

REGULAR MEETING  
CITY COUNCIL

October 14, 2020

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Syracuse, Nebraska met at the City Hall Council Chambers located at 495 Midland Street Syracuse, Nebraska at 6:00 P.M. on October 14, 2020 for a regular meeting. Notice of meeting was given by posting in five places. Mayor Ortiz was present and requested roll call; present were 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. Ortiz noted the Open Meetings Act was posted. Minutes for the September 28, 2020 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.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on Treasurer's Report and Approval of Claims; Todd Blome of BMG present. The September Treasurer's Report has been distributed. Blome reported this report shows fiscal year end. The audit adjustments for year-end Sept. 2019 show in this report, the adjustments that will need to happen for this the 19-20 Budget year are not shown. Electrical revenue is down for the year but lower summer temps can account for this decrease. Ambulance income is up for the year, Blome accounts this from an increase in calls. Utility expenses are up due to capital outlay projects such as Electrical Distribution and Well Field/Transmission Main projects. Street and Ambulance expenses are up due to capital purchases such as street equipment and the new rig for the rescue squad. Park expenses are up partially due to rock purchases for parking lots, equipment for parks and the dog run. Blome announced that Lisa Steffensmeier has decided to move to Omaha and will be leaving BMB. Council Member Jerry Werner moved to approve the September Treasurer's Report and to pay the claims, Orv Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Laramie Werner, Deb Dettmer, Orv Gigstad, Jerry Werner. Nays: none.

