

SPECIAL MEETING  
CITY COUNCIL

April 17, 2019

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Syracuse, Nebraska met at 6:00 P.M. on April 17, 2019 for a special meeting in the Syracuse City Hall Council Chambers at 495 5<sup>th</sup> Street. Notice of meeting was given by posting in three places. Council President Orv Gigstad requested roll call, present were Mayor Ortiz and Council members Orv Gigstad, Deb Dettmer, Jerry Werner, Laramie Werner. A copy of the posting notice and acknowledgement of notice to the Council is attached to these minutes. Minutes for the April 10, 2019 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.

SHERIFF REPORT – Otoe County Sheriff Caudill present. Hours for March are consistent with what they have been in the past. Two deputies graduated this day from the academy. They will have a little more training on the job before they are on their own. There were 36 total calls for the month of March. Caudill will reach out to the Nebraska Department of Roads regarding jake-braking violators and installation of the No Jake-Braking signs recently ordered and delivered.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT – Superintendent Jeff Vogt present. Mayor Ortiz led discussion on wholesale power options; Dave Peterson of JEO present. Peterson explained a portion of his discussion will require a closed session. Ortiz explained due to the nature of the agenda items each discussion will be allowed 15 minutes. Peterson presented data from the City's current wholesale power contractor and explained the pricing between three different indicative offers from wholesale power sellers. Peterson presented models for the City showing how much power is consumed, capacity, as well as demand and energy pricing from Western Area Power Administration. Southwest Power Pool market information was also distributed. Peterson explained a description of how power is bought and sold; every hour of every day goes into a profile and uses an average. Others may use more of a block system. The difference is a real time market versus a block market which is comparable to how the stock market operates. Council Member Orv Gigstad moved to go into Closed Session for the purpose of discussing proprietary confidential information from three suppliers, Jerry Werner seconded. Mayor Ortiz announced a motion was made and seconded to go into Closed Session for the purpose of discussing proprietary confidential information from three suppliers; he then asked if there was any discussion. Mayor Ortiz then announced the pending motion is to go into Closed Session for the purpose of discussing proprietary confidential information and asked for roll call vote: Yeas: Laramie Werner, Deb Dettmer, Jerry Werner, Orv Gigstad. Nays: none. Clerk Farmer announced that at 6:21 P.M. a motion was made and seconded to approve going into Closed Session for the purpose of discussing proprietary confidential information from three suppliers. Invited to stay were Jeff Vogt, Dave Peterson, and Kelly Farmer. Council Member Deb Dettmer motioned to come out of Closed Session at 6:41 P.M., Orv Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Laramie Werner, Deb Dettmer, Jerry Werner, Orv Gigstad. Nays: none. Peterson discussed the option of renewal energy and battery storage options. The solar charges the battery during the day, the stored energy uses that for their evenings saving on using purchased power. The City is not part of NPPD therefore the City would be able to participate in the renewal energy/battery storage. Council Member Jerry Werner moved for direction for the discussion to be tabled until a future meeting in order to draft a letter to OPPD. Deb Dettmer seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Orv Gigstad, Laramie Werner, Deb Dettmer, Jerry Werner. Nays: none.

Mayor Ortiz led discussion and Resolution No.19-07 on proposal for distribution backup feeder to hospital, authorizing Mayor's signature; Dave Peterson of JEO present. Attorney Stilmock discussed his comments regarding the agreement. Peterson explained the \$270,000.00 cost has been broken up into two budget years. JEO will be available to guide the City through the process. Vogt feels this is needed to allow for future expansion of this area. Council Member Deb Dettmer moved to adopt Resolution 19-07, Laramie Werner seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Orv Gigstad, Jerry Werner, Laramie Werner, Deb Dettmer. Nays: none.

