

REGULAR MEETING
CITY COUNCIL

June 10, 2020

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Syracuse, Nebraska met via teleconference at 6:15 P.M. on June 10, 2020 for their regular meeting. Notice of meeting was given by posting in five places including directions on how to participate in the meeting telephonically. Mayor Ortiz requested roll call, present were Mayor Ortiz and Council members Deb Dettmer, Laramie Werner, Orv Gigstad, Jerry Werner. A copy of the posting notice and acknowledgement of notice to the Council is attached to these minutes. Mayor Ortiz noted the Open Meetings Act was posted in the City Hall Council Chambers and this meeting was being held via teleconference due the current Covid-19 pandemic pursuant to the Governor's Executive Order 20-24 in consideration of the public health and safety.

Minutes for the May 13th and May 26th, 2020 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 and Lisa Steffensmeier of BMG present. BMG has sent the May 2020 financial report for the Mayor and Council to review. Blome explained all bank accounts and statements have been reconciled and accounted for. There are six different long-term bonds that have also been reconciled. Discussion was had on moving funds from the Utilities Fund for Well Field/Transmission Main invoices paid out to JEO; these invoices have been paid out of the General Operating Account and total \$280,000.00 as of the end of May. Council Member Laramie Werner moved to transfer \$280,000.00 from the Utilities Fund to reimburse the Operating Fund, Deb Dettmer seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Orv Gigstad, Jerry Werner, Laramie Werner, Deb Dettmer. Nays: none. Blome explained there have been an increased amount of expenses paid from the Street department this year as well. He recommended looking into the Street fund reimbursing larger capital expenditures which have been paid out of the General Operating Account. Council Member Orv Gigstad moved to approve the May Treasurer's report and to pay the claims, Deb Dettmer seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Jerry Werner, Laramie Werner, Deb Dettmer, Orv Gigstad. Nays: none. The claims approved are attached to these minutes.

HEARING OF THOSE PRESENT – no one present.

SHERIFF'S REPORT – Sheriff Caudill present. Caudill reported 47 total incidents for Syracuse. Eleven were traffic stops, five suspicious persons/vehicles and three traffic crashes with damage. Two arrests on warrants were also documented. Caudill explained the department is currently working on an investigation in the area from May.

LIBRARY REPORT – Librarian Sue Antes not present. City Administrator Meyer reported the library opened back up June 1st. Library Staff is using strict protocol for Library patrons; the meeting room is not open for public use unless approved by the City.

FIRE REPORT – Chief Neemann present. Mayor Ortiz led the discussion and approval for new members for the SVFD. Council Member Jerry Werner moved to approve Matt Weddingfeld to join the fire department, Laramie Werner seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Deb Dettmer, Orv Gigstad, Laramie Werner, Jerry Werner. Nays: none.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion and approval on new restrooms and showers for the fire station; Neemann explained. The project is currently in the budget to be completed at \$15,000.00. Members will be able to use the showers in case of possible contamination. Qualified members of the fire station along with Syracuse Utilities will be doing the construction. Neemann explained next year they would like to convert two other restrooms at the barn into one unisex ADA compliant restroom accessible from the meeting room. Council Member Laramie Werner moved to approve the restrooms and showers for the Fire Barn, Deb Dettmer seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Orv Gigstad, Jerry Werner, Laramie Werner, Deb Dettmer. Nays: none.

AMBULANCE REPORT – Chief Tim Wilson present. Mayor Ortiz led the discussion and Resolution No. 20-22 for Salute to Emergency Medical Services, authorizing Mayor's signature. Attorney Stillmock read the resolution highlighting the services provided by the volunteer members thanking them for their

dedication, commitment, and professionalism. Council Member Deb Dettmer moved to accept Resolution No. 20-22, Orv Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Jerry Werner, Laramie Werner, Deb Dettmer, Orv Gigstad. Nays: none. Chief Tim Wilson thanked Jerry Stilmock and the City's Mayor and Council for working with the rescue squad and for the City's support.

PARKS & REC REPORT – Parks and Rec Manager Jill Crook present. Mayor Ortiz led the discussion and Resolution No. 20-23 on Approval to Proceed with Additional Services from JEO for adding demolition of existing bathhouse to Project #130932, authorizing Mayor's signature; Jarred Meyer of JEO present. He explained the work has already been completed therefore the additional services added to the agreement are for those for JEO's work with the existing bathhouse demo. Council Member Orv Gigstad moved to adopt Resolution No. 20-23, Jerry Werner seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Deb Dettmer, Laramie Werner, Jerry Werner, Orv Gigstad. Nays: none. Jarred Meyer reported JEO will bid the demo when the project is bid.

Crook reported softball and baseball practices and games have begun at the City's parks. COVID-19 precautions have been put in place at each location. Crook has been compiling teams for T-Ball.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT – Superintendent Jeff Vogt present. Mayor Ortiz led the discussion to terminate existing contract with Suez (Utility Services). Vogt explained a letter needs to be drafted to go out to Suez letting them know of the City's intent to terminate the contract with them for their water tower maintenance services. Macquire Iron and Viking will present their services to the Mayor and Council at the July City Council meeting. Council Member Jerry Werner moved to draft a letter to Suez, Deb Dettmer seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Laramie Werner, Orv Gigstad, Jerry Werner, Deb Dettmer. Nays: none.