TODD AKSAMIT - 701.32, ADAM BADBERG - 2173.82, TYLER COLLIN - 2119.07, JILL CROOK - 1556.47, KELLY FARMER - 2729.60, JESSICA MEYER - 4508.24, IAN MITCHELL - 2259.19, CODY PESTER - 116.30, JULIE SLAFER - 1917.81, CURTIS STANBERRY - 2810.11, BRENT TETEN - 3004.26, NATHAN TRUE - 718.36, BRIAN VODICKA - 2015.10, JEFF VOGT - 3348.66, NICOLE VONDERSCHLIMDT - 1940.16, ALLIED BENEFIT SYSTEMS - 7761.52, ANDY BRACE - 80.00, B & B PUMP-N-GO, INC. - 1250.90, BARAGARY CONSTRUCTION, INC. - 2432.00, BELL BANK EQUIPMENT FINANCE - 39216.72, BMG - 2500.00, BORDER STATES INDUSTRIES, INC. - 356.46, BOUND TREE MEDICAL, LLC - 100.16, BRENT TETEN - 100.00, BRIAN VODICKA - 40.83, CAPITAL BUSINESS SYSTEMS, INC. - 64.89, CARDMEMBER SERVICE - 4302.25, CAROL LINQUIST - 200.00, CHRISTA REISDORFF - 150.00, CITY OF NEBRASKA CITY - 113.42, CLEANING AUTHORITY - 207.69, 241.32, CULLIGAN WATER - 63.90, DAN'S TIRE & REPAIR - 25.00, DTS TECHNOLOGY - 10.94, DUTTON LAINSON CO. - 1711.67, EAKES OFFICE PLUS - 73.66, ECHO GROUP INC. - 275.29, FIRST WIRELESS, INC. - 87.83, FIVE NINES TECHNOLOGY GROUP - 2398.25, GATEHOUSE MEDIA NEBRASKA HOLDINGS, INC. - 346.43, GOOD HOUSEKEEPING - 20.99, GREAT AMERICA FINANCIAL SVCS. - 1572.82, HANK'S GARAGE - 21.00, HAWKINS, INC. - 254.93, INGRAM LIBRARY SERVICES - 507.99, JEFF NICKELS - 202.91, JEN STAACK - 160.00, JEN WALLMAN - 180.00, JEO CONSULTING GROUP, INC. - 102.50, JODY BRUNS - 120.00, JOSEPH REISDORFF - 240.00, KIM BELLINDER - 280.00, KODY CARDINAL - 180.00, LARAMIE WERNER - 160.00, LEAGUE ASSOCIATION OF RISK MANAGEMENT - 57170.00, LEROY OBERMEYER - 200.00, MACQUEEN EQUIPMENT - 566.13, MARCIA SCHEINOST - 240.00, MICRO MARKETING ASSOC. - 67.42, MIDWEST INFRASTRUCTURE INC. - 111401.35, MIDWEST LABORATORIES, INC. - 136.50, MIKE'S WINDOW SERVICE, LLC - 75.08, MUNICIPAL SUPPLY OF OMAHA - 4818.25, NE TURF PRODUCTS - 725.94, NEBRASKA CITY UTILITIES - 352.50, OMAHA PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT - 122120.11, ONE CALL CONCEPTS, INC. - 38.84, OTOE COUNTY - 16250.00, PAPILLION SANITATION - 24.00, PENNEY TRUEBLOOD - 24.00, PRECISION WELL SERVICE - 562.00, QUICK MED CLAIMS - 399.17, RICH HARVEST WINERY - 300.00, RICK NORDHUES - 200.00, SCHMITZ LAND SURVEYING - 291.50, SIMPLE SOLUTIONS COMPUTER GROUP, INC. - 46.10, STRYKER SALES CORPORATION - 594.00, SYNCHRONY BANK/AMAZON - 567.98, CITY OF SYRACUSE - 1371.88, 779.07, SYRACUSE JOURNAL DEMOCRAT - 52.50, SYRACUSE LUMBER CO. - 459.65, SYRACUSE MOTOR SUPPLY - 197.01, SYRACUSE VETERINARY SERVICE - 175.00, TAMI ANDERA - 180.00, TERRY'S FAMILY FOODS - 222.86, THE PIONEER WOMAN - 20.00, TIM WILSON - 900.00, TJ TOOLS LLC - 344.80, U.S. POST OFFICE - 308.98, UNITE PRIVATE NETWORKS - 2306.32, UNITED HEALTHCARE - 108.00, UNUM LIFE INSURANCE CO OF AMERICA - 65.21, VERIZON WIRELESS - 221.79, VICKI PARDE - 60.00, WESTERN AREA POWER ADMINISTRATION - 1562.22, Total - 394620.43, ALLIED BENEFIT SYSTEMS - 7761.52, ANDY BRACE - 80.00, B & B PUMP-N-GO, INC. - 1250.90, BARAGARY CONSTRUCTION, INC. - 2432.00, BELL BANK EQUIPMENT FINANCE - 39216.72, BMG - 2500.00, BORDER STATES INDUSTRIES, INC. - 356.46, BOUND TREE MEDICAL, LLC - 100.16, BRENT TETEN - 100.00, BRIAN VODICKA - 40.83, CAPITAL BUSINESS SYSTEMS, INC. - 64.89, CARDMEMBER SERVICE - 4302.25, CAROL LINQUIST - 200.00, CHRISTA REISDORFF - 150.00, CITY OF NEBRASKA CITY - 113.42, CLEANING AUTHORITY - 207.69, 241.32, CULLIGAN WATER - 63.90, DAN'S TIRE & REPAIR - 25.00, DTS TECHNOLOGY - 10.94, DUTTON LAINSON CO. - 1711.67, EAKES OFFICE PLUS - 73.66, ECHO GROUP INC. - 275.29, FIRST WIRELESS, INC. - 87.83, FIVE NINES TECHNOLOGY GROUP - 2398.25, GATEHOUSE MEDIA NEBRASKA HOLDINGS, INC. - 346.43, GOOD HOUSEKEEPING - 20.99, GREAT AMERICA FINANCIAL SVCS. - 1572.82, HANK'S GARAGE - 21.00, HAWKINS, INC. - 254.93, INGRAM LIBRARY SERVICES - 507.99, JEFF NICKELS - 202.91, JEN STAACK - 160.00, JEN WALLMAN - 180.00, JEO CONSULTING GROUP, INC. - 102.50, JODY BRUNS - 120.00, JOSEPH REISDORFF - 240.00, KIM BELLINDER - 280.00, KODY CARDINAL - 180.00, LARAMIE WERNER - 160.00, LEAGUE ASSOCIATION OF RISK MANAGEMENT - 57170.00, LEROY OBERMEYER - 200.00, MACQUEEN EQUIPMENT - 566.13, MARCIA SCHEINOST - 240.00, MICRO MARKETING ASSOC. - 67.42, MIDWEST INFRASTRUCTURE INC. - 111401.35, MIDWEST LABORATORIES, INC. - 136.50, MIKE'S WINDOW SERVICE, LLC - 75.08, MUNICIPAL SUPPLY OF OMAHA - 4818.25, NE TURF PRODUCTS - 725.94, NEBRASKA CITY UTILITIES - 352.50, OMAHA PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT - 122120.11, ONE CALL CONCEPTS, INC. - 38.84, OTOE COUNTY - 16250.00, PAPILLION SANITATION - 24.00, PENNEY TRUEBLOOD - 24.00, PRECISION WELL SERVICE - 562.00, QUICK MED CLAIMS - 399.17, RICH HARVEST WINERY - 300.00, RICK NORDHUES - 200.00, SCHMITZ LAND SURVEYING - 291.50.

