

REGULAR MEETING
CITY COUNCIL

March 13, 2019

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Syracuse, Nebraska met at 6:00 P.M. on March 13, 2019 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. Council President Orv Gigstad requested roll call, present were Council members Deb Dettmer, Orv Gigstad, Laramie Werner, Jerry Werner; Mayor Ortiz was absent. A copy of the posting notice and acknowledgement of notice to the Council is attached to these minutes. Minutes for the February 20th Special Council, February 20th Joint Council/Planning, and March 8th Special Council 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.

Mayor Ortiz led the approval of claims and Treasurer's Reports, Todd Blome of BMG not present. BMG has sent the February financial report for the Mayor and Council to review. No discussion was had; the report and explanation had been distributed prior to the meeting. Council Member Jerry Werner moved to approve the February Treasurer's Report and pay the claims, Laramie Werner seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Deb Dettmer, Jerry Werner, Orv Gigstad, Laramie Werner. Nays: none.

American Public Power Association	1168.51
Bound Tree Medical	30.98
Brandt, Horan, Hallstrom, Stilmock	3260.00
Capital Business Systems	67.73
Echo	90.27
EMS Billing Services	1347.55
Ingram Library Services	426.93
Joseph Peterson	255.00
Meyer's Body Shop	932.97
Mannschreck Masonry, LLC	4211.50
Nebraska City Utilities	707.58
NMC, Inc.	1556.91
OPPD	127,289.52
Syracuse Rescue Squad	420.00
TCA Outdoor Power	741.80
Unum	82.65
Verizon	142.10
Windstream	166.68

HEARING OF THOSE PRESENT – No one present.

SHERIFF REPORT – Otoe County Sheriff Caudill present. Caudill expressed his disappointment with the hours for the month of February; the Sheriff's office will continue to work on logging hours correctly and distributing manpower hours evenly. The shortage of personnel is affecting the department currently; the department is hiring to fill these shortages. The department has an obligation to field train anyone who has previous law enforcement experience to ensure they understand the Otoe Sheriff's coverage area and records management system; two are still in the academy. After the two return from the academy and one fulfills the field training, the department will still be down by one Caudill explained. A conditional job offer has been made for one additional person at this time; if hired this person will need to attend the academy. There were 31 total incidents documented for Syracuse for February; these ranged from a variety of types of calls. Of the 31, one was a traffic stop, 13 house check/watch, and four suspicious person/vehicle incidents. No further discussion was had.

LIBRARY REPORT – Sue Antes not present; the report for February 2019 was circulated to the Mayor and Council prior to the meeting. No further discussion was had.

FIRE REPORT – Fire Chief Bruce Neemann present. Gigstad led the discussion and approval of Timothy Barrientos to SVFD. Council Member Laramie Werner moved to approve Barrientos to SVFD, Deb Dettmer seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Jerry Werner, Orv Gigstad, Laramie Werner, Deb Dettmer. Nays: none.

CEMETERY BOARD REPORT – Park Hill Cemetery Board Members Linda Sutton and Leonard Buchholz present. Gigstad led the discussion on resignation and replacement of Board Member and Chairman, Jim Pfeiffer. The Board presents individuals to the City Council for consideration of appointment to the Board; the Board elects the Chairperson. No suggestions were made therefore the discussion was tabled. Council Member Deb Dettmer moved to accept Jim Pfeiffer's resignation letter. Jerry Werner seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Deb Dettmer, Orv Gigstad, Jerry Werner, Laramie Werner. Nays: none.

PARKS & REC REPORT – Parks and Rec Manager Jill Crook present. Gigstad led the discussion regarding online registration program. Crook explained the purpose of the online registration. Crook presented information on Active Solutions, Team Snap and Sports Engine (formerly SI Play); Louisville currently uses Sports Engine. Council Member Deb Dettmer moved to approve Sports Engine (SI Play) Option 2 (for registration only) at a one-time fee of \$500.00. Jerry Werner seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Laramie Werner, Jerry Werner, Orv Gigstad, Deb Dettmer. Nays: none. Crook will send agreement to Attorney Stilmock for review. A link for the online registration site will be available on the City's website.

Gigstad led discussion on 2019 Diamond Pro and clay dirt order for the Sports Complex; this item is currently in the Parks budget. Council Member Jerry Werner moved to approve the purchase of the Diamond Pro at \$7800.00 and clay dirt at \$530.00, Deb Dettmer seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Orv Gigstad, Jerry Werner, Deb Dettmer, Laramie Werner. Nays: none. Leftover Diamond Pro from last year will be used at the elementary ballfield.

Gigstad led discussion on spray foam bids for the inside Parks shop at Sports Complex; this item is currently not on the budget. The shop is not insulated. Bids were presented from Doug Damme, Midwest Custom Coating and Danner Construction. The building will need to be empty to apply the spray foam. There is concern regarding spraying the inside roof with the foam with any existing tresses and any condensation accumulating in between. Additional research will be done, and Crook will look at including this in the 19-20 Budget as the temperatures will not be as low as they were a couple of months ago.