Mayor Ortiz led discussion and approval to purchase grapple bucket. Vogt explained the funds to purchase the bucket will be split between the street, electric, water and sewer departments in lieu of purchasing a gator this budget year. The bucket will hook onto the skid steer. Council member Jerry Werner moved to approve the bid from Kan Equip for \$3150.00, Orv Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Deb Dettmer, Laramie Werner, Orv Gigstad, Jerry Werner. Nays: none.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion and approval to proceed with advertising for bids for NRCS Project; JEO is working on the plans currently and would like to go out for bids before the July Council meeting to allow to reach deadlines required with the grant. Council Member Deb Dettmer moved to approve the bank stabilization bid advertising, Orv Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Jerry Werner, Laramie Werner, Deb Dettmer, Orv Gigstad. Nays: none.

OLD BUSINESS – Mayor Ortiz led the discussion and update on fiber service for residential. Attorney Stilmock explained he has direction from Mayor and Council to put together a franchise ordinance and also draft a pole attachment agreement. Documents have been reviewed and revised by Stilmock and Administrator Meyer. Stilmock was given direction to continue to keep moving forward by direction of Mayor and City Council.

NEW BUSINESS – Mayor Ortiz led the discussion and resolutions to approve Subdivision Agreement between City of Syracuse and Zahn Meadows as well as Escrow Agreement between City of Syracuse and Zahn Meadows. These items were tabled to a future Council meeting.

Mayor Ortiz led public hearing, discussion and ordinance on application for approval of Zahn Meadows Final Plat of the following-described real estate: A tract of land located in the NE ¼ of the NW ¼ of Section 15, Township 8 North, Range 11, East of the 6th P.M., Otoe County, Nebraska; Ron Zahn present. Attorney Stilmock explained the public hearing can be discussed at a future meeting along with the Subdivision and Escrow agreements. Evan Wickersham of JEO present to comment any hanging items he was waiting on have been completed.

Mayor Ortiz opened the public hearing, discussion and Ordinance No. 1075 on application for conditional use permit pursuant to Syracuse Municipal Zoning Code Section 5.11.03.13 to allow for craft brewery manufacturing of beverages up to and including 16% alcohol content at the following-described real estate: Lot 9, Block 20 City of Syracuse, Otoe County, NE; Ben Biehl, owner of Roc Hopper Brewery present. Proof of publication was noted. Council Member Orv Gigstad moved to introduce Ordinance No. 1075 and move the statutory rule requiring reading on three different days be

suspended, Laramie Werner seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Deb Dettmer, Jerry Werner, Laramie Werner, Orv Gigstad. Nays: none. Attorney Stilmock read Ordinance No. 1075 by title. Council Member Deb Dettmer moved for final passage of Ordinance No. 1075, Jerry Werner seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Laramie Werner, Orv Gigstad, Jerry Werner, Deb Dettmer. Nays: none.

Mayor Ortiz led discussion on SDL request for 2020 Otoe County Fair dates and times of Thursday July 23rd beginning at 11:00 A.M. and ending at 1:00 A.M. Monday July 27th to be held at the South Park Concession area in the Outdoor Arena: Mike and Vanessa Rudolph present. Council Member Laramie Werner moved to approve the SDL request as long as the Directive Health Measures at that time do not prohibit, Orv Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Deb Dettmer, Jerry Werner, Orv Gigstad, Laramie Werner. Nays: none.

Mayor Ortiz led discussion on street closing request for the 2020 Otoe County Fair Parade as labeled on map provided for the date of Saturday July 25th from 1:00 to 7:00 P.M.: Mike and Vanessa Rudolph present. Council Member Laramie Werner moved to approve the street closure request as long as the Directive Health Measures at that time do not prohibit, Deb Dettmer seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Orv Gigstad, Jerry Werner, Deb Dettmer, Laramie Werner. Nays: none.

Mayor Ortiz led discussion on SDL request for 2020 Germanfest for Saturday August 29th beginning at 10:00 A.M. and ending at 1:00 A.M. Sunday August 30th to be held at Otoe County Fairgrounds; Mike and Vanessa Rudolph present. Council Member Jerry Werner moved to approve the SDL request as long as the Directive Health Measures at that time do not prohibit, Orv Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Deb Dettmer, Laramie Werner, Jerry Werner, Orv Gigstad. Nays: none.

Mayor Ortiz led discussion on appointment for Board of Adjustments members. Ortiz explained a Board of Adjustments meeting is needed for a commercial property set-back issue. Council Member Deb Dettmer moved to approve a six-month appointment for four of five Board of Adjustments members, Orv Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Laramie Werner, Jerry Werner, Orv Gigstad, Deb Dettmer. Nays: none.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion and Resolution No. 20-24 on Agreement of Resignation, Appointment and Acceptance between First Nat'l Bank of Omaha, City of Syracuse Municipal Facilities Corporation and BOKF, authorizing Mayor's signature. Council Member Orv Gigstad moved to adopt Resolution No. 20-24, Deb Dettmer seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Laramie Werner, Jerry Werner, Orv Gigstad, Deb Dettmer. Nays: none.

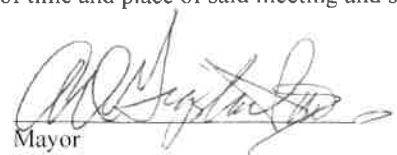
Mayor Ortiz led discussion and approval to replace window at City Hall. This item was tabled until the July Council meeting to allow for additional bids to be received by Clerk Farmer.

Mayor Ortiz led discussion and approval of Electricians and Plumbers license applications. Council Member Jerry Stilmock moved to approve those listed, Laramie Werner seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Deb Dettmer, Orv Gigstad, Laramie Werner, Jerry Werner. Nays: none.

Council Member Deb Dettmer moved to adjourn at 8:00 P.M., Laramie Werner seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Jerry Werner, Orv Gigstad, Laramie Werner, Deb 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