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Mayor Ortiz led Hearing of those present. Tammy Kelch present and to announce she has filed as a write in candidate for a City Council seat.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on Sheriff's Report; Sheriff Caudill present via phone. Caudill reported 107 calls for service for the month of September, 65 of those call generated incident reports. Syracuse hours averaged a little over 100 hours per week. Mondays seemed to bring the most incidents reported during September. Caudill reported on some calls of owls causing issues around town; he recommended contacting Game and Parks. Attorney Stilmock spoke with an eyewitness of an incident; Orv Gigstad said it's not out of the ordinary to see owls pick up small dogs or animals.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on the September Library Report; Librarian Sue Antes not present. Circulation totals are down for the month compared to September 2019; computer usage is up. Something new on the report is the breakdown and expenditures that the Library's Petty Cash is used for.

Mayor Ortiz led the Parks and Rec Report; Manager Jill Crook not present. Mayor Ortiz led the discussion and Resolution No. 20-37 on beverage contract for the City Parks and Rec facilities. Pepsi is willing to donate boards and cooler usage. They offer buy back of un-expired product. Coca-Cola does not offer any of these things. Council Member Deb Dettmer moved to approve Resolution No. 20-37 for the 5-year contract with Pepsi, Orv Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Jerry Werner, Laramie Werner, Orv Gigstad, Deb Dettmer. Nays: none.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion and approval to consider bid for demo of Aqua Center Bathhouse; City Administrator Jessica Meyer explained the bid approved in September did not include both demo and earthwork. Gana has provided two separate bids to be approved to replace the one approved at the September meeting. The two bids consisted of one for \$18,110.00 and \$17,165.00. Council Member Jerry Werner moved to approve both bids for demo and excavation, Deb Dettmer seconded. Roll call: Laramie Werner, Orv Gigstad, Deb Dettmer, Jerry Werner. Nays; none.

Meyer also explained the City has received news that it is very likely the City will need to have an archeological study done at the bathhouse before we can move forward with receiving the awarded LWCF grant funds in the amount of \$280,000.00.

Mayor Ortiz led the Public Works report; Superintendent Jeff Vogt present via phone. Mayor Ortiz led the discussion and Resolution No. 20-36 to advertise for cash rent bids for 2021 crop year for the Southeast Quarter 33-7-11 Otoe County, NE. Attorney Stilmock prepared an advertisement to propose a 3-year agreement for cash rent lease of farm ground. The bids will be reviewed at the December 2020 Council meeting. In order to bid, a standard form will need to be submitted by all bidders. Vogt added due to construction of the well field the number of acres will need to be decreased by ten acres. Stilmock proposed when a bid is awarded and the agreement is drawn up, the agreement may need a damage provision. Council Member Orv Gigstad moved to approve Resolution No. 20-36, Laramie Werner seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Deb Dettmer, Jerry Werner, Orv Gigstad, Laramie Werner. Nays: none.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on process for land acquisition for well field/transmission main project; Dane Simonsen of JEO present. The project is at 90+% on the design. Currently the appraisal process is about halfway through. Dane provided what proposals have been drawn up at this time to give an idea of what JEO is thinking for permanent and temporary easements. An official from the City will need to sign off on paperwork approving moving forward with the appraisal process. Dane will be present at future meetings while this process continues.

