

REGULAR MEETING
CITY COUNCIL

OCTOBER 8, 2014

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Syracuse, Nebraska met at 6:00 P.M. on October 8, 2014 for their regular meeting in Council Chambers at 495 Midland Street. Present were Mayor Ortiz, Council members Gigstad, Dettmer, Lutjemeyer 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. 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 signed a proclamation presented by the Syracuse Middle School Student Council designating October as Bullying Prevention Month. Mayor Otriz signed a proclamation in honor of American Legion Auxiliary Unit #100 Parade of Veterans November 9 – 14, 2014.

Peggy Kuser, City Treasurer, was unable to attend the meeting. The City Treasurer is requesting a monthly increase of \$250 bringing the monthly fee to \$845. Council member Henke stated that she checked with several firms in Lincoln and their fee would be \$850 - \$900 per month. The request for monthly increase was tabled until the November meeting. Council member Lutjemeyer made the motion to approve the treasurer's report and following claims, second by Henke. Roll Call: Yeas: Lutjemeyer, Henke, Gigstad, Dettmer.

AFLAC	565.70
Allied Refuse Services	496.15
Alpha-Omega Carpet & Uph. Cleaning	455.85
Awards Unlimited, Inc.	25.30
B & B Pump N Go, Inc.	1,934.03
B & B Pump N Go, Inc.	461.15
Baragary Construction, Inc.	2,330.00
Big Red Drainage Pipe Supply, Inc.	811.21
Bound Tree Medical, LLC	329.19
Brandt, Horan, Hallstrom & Stilmock	1,605.09
Burr Farm Machinery, Inc.	105.00
Cardmember Service	2,955.36
Chemsearch	158.78
City of Syracuse	1,456.92
City of Syracuse	116.13
Combined Revenue Bonds Pri. & Int.	25,000.00
Community Memorial Hospital	12.00
Creighton University	130.00
David Partsch	100.00
Dearborn National Life Ins. Co.	202.96
Double Day	60.62
Dutton Lainson Co.	1,120.35
EMS Billing Services, Inc.	3,457.13
Enerspect Medical Solutions, LLC	159.76
Environmental Analysis South, Inc.	55.00
Farmers' Cooperative	14.60
Fireguard, Inc.	383.35
Gall's	158.93
Garry Carman	2,819.45
Gatehouse Media Nebraska Holdings, Inc.	402.73
Hank's Garage	97.15
Hawkin's, Inc.	302.92
Heiman Fire Equipment, Inc.	180.14
Ingram Library Services	315.00
Jessica LaFollette	90.00

JEO Consulting Group, Inc.	3,325.75
Kanequip, Inc.	463.90
Konica Minolta Business Solutions	407.94
Krista Sisco	90.00
Kriz Davis Co.	1,415.43
Liberty National Life Ins. Company	24.00
Martin Marietta Aggregates	568.29
Midwest Farmers Coopeative	201.32
Midwest Laboratories, Inc.	95.00
Municipal Supply Inc. of NE	4,734.27
Nebraska City Utilities	496.55
Nebraska City Utilities	30.75
NE Public Health Env. Lab.	86.00
Northern Safety & Industrial	112.33
Omaha Public Power District	113,179.19
Omaha Public Power District	1,000.00
One Call Concepts, Inc.	23.25
Otoe County	15,000.00
Peggy Kuser PCA	595.00
Percival Culligan Water	35.25
Petty Cash	80.08
Preceptor Tau	85.99
Roy Bretthorst	53.80
Security Equipment, Inc.	162.00
Shayna Aksamit	371.66
Synchrony Bank/Amazon	285.90
St. Paulinus Catholic Church	676.01
Stutheit Impl.	49.03
Syracuse Do It Best	206.86
Syracuse Do It Best	108.56
Syracuse Lumber	375.82
Syracuse Motor Supply	241.33
Syracuse Veterinary Service	123.53
Taste of Home	31.98
Terry's Family Foods	174.91
The Added Touch	52.50
The Saturday Evening Post	11.00
Todd Aksamit	224.64
Town & Country Pharmacy	67.95
United Healthcare	13,796.39
USA Blue Book	255.92
Utility Service Co, Inc.	19,016.63
Verizon Wireless	332.27
Windstream	183.14
Windstream	346.13
Windstream	1,382.50
Western Area Power Administration	2,169.41
US Postal Service	329.47
Todd Aksamit	1,855.11
Shayna Aksamit	1,641.52
Susan Antes	1,409.93
Timothy Antes	115.44
Carolyn Bremer	183.45
Roy Bretthorst	278.64
Garry Carman	2,603.64
Deborah Dettmer	92.35
Kelly Farmer	1,673.77
Caleb Frede	115.44
Alfred Gigstad	92.35