Included in the Parks and Rec, Crook explained Bob Bruns' family has reached out to her regarding installing a shade area at the Sports Complex. Ed Zastera has volunteered his time by coming up with blueprints; this is entirely a volunteer project. Crook interviewed 22 pool staff employees; hiring is heavier this year in order to cover dates where extracurricular activities and sports take a large portion of the pool staff. Jamy Prokopec will continue to work as Pool Supervisor. New guards will be provided a swimsuit at the City's expense; these are provided by the City every two years for a guard. Crook currently has 170 kids registered for softball and t-ball. Crook explained the second batting cage installed last year did not have electricity ran to it and the City's pitching machine is in disrepair. Crook is looking into not only adding electricity to the batting cage with the help of the Syracuse Utilities workers but also purchasing an additional pitching machine.

Gigstad led discussion and update on Aqua Center Bathhouse; Carolyn Gigstad and Jamy Prokopec present along with Corey Broderson of JEO. Prokopec announced \$63,000.00 has been raised thus far. A kickball tournament has been scheduled for April 27th; Prokopec and the committee is asking to use three fields at the Sports Complex. There has also been discussion on using the concession stand building for the kickball event; no city concession supplies will be used, just the building. Council Member Jerry Werner approved for the Bathhouse Committee to use three fields and the concession stand building for the kickball fundraiser on April 27th, 2019, Deb Dettmer seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Laramie Werner, Jerry Werner, Orv Gigstad, Deb Dettmer. Nays: none. Gigstad presented an updated timeline for Aqua Center Bathhouse. Gigstad is asking the Council for permission to proceed with hiring professional services. The committee will find out at the end of March if they get \$7500.00 grant towards a \$15,000.00 Planning Grant. Gigstad would like to see the City allow them to go with the City Engineering Firm, JEO, in order to have the project completed in 2020; if not the project will need to go out for RFP's. The total amount wanting to be raised is \$500,000.00. Gigstad explained construction cannot start until the grants are received. If the committee can fundraise without the grants, then the project can be completed by 2020. If the committee would like to wait on possible grants then the project will not be completed until the original date of 2021. The grants give higher points if technical studies which include showing the fundraising. The timeline is a working document and is subject to change. Council Member Laramie Werner moved to approve JEO to submit a proposal for the whole

project, Deb Dettmer seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Orv Gigstad, Deb Dettmer, Laramie Werner, Jerry Werner. Nays: none. The estimated cost to the City is a rough \$75,000.00. Terry Meier of JEO will assist with writing grants. Gigstad is going after multiple grants

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT – Superintendent Jeff Vogt present. Gigstad led discussion and Ordinance No. 1044 on Wellhead Protection Ordinance. Vogt explained the ordinance contains the legal description for the Wellhead Protection Area; this is one of the steps in the process. Council Member Deb Dettmer moved to introduce Ordinance No. 1044 and move that the statutory rule requiring reading on three different days be suspended, Jerry Werner seconded. Roll call: Yeas: Laramie Werner, Orv Gigstad, Deb Dettmer, Jerry Werner. Nays: none. Attorney Stilmock read Ordinance No. 1044 by title. Council Member Dettmer moved for final passage of the ordinance, Jerry Werner seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Orv Gigstad, Deb Dettmer, Laramie Werner, Jerry Werner. Nays: none.

Gigstad led discussion on donation to Nebraska Rural Water Association. Vogt explained how the association helps municipalities in different areas from water issues to reports at no charge to the municipality. Council Member Jerry Werner approved a \$100.00 donation to NRWA, Deb Dettmer seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Jerry Werner, Laramie Werner, Orv Gigstad, Deb Dettmer. Nays: none.

Gigstad led discussion on snow removal ordinances. Stilmock explained there are two issues stemming from parking issues during snow removal and snow emergencies: (1) is the City needing a set dollar amount for fines; (2) is the issue of cars needing to be moved for snow emergencies and designating snow emergency streets. Questions are do we have designated streets for snow removal and how do we notify the public regarding a snow emergency along with posting signage designating snow emergency routes. The discussion was tabled as Stilmock will continue to work on framework for snow emergencies. Vogt will discuss with the Fire and Rescue Chiefs regarding

Vogt presented a graph from NRD showing where the water levels stay at the City's new well. The graph shows the dip during irrigation time but there is still 45 feet of water at that time; the level goes right back up after irrigation.

OLD BUSINESS – Nothing for Old Business on agenda.

NEW BUSINESS – Gigstad led discussion on 2019 Easter Egg Hunt at Williams Park, north and south ends, on Saturday April 20th at 4:00 P.M.; Molly Hillman of Syracuse Snoflakers and Carolyn Gigstad of Chamber of Commerce present. Council Member Laramie Werner moved to approve the use of Williams Park for the 2019 Easter Egg Hunt, Deb Dettmer seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Orv Gigstad, Jerry Werner, Laramie Werner, Deb Dettmer. Nays: none.