Mayor Ortiz led Old Business and opened the continued public hearing, discussion and action from the September 9<sup>th</sup> City Council meeting on Ordinance No. 1082 for Application for Small Tract Subdivision of the following-described real estate: Lot 2 in NW ¼ 2.26 Acres Syracuse Annex 22-8-11 City of Syracuse Otoe County, Nebraska; Kelly McIntosh present. Attorney Stilmock explained the Planning Commission recommended approval at their October meeting. McIntosh explained he wants to divide off a portion of the property where a house currently sits; he has a buyer for the house. The entrance to the property from NE Highway 50 has been widened to allow for use as a driveway for both McIntosh and the home buyers. Mayor Ortiz closed the public hearing. Council Member Laramie Werner introduced Ordinance No. 1082 and moved the statutory rule requiring reading on three different days be suspended, Orv Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Deb Dettmer, Jerry Werner, Orv Gigstad, Laramie Werner. Nays: none. Attorney Stilmock read Ordinance No. 1082. Council Member Deb Dettmer moved for final passage of the ordinance, Jerry Werner seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Laramie Werner, Orv Gigstad, Deb Dettmer, Jerry Werner. Nays: none.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on survey of the following-described real estate: West 16.5' of Lot 7 & S 43' of the West 16.5' of Lot 8, Block 4, Williams Addition to the City of Syracuse, Otoe County, Nebraska. Jerry Werner explained the property is a non-issue; no further action needed.

Mayor Ortiz led New Business and opened the public hearings and discussion on ordinance to amend Figure 23, Future Land Use and Transportation Map of the Syracuse Comprehensive Development Plan. Agenda Items 12-A and 12-B were continued until the November 18, 2020 Council meeting. This includes the item to amend and adopt a new Zoning Map of the City of Syracuse. Council Member Jerry Werner moved to continue the public hearings, Laramie Werner seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Deb Dettmer, Orv Gigstad, Laramie Werner, Jerry Werner. Nays: none.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on request to close 5<sup>th</sup> Street from Plum to Mohawk Streets on Friday October 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020 for Halloween Parade; Jenny Janssen of SDA Schools not present. Jessica Meyer explained the kids will only be marching down the street this year in a parade and not visiting businesses for trick-or-treating. They businesses have the opportunity to donate treats for the teachers to distribute at the school. Council Member Laramie Werner moved to approve the street closure, Deb Dettmer seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Jerry Werner, Orv Gigstad, Deb Dettmer, Laramie Werner. Nays: none.

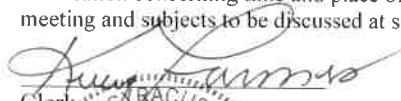
Mayor Ortiz led the discussion and presentation on employee health insurance renewal options; Kyle Kohlmorgen and Marc Munford of Kohlmorgen Benefits present. The two explained plan options for the January 1, 2021 renewal date. A special meeting may be needed to go over details and other options in order to have a decision voted on at the November regular Council meeting.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on street closure from 1135 Oak Street south on October 24<sup>th</sup> from 8 A.M. to 12:00 (midnight) October 25<sup>th</sup>; Justin Stark present. The closure request is for Stark's annual block Husker football game viewing party. Council Member Deb Dettmer moved to approve the street closure, Orv Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Laramie Werner, Jerry Werner, Orv Gigstad, Deb Dettmer. Nays: none.

Mayor Ortiz led the discussion on duct work at City Hall. Clerk Farmer explained the ventilation duct work at the City Hall building are in need of re-routing to push the air to all areas of the building; this is not happening currently and the buildings are not being heated and cooled appropriately. Council Member Jerry Werner moved to approve the work, Laramie Werner seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Orv Gigstad, Deb Dettmer, Laramie Werner, Jerry Werner. Nays: none.

Council Member Deb Dettmer moved to adjourn at 7:31 P.M., Laramie