Carol Graham	92.35
Eldon Halm	115.44
Eldon Halm	2,012.24
Derek Harms	2,040.02
Kristina Henke	92.35
Peggy Hobscheidt	1,714.74
Julie Isaacs	546.23
Karen Kimpel	40.17
Jason LaFollette	1,671.22
Carol Linqvist	115.44
Chris Lutjemeyer	92.35
Cassandra Oestmann	26.78
Tomas Ortiz	369.40
Julie Slafter	1,361.28
Richard Sitzman	115.44
Mitchell Stubbendick	2,062.52
Jeffery Vogt	2,325.81
Timothy Wilson	115.44
Dale Young	415.57

SHERIFF REPORT – Report presented by Chief Deputy Mike Holland. There were 81 calls in September, 22 being Rescue calls. Chief Deputy Holland stated that they will be conducting more school patrols in the next several months.

City Attorney Jerry Stilmock reviewed with Mayor and Council the changes made to the ordinance for driving of Utility-type vehicles, All-terrain vehicles and Golf cars on City streets. Attorney Stilmock pointed out that the age of driver was changed from 21 years of age to 18 years of age. Annual fee for obtaining a permit will be \$15.00 and no charge for a duplicate, if lost or damaged. If the vehicle is not equipped with turn signals, the driver must use hand signals.

The following penalty was added to ordinance. (a) for the first offense, use of the vehicle shall be prohibited within the City for a period of six months and (b) for the second offense, within eight years from the first offense, use of the vehicle shall be prohibited within the City for a period of one year.

A dealer will be charged an annual fee of \$15.00 and given one sticker that shall be placed on a metal plate, which will be provided by the City, so as to allow for its transferability from vehicle to vehicle and shall be displayed within or upon the vehicle during operation.

Chief Deputy Holland stated that the Sheriff's Department was not happy with UTV and ATV being allowed on City Streets but did like that this would be allowed from sun rise to sun set only.

Council member Gigstad made the motion to adopt ORDINANCE NO. 958: AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SYRACUSE, OTOE COUNTY, NEBRASKA TO AMEND CHAPTER 5, ARTICLE 7 OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF SYRACUSE, OTOE COUNTY, NEBRASKA PROVIDING FOR THE OPERATION OF ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLES, UTILITY-TYPE VEHICLES, AND GOLF CAR VEHICLES ON THE STREETS OF THE CITY OF SYRACUSE, NEBRASKA; TO PROVIDE PENALTIES; TO PROVIDE FOR THE REPEAL OF CONFLICTING ORDINANCES OR SECTIONS; AND TO PROVIDE FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE, and moved that the statutory rule requiring reading on three different days be suspended. Council member Dettmer seconded the motion to suspend the rules and upon roll call on the motion, the following Council members voted YEA: Lutjemeyer, Henke, Gigstad, Dettmer. The following voted NAY: None. The motion to suspend the rules was adopted by three-fourths of the City Council, and the statutory rule was declared suspended for consideration of said ordinance.

Said ordinance was then read by title, and thereafter Council member Henke moved for final passage of the ordinance which motion was seconded by Council member Lutjemeyer. The Mayor then stated the question, “Shall Ordinance No. 958 be passed and adopted?” Upon roll call vote the following Council members voted YEA: Gigstad, Dettmer, Lutjemeyer, Henke. The following Council members voted NAY: None. The passage and adoption of said ordinance, having been concurred in by a majority of all members of the City Council, the Mayor declared the ordinance adopted, and the Mayor in the presence of the City Council, signed and approved the ordinance, and the Clerk attested the passage and approval of the same and affixed her signature thereto.

A true, correct and complete copy of said ordinance is attached hereto and made a part hereof by reference.

PARKS & RECREATION REPORT – – Park Manager Todd Aksamit presented the Park report. Park Manager Aksamit reported that on Monday, October 13th, the school students will be coming to the Sports Complex and Williams Park to do clean-up. Aksamit stated that they will work approximately 2 hours at each location.

Recreation Coordinator Shayna Aksamit was unable to attend meeting. Park Manager Aksamit reported that Recreation Coordinator has been working on winterizing the swimming pool and working on volleyball and basketball programs.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT – Report presented by Superintendent of Public Works Garry Carman. Evan Wickersham of JEO Consulting Group, Inc. appeared before Mayor and Council to discuss the award of contract for the 2014 Highway 50 Water Main Improvements.

Mr. Wickersham reported that eight bids were received for project and the low bidder was K-2 Construction from, Lincoln, NE. The total bid was \$109,248.10 with a start date of April 1, 2014. Mr. Wickersham stated that he had checked with K-2’s references and received favorable feedback. K-2 has successfully completed several projects in southeast Nebraska.

Superintendent Carman stated that he has been contacted about furnishing water for a project located to the south east of the Utility complex. This addition of 1,300 feet of water main could possibly be included in this project. The company wanting the extension would pay the City to bring water to their site. Mr. Wickersham stated that this could be included in the project with a change order, if needed.

Council member Lutjemeyer made the motion to award contract to K-2 Construction with a bid of \$109,248.10 with a start date of April 1, 2014 and to authorize the Mayor to sign Notice of Award for 2015 Highway 50 Water Main Improvements, second by Gigstad. Roll Call: Yeas: Gigstad, Dettmer, Lutjemeyer, Henke. Nays: None.

Abby Widger and Ron Hawkins of the Syracuse Library Foundation appeared before Mayor and Council to request permission to place two statues at the Syracuse Public Library. The cost of the statues and the installation will be paid by the Syracuse Library Foundation.

The two proposed statues will be bronze statues and will be placed on a brick base for easy maintenance. Directly in front of the Library will be a girl reading a book to a dog and west of the entrance of the Library, they would be placing a Service men statue. Any yearly maintenance needed on the statues will be paid for by the Library Foundation. The Foundation would like to place an additional statue to the east of the Library entrance in the future.

Council member Lutjemeyer made the motion to allow the Syracuse Library Foundation to place two statues, Girl reading book to Dog and Service men, at the Syracuse Public Library, second by Henke. Roll Call: Yeas: Dettmer, Lutjemeyer, Henke, Gigstad. Nays: None.

Council member Lutjemeyer stated that due to increase cost in phone, internet and all additional cost the Mayor incurs, he would like to increase the Mayor’s salary \$50-\$100 per month. When

questioned, Mayor Ortiz stated that he works over 20 hours per week taking phone calls, working on grants and every day City business.

All the Council members agreed to raise the Mayor's salary to \$500 per month. City Attorney Stilmock will draw up an ordinance for the November meeting.

Mayor Ortiz requested that the Council members have their recommendations for the Employee Salary Step Program to him by October 17, 2014.

Mayor Ortiz requested that Deputy Clerk Kelly Farmer start working on getting the Muni Codes on the City website.

City Attorney Stilmock stated that he is still waiting to hear back from the second tax lien holder on the Larry Lawton property. There are a total of three lien holders on the two properties, one will not release their lien, one is in favor of giving to the City and the other will not return calls.

City Attorney Stilmock stated that the City could go in and demolish the properties, but the City would need to pay the lien holders before the City could sell the property to re-coup any funds used for demolition. Neither property owner has the finances to clean-up or demolish the houses.

Mayor Ortiz stated that due to the safety hazard, he would like to dismiss the lawsuits and proceed with obtaining bids for asbestos inspections and see if the City could demolish the Martin property. Mayor and Council agreed to proceed with the Martin property due to condition of the property.

Mayor and Council requested that City Clerk Hobscheidt contact Eddie Paden and inquiry if his company would consider lower their fee for asbestos inspection for the Martin property.

Council member Lutjemeyer made the motion to dismiss the lawsuits against Charles Martin and Larry Lawton, second by Henke. Roll Call: Yeas: Dettmer, Lutjemeyer, Henke, Gigstad. Nays: None.

Council member Lutjemeyer made the motion to go into closed session at 8:05 P.M. to discuss personnel, second by Henke. Roll Call: Yeas: Gigstad, Dettmer, Lutjemeyer, Henke. Nays: None.

Council member Lutjemeyer made the motion to go out of closed session at 9:11 P.M., second by Gigstad. Roll Call: Yeas: Lutjemeyer, Henke, Gigstad, Dettmer. Nays: None.

Council member Dettmer made the motion to adjourn at 9:12 P.M, second by Henke. Roll Call: Yeas: Lutjemeyer, Henke, 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.

City Clerk

Mayor

