

REGULAR MEETING
CITY COUNCIL

May 10, 2017

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Syracuse, Nebraska met at 6:00 P.M. on May 10, 2017 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 April 12th, 2017 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.

The March Treasurer's Report Available; Todd Blome of BMG present. Blome explained everything has been accounted for and reconciled, all bond payments have been made. This report is half-way through the year. Account variances include general account, insurance proceeds from a claim paid by LARM, sales tax is up, fire income is up due to reimbursement of the thermal imaging camera, ambulance income is up due to a large Blue Cross/Blue Shield deposit, cemetery expense is up due to the column work at Park Hill, Park expenses is up due to the new shed, mower tires, sprinkler repairs. BMG has been looking at moving around the payroll taxes, this will help with budgeting. Budget versus actual numbers will really start making more sense from this point on. Blome explained the variance in the Property Tax received is a timing issue right now. Blome suggests breaking down payroll taxes and retirement contribution expenses more on future budgets. Blome encourages the Mayor and Council to look into these numbers in the next few months. Blome discussed the audit report provided by Ritterbusch & Piotrowski. The City will ask for additional firm proposals for future audits. Clerk Farmer will have more information in the next few months. Council Member Britton moved to approve the Treasurer's Report and pay the claims, Gigstad second. Roll Call: Yeas: Britton, Gigstad, Henke, Dettmer. Nays: none.

Aflac	282.68
Amazon Credit Plan	323.46
Ameritas Life Insur. Corp.	24.72
Awards Unlimited	100.55
Baragary Construction, Inc.	11,893.16
Benefit Plans Inc.	298.75
Blaine Reed	530.00
Beatrice Concrete	274.75
B & B Pump N Go, Inc.	1300.01
Bryan Nelson	210.00
Byron Petry	210.00
BMG	2500.00
Brandt, Horan, Hallstrom & Stilmock	4053.06
Bound Tree Medical, LLC	1134.48
Capital Business Systems	136.45
Capital City Lock & Key	424.59
Cardmember Services	3063.18
Chuck's Computer Repair	100.00
Creighton	324.00
Carol Linqvist	399.00
City of Syracuse	943.83
City of Nebraska City	932.09
Collection Services Center	410.76
Culligan Water Conditioning	41.65
Danko Emergency Equipment Co.	93.73
Dentegra Insurance Company	380.42
EMS Billing Services, Inc.	1388.06
Eakes Office Plus	135.96
Elizabeth Miller	390.00
Erika Hunzeker	655.00
Erin Hunzeker	395.00
Farner-Bocken Co.	576.95

Field Ford, Inc.	332.15
Felicia Sherman	90.00
Feld Fire	664.00
First Wireless, Inc.	284.00
Gatehouse Media Nebraska Holdings, Inc.	86.45
Gregg Zahn	5890.00
GPM	372.00
Grant Aden	100.00
Hank's Garage	352.65
Hawkins, Inc.	200.24
Interstate All Battery Center	52.20
International Institute of Municipal Clerks	175.00
Ingram Library Services	564.40
John Palmtag	100.00
JEO Consulting Group, Inc.	7551.00
Jim Beecham	170.00
Julie Slafter	42.97
JH Sporhase	50.40
Ken Aden	520.00
Kriz Davis	1088.63
League Association of Risk Management	500.00
Layne Christiansen Company	1637.35
Midwest Farmers Cooperative	752.42
Martin Marietta	207.05
Matheson Tri-Gas, Inc	67.35
Micro Marketing Association	47.67
Midwest Laboratories, Inc.	145.08
Moore Medical LLC	622.92
Municipal Supply of Omaha	55.86
My-Lor, Inc.	12.67
Mannschreck Masonry	150.00
Magazine Processing Center	21.30
Mid America Books	186.45
Mike's Window Service, LLC	107.83
Nebraska City Newspress	467.52
NE Child Support Pymt. Center	290.78
NMC Exchange LLC	285.47
Nebraska City Utilities	442.25
NE Municipal Power Pool	1212.67
NE Public Health Environmental Lab	48.00
Omaha Public Power District	105,997.00
One Call Concepts, Inc.	21.54
Otoe County Sheriff	15,000.00
Phyllis Buck	130.00
Papillion Sanitation	453.07
Pioneer Underground Sprinkler	2330.00
Petty Cash P&R	490.00
Ryan Murrell	60.00
Seeba Hardware & TV	320.00
Sapp Bros. Petroleum – Lincoln	1047.27
Secretary of State	20.00
Subscriber Services	24.00
Stutheit Implement	2751.61
Syracuse Motor Supply	95.73
Syracuse Lumber Co.	51.66
Syracuse Do It Best	364.77
Syracuse Ironworks	2995.67
Terry's Family Foods	1921.05
True West Magazine	29.95
The Added Touch	52.50
Town & Country Pharmacy	56.95

United Healthcare	11,345.70
U.S. Post Office	311.37
Verizon	173.26
Western Area Power Administration	2902.26
Windstream	1577.47
Shayna R. Murrell	90.00
Sue Antes	1514.22
Carolyn Bremer	183.87
Karen Kimpel	66.48
Todd E. Aksamit	2098.80
Deb Dettmer	161.61
Alan Britton	161.61
Kelly Farmer	2289.89
Leah Ganzel	290.90
Alfred Gigstad	161.61
Craig Boldt	115.44
Ken Parde	184.70
Derek R. Harms	2050.60
Kim Bellinder	183.87
Kristine Henke	161.61
Mark S. Moerer	1916.51
Chiona R. Morris	1722.80
Marcia Scheinost	184.70
Julie J. Slafter	1719.68
Mitchell Stubbendick	2275.70
Brian Vodicka	1315.26
Jeff Vogt	3039.79
Tomas Ortiz	461.75
Timothy A. Wilson	184.70
Carol Linqvist	183.87
Patricia Hogancamp	110.82
David Sabatka	115.44
Joe Reisdorff	184.70
Dale Young	238.72
Caitlyn Carlson	7.62
Jamy Prokopec	329.56
Madison Mueller	7.85
Cody Ryan	10.62
Taylor Weiler	7.85
Viktor Werner	7.85
Cassie Katen	10.62
Brynn Krieger	7.85
Jonathon Cox	7.85
Aprille Johnson	7.85
Megan Reuter	7.85
Jacob Heitkamp	7.62
Madison Marrs	7.38

HEARING OF THOSE PRESENT – Steve Ward from Verizon spoke regarding the request to construct a small cell tower in the downtown area. Mr. Ward is requesting to be placed on the June agenda. This tower would allow for a stronger signal for Verizon customers.

LIBRARY REPORT – Sue Antes not present but her report was distributed in the packets. No discussion was had or questions asked.

RESCUE REPORT – Tim Wilson present to report on the Syracuse Rescue Squad. Wilson led the discussion and Resolution No. 17-13 on approval of billing rates. Wilson explained the current policy is that each transport receives two bills, the second being final notice and if the bill is not collected it is eventually written off. The proposed agenda item is that collections would take control of the bill after 30 days past due of the second billing. Wilson gave two examples of collections agencies. Wilson would consider the collections agency collecting at 18% with EMS taking 15%, the collections would

take a softer approach. Council Member Britton moved to approve usage of debt collection agency on ambulance charges, Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Gigstad, Britton, Henke, Dettmer. Nays: none. Council Member Gigstad moved to adopt Resolution No. 17-13, Henke seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Dettmer, Henke, Gigstad, Britton. Nays: none.

Mayor led the discussion and approval of new SRS members. Susan Obermeyer has taken part in the ride-along program and would now like to join the service. The other is Anne Clark who is currently an RN at CMH and can help out with calls. Council Member Gigstad moved to approve the two SRS members, Dettmer seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Britton, Gigstad, Henke, Dettmer. Nays: none.