Mayor Ortiz led discussion and Resolution 19-08 on proposal to update Future Land Use and Zoning Maps, authorizing Mayor's signature; Jeff Ray of JEO not present, Dave Peterson available for questions. Council Member Jerry Werner moved to adopt Resolution No. 19-08, Deb Dettmer seconded. Roll Call: Orv Gigstad, Deb Dettmer, Laramie Werner, Jerry Werner. Nays: none.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on snow removal ordinances. Previous direction was for Attorney Stilmock to prepare an ordinance for something else to consider on snow removal; he researched snow emergency routes. Placement of these routes needs to be decided and then who enforces. The ordinance has been drafted but details need to be decided. The item will be tabled in order for Superintendent Jeff Vogt to speak with fire and rescue to gather list of proposed streets. Attorney Stilmock explained communication outlets include radio, City website, newspaper website, and City Facebook.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on bankruptcy hearing for Syracuse Utilities customer and outstanding bills. A bankruptcy hearing was held for the customer on April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2019; no news has been distributed on the hearing results at this time. Attorney Stilmock expects a check will be coming in to put towards their Syracuse Utilities account.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on request to purchase Poplar Street north of 11<sup>th</sup> Street; Rodney Nincehelsler not present. Clerk Farmer will reach out to the surrounding property owners. The discussion will be tabled until the May Council meeting.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on future of City property at 324 6<sup>th</sup> Street. The Mayor and Council suggested Superintendent Vogt ask the adjacent property owner to the north to make an offer on the property if they are interested; the property owner to the east has deferred to the property owner to the north. The discussion will be continued at the May Council meeting. The City has put in approximately \$10,000.00 into the property; sidewalks will need to be placed on the south and west sides of the property. Discussion was had on enforcement of the sidewalks to ensure the completion.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion and Resolution No. 19-09 authorizing Mayor to sign and execute documents required to receive USDA Rural Development financial assistance. The online documents and application have been completed as much as they can up to the approving of the Resolution; Mayor Ortiz will complete the application after he is authorized to sign. Council Member Deb Dettmer moved to adopt Resolution No. 19-09, Laramie Werner seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Jerry Werner, Orv Gigstad, Deb Dettmer, Laramie Werner. Nays: none.

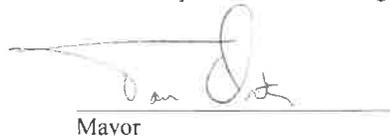
Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on electrical at Sports Complex; this was tabled from the April Council meeting. The Syracuse Foundation would contribute \$5000.00 and the Germanfest Committee will contribute \$1000.00 contingent on Syracuse Utilities putting in the electrical as previously discussed. Council Member Jerry Werner moved to proceed with electrical expansion at the Sports Complex including funds from Syracuse Foundation and Syracuse Germanfest Committee. Deb Dettmer seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Laramie Werner, Jerry Werner, Orv Gigstad, Deb Dettmer. Nays: none.

Mayor Ortiz asked a Council Member to motion to adjourn. Council Member Orv Gigstad moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:29 P.M., Laramie Werner seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Jerry Werner, Deb Dettmer, Laramie Werner, Orv Gigstad. 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

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS OF  
SYRACUSE CITY COUNCIL**

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that the City Council of the City of Syracuse will meet on the 17th day of April 2019 at 6:00 P.M. in Council Chambers at 495 Midland Street Syracuse, Nebraska.

If accommodations are required, please contact the City Clerk, City Hall, or call 402-269-2173.

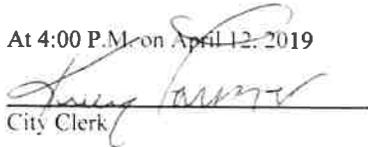
Kelly Farmer  
City Clerk

Not a part of the notice:

I certify that the above notice was posted by me in three places in the city as follows:

1. Terry's Family Foods
2. City Hall Lobby
3. First National Bank Lobby

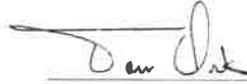
At 4:00 P.M. on April 12, 2019

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF  
NOTICE OF MEETING

The undersigned members of the governing body of the City of Syracuse, Nebraska,  
hereby acknowledge receipt of advance notice of a meeting of said body and the agenda  
for such meeting held at 6:00 P.M. on April 17, 2019 at Syracuse City Hall Council  
Chambers at 495 5th Street.

Dated the 17<sup>th</sup> of April, 2019.



Mayor



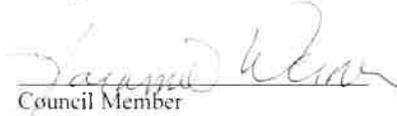
Council Member



Council Member

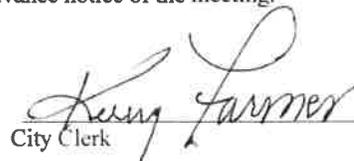


Council Member



Council Member

I hereby certify that No One was absent from the meeting but  
that, to my personal knowledge, he/she received advance notice of the meeting.



City Clerk