Gigstad led discussion on request to purchase Poplar Street north of 11th Street; Rodney Nincehelter present. He explained he maintains the stretch of street and would like to own it if he's going to purchase rock for it and maintain it. Nincehelter explained the owner of the property to the north (Derek Grotrian) will still have access to his property via this road; he does not plan on gating it. Attorney Stilmock would like to look into the inquiry further; the discussion was tabled to a future meeting.

Gigstad led discussion on Germanfest street closures, City Sand Volleyball court usage and parking at concert site; Molly Hillman of Germanfest Committee present. Hillman & Julie Beach inquired on use of the sand volleyball courts at the Sports Complex on July 12th for a 24-hour volleyball tournament. The intent is to fence in an area for the players only requiring them to sign a waiver and sign a guest list allowing them to have alcohol; only people age 21 and over will be allowed in the fenced in area. Dettmer asked about outhouses; Hillman will look into this. The goal is for any profit from entry fees to be split between Germanfest and Bathhouse. Spectators would not be allowed inside fenced area unless they are on the registration list. Talmage does something like this; Hillman and Beach have referenced how their event is ran. The property even the parking lot is City property; Stilmock feels possible alcohol consumption outside of the fenced area needs to be considered therefore the discussion needs to be tabled and if an SDL needs to be acquired.

Hillman also presented a map showing street closures in the downtown Syracuse for July 13th, 2019. The only addition is blocking off 3rd Street for the car show; there was a car show in 2018 but the street was not blocked off. Council Member Laramie Werner approved the street closures for Germanfest on

July 13th starting at 6:30 A.M. until 7:00 P.M., Jerry Werner seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Orv Gigstad, Deb Dettmer, Laramie Werner, Jerry Werner. Nays: none.

Darin Lintner present to ask for permission to allow for parking on south side of concert area with the fenced concert area being reduced from what it was last year. Council Member Laramie Werner approved parking to be allowed on south side of concert site, Deb Dettmer seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Jerry Werner, Deb Dettmer, Laramie Werner, Orv Gigstad. Nays: none.

Gigstad led discussion and Resolution No. 19-05 on City of Syracuse Employee Handbook Revisions. Attorney Stilmock explained he was asked to look at the conflict of interest issue of a city employee being able to perform outside work to be supervised by their City supervisor. The Resolution allows a city employee to perform contracted work for private gain as long as prior approval by Mayor has been given and the work is not being done during work hours. This takes the supervisor out of the equation. Council Member Jerry Werner moved to adopt Resolution No. 19-05 approving revisions to City of Syracuse Employee Handbook, Deb Dettmer seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Laramie Gigstad, Orv Gigstad, Deb Dettmer, Jerry Stilmock. Nays: none.

Gigstad led discussion on advertisement for Lawn and Leaf Pile Cleanup bids. Council Member Deb Dettmer moved to approve advertising for bids with closing date and time of 4:30 P.M. April 5th, 2019, Laramie Werner seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Jerry Werner, Deb Dettmer, Orv Gigstad, Laramie Werner. Nays: none.

Gigstad led discussion on garbage services in alleys; Council Member Laramie Werner explained. Werner explained she recently called out to Papillion Sanitation regarding their request for alley pick-up customers to move their garbage curbside for a set amount of time. This is a lot to ask for customers especially after weeks of built-up garbage accumulating. Werner spoke with Papillion Sanitation rep Kim Lucke regarding Papillion Sanitation picking up the garbage in the alleys from this point forward even if the drivers need to go on foot to pick up the garbage. Syracuse resident Alan Britton present to express his concerns about the garbage pick-up issues and recommended looking at language in Item #8 on Page 2 and Paragraph 24 on Page 5 of the current agreement.

Gigstad led discussion and approval for Drawdown #16 including SENDD payment requests for administration, housing management, lead testing and contractor payments, authorizing Mayor's signature; SENDD not present. Council Member Laramie Werner moved to approve Drawdown #16 payments, Deb Dettmer seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Jerry Werner, Deb Dettmer, Orv Gigstad, Laramie Werner. Nays: none.

Gigstad led discussion and approval for Otoe Countywide Housing Rehab Payment Request and Approval Form for Project 15-OTF-26, authorizing Mayor's signature; SENDD not present. Council Member Laramie Werner moved to approve payment for Project # 26, Deb Dettmer seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Jerry Werner, Deb Dettmer, Orv Gigstad, Laramie Werner. Nays: none.

Gigstad led discussion and approval for Otoe Countywide Housing Rehab Payment Request and Approval Form for Project 16-OTF-27, authorizing Mayor's signature; SENDD not present. Council Member Laramie Werner moved to approve payment for Project # 27, Deb Dettmer seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Jerry Werner, Deb Dettmer, Orv Gigstad, Laramie Werner. Nays: none.

Mayor Ortiz asked a Council Member to motion to adjourn. Council Member Laramie Werner moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:27 P.M., Deb Dettmer seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Orv Gigstad, Jerry Werner, Deb Dettmer, Laramie Werner. 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.

Kimberly L. ...
Clerk



Tom ...
Mayor