permits used presently. Britton suggested the permits should be available to complete electronic fillable forms. Stilmock also explained the purpose of a permit deposit. A deposit will hold the applicant liable for the ensuring the final inspection is completed.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on Drawdown #2 for Housing Administration, SENDD not present, Clerk Farmer explained. The Mayor and Council would like reps from SENDD to attend a Council meeting to provide an update, at least once a quarter. Council member Britton moved to approve Drawdown #2, Dettmer seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Gigstad, Britton, Henke, Dettmer. Nays: none.

OLD BUSINESS CONTINUED –

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on speed awareness yard signs campaign, Christa Reisdorff present to give an update. The Mayor and Council gave permission to keep the current test sign up at Williams Park. Reisdorff has received permission from ten total locations where Syracuse residents have offered for a sign to be placed in their yards. Individuals and organizations have also offered to be sponsors. The sign company confirmed the sponsor signs can be made smaller at half the price. Vogt confirmed the Utilities department can do the locates for the posts, FBLA students will help put up the signs. Attorney Stilmock will work with Reisdorff to put together an agreement for property owners to sign.


NEW BUSINESS CONTINUED –

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on contract revisions for Pole Attachment and Franchise Agreement, Rosalyn Beavers & Shannon of Unite present. Unite is asking permission to attach 10 poles in order to install new fiber and clean up what is on the poles with a Memorandum of Understanding. This includes replacing old Zito fiber that is old or has been damaged. Shannon explained re-lashing of fiber as well as Unite’s work currently at SDA schools and the clean-up involved. Alo and Windstream are wholesale and the public entities of the State of Nebraska and SDA Schools are the retailers. Council Member Britton moved to approve the Memorandum of Understanding with the contingent item that all remaining paperwork be completed by the March Council meeting and that the City charge 4% on all customers, Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Henke, Dettmer, Gigstad, Britton. Nays: none.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on well field development and potential rental of City property, Britton started by explaining Stilmock, hisself and Vogt met with JEO Water Specialists to identify the next steps in the development of the well field. A rental agreement will need to be drawn. At the December meeting, the Council will need to appoint a City person authorized to discuss the property with Farm Services Agency. Stilmock will speak with the Otoe County Assessor and report back to Mayor and Council.

Council Member Dettmer moved to adjourn at 9:34 P.M., Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Henke, Britton, Gigstad, Dettmer. Nays: none. The next Council meeting is scheduled for Wednesday December 14th, 2016 at 6:00 P.M.

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.

  
City Clerk

  
Mayor