SHERIFF REPORT – Deputy Holland present to report for the month of April. Total calls were 46 with eight being traffic stops, six vandalism/theft and ten threat/disturbances. Holland spoke of the narcotics incident at SDA. The kids involved will have a lot of court intervention and oversight in the future. Holland spoke highly of the juvenile judge for Otoe County. Concern was had regarding trucks not coming to a complete stop out by Love's as well as on Angle Road coming from Midwest Coop. Another traffic study can be done as progress is made at the CMH rebuild site. Holland explained the new communication system and upgrade is moving forward.

NUISANCE REPORT – Bruce Neemann presented an updated nuisance tracker and report. Two properties have been filed with the County Attorney, we have not heard back from the county. Neemann went through multiple other properties, reviewing ordinances and is attempting to rectify the issues without having to involve the county. Many of the complaints have to do with trash piled up on properties, some having to do with dogs. Mayor Ortiz asked the Council how they would like to proceed with tracker number 16-4. Attorney Stilmock has spoken with the tax certificate owner who currently lives out of state. The cost to the City would be \$900.00 to take control of the property. The Council majority feels that the City has spent more time and money discussing this property and \$900.00 is worth it. Council Member Dettmer moved to offer tax plus interest to obtain control of the 324 6th Street property, Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Henke, Britton, Dettmer, Gigstad. Nays: none.

SWIMMING POOL & PROGRAMS & PARKS REPORT – Rec Coordinator Shayna Murrell and Park Manager Jon Baugous present. Murrell announced the Early Buzzard Tourney held at the Sports Complex went well the previous weekend. League baseball and softball games are starting. Bids for the concrete were submitted for the new batting cage for the complex as well as the cost for the net, cage, poles and materials for a grand total of \$13,154.00. Mayor Ortiz recommends Murrell speak with Lynn Lyon regarding the Legion donating funds toward the new cage also. Playground funds raised can also be used towards this purchase. The pool is being filled this week and a new sump pump has been offered. Eight pool parties have already been scheduled. Twenty lifeguards applied and training has been scheduled. Opening day is scheduled for Friday, May 26th. Burbach's estimate is \$650,000 for a new bathhouse. Council Member Henke asked about looking into if using the shell of the building is an option. and softball tournaments are being held in the upcoming weeks. Baugous didn't have anything to report. Mayor Ortiz addressed a complaint regarding four-wheeler riding on City property located west of the soccer fields. Signs are being posted as well as moving of tree limbs in order to block the trails.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT – Jeff Vogt present. Vogt opened his discussion on Suez Antenna Maintenance Program in regards to use of the Syracuse Water Tower. Vogt presented a picture taken by a drone showing the counties antennas located on the top of the tower. Vogt will speak with OCEMA's Steve Cody to see if anyone can attach onto their antenna structure. The Council suggested sending the picture to Scott Bornemeier of Future Tech.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion and Resolution No. 17-14 on the sale of light fixtures. Bids will be due to City Hall by 4:30 P.M. June 9th, 2017. Clerk Farmer will post in Journal Democrat and on the City's website. Council Member Henke moved to adopt Resolution 17-14, Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Britton, Gigstad, Dettmer, Henke. Nays: none.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on GIS mapping grant. Vogt explained the mapping would plot out all water lines, etc. in the City. JEO proposes to map out half the town it would cost \$16,000.00. The City would pay JEO \$6000.00 to write the grant and the grant would cover the additional \$10,000.00. If the City doesn't get the grant this year then we would try again. Vogt is asking permission to apply for the grant. Council Member Britton moved to authorize JEO to apply for the mapping grant, Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Henke, Dettmer, Gigstad, Britton. Nays: none.

OLD BUSINESS –

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on Syracuse Streambank Stability Assessment. Attorney Stilmock explained the governmental agency would not be able to assist the City with this.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on Subcommittee Report on Love's Pioneering Agreement. Attorney Stilmock is waiting to hear back from Love's; the discussion will be tabled

Mayor Ortiz led the tabled discussion on Syracuse Business Center escrow funds and payment of engineering fees. Randy Sump present. Council Member Henke moved to release the full amount of the escrow account, Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Dettmer, Henke, Britton, Gigstad. Nays: none.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion and Resolution No. 17-15 on the lease agreement with RTR Development, LLC authorizing Mayor's signature. The lease agreement is for the ground where the North Welcome To Syracuse sign will be placed. Council Member Gigstad moved to adopt Resolution No. 17-15, Henke seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Gigstad, Britton, Dettmer, Henke. Nays: none. Clerk Farmer will draft a letter to Pinnacle Bank for \$13,011.00 to be paid to the City of Syracuse and the remaining to go directly to Randy Sump.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion and update on a temp person at City Hall. The temp help did not pan out as planned. Chiona will possibly return back to work as early as May 22nd, 2017.

NEW BUSINESS –

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on subcommittee report on new Law Enforcement Agreement between Otoe County and the City of Syracuse. Council Member Henke added Commissioner Sorenson implied at an earlier meeting that if an additional deputy needed to be hired, then one would be hired. Discussion was had regarding levies and taxes as well as the use of the office at City Hall by the deputies. Mayor Ortiz directed Jerry to set up another meeting.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion and approval of two SDL requests for use at the Green Room by Dawn Richardson and The Beer Stein for the dates of August 19th and October 28th, 2017. Council Member Britton moved to approve the SDL's for the dates of August 19th and October 28th, Dettmer seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Gigstad, Britton, Dettmer, Henke. Nays: none.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on change of 5th Street Centre businesses. The request is for the addresses and businesses within the 5th Street Centre facility. Dawn Richardson present. Vogt explained the only entrance to the apartment is from the sidewalk so the apartment will be 432 5th Street and then the 5th Street Centre be 430 5th Street with the businesses inside the Centre be suites. Stilmock explained a resolution will be on the June agenda; Richardson will send a list to Clerk Farmer with a list of which businesses are to be which suites.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on request for handicap parking stall at corner of 5th and Thorne Street. No one from 5th Street Centre present. Mayor Ortiz requested to table the discussion until the June Council meeting. Council Member Gigstad moved to approve a handicap parking stall be placed at the corner of 5th and Thorne, Dettmer seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Henke, Britton, Dettmer, Gigstad. Nays: none.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on SDL request for Otoe County Ag Society for use on the fairgrounds during Otoe County Fair dates of July 26th thru July 31st, 2017. Willy Scheef unable to attend. Council Member Henke moved to approve the SDL for Otoe County Ag Society, Dettmer seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Gigstad, Dettmer, Britton, Henke. Nays: none.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on concern regarding erosion from waterway on Swanson Drive. Many residents of Swanson Drive present. The concern is regarding the washout caused by the waterway moving over time approaching the homes on the east side of the waterway. Recent development north of this area has raised concern of the effects of the flow of the water off of developed areas. Mayor Ortiz explained the purpose of a retention pond and how this will help with the water coming off of the new CMH site. Council Member Britton explained the property is private property and is the responsibility of the property owners. Council Members recommend the group have a committee speak with the NRD and possibly the Core of Engineers as the City cannot give advice on what a property owner can or cannot do with a waterway.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on SDL request for beer garden for 2017 GermanFest on July 8th. Anthony Hensley, owner of B & J's, not present. No changes will be made to the layout of the beer garden from the 2016 GermanFest beer garden. Council Member Henke moved to approve the SDL for B & J's, Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Britton, Henke, Gigstad, Dettmer. Nays: none.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on approval of Electricians and Plumbers for 2017-2018. Clerk Farmer provided a list of those who have turned in applications. Council Member Dettmer approved those on the list, Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Henke, Dettmer, Gigstad, Britton. Nays: none. A list of Plumbers and Electricians is kept current at City Hall.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion and Resolution No. 17-16 regarding the agreement with Community Memorial Hospital, Inc., City of Syracuse and KNA Holdings, LLC authorizing Mayor's signature. Attorney Stilmock explained the interest in a City street being placed at the location of the CMH's new site entrance for possible future westward expansion. Speed limit is currently being discussed as well as traffic lights at the location.

Mayor Ortiz asked a Council Member to motion to adjourn. Council Member Dettmer moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:41P.M., Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Henke, Britton, Gigstad, 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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gigstad", written over a horizontal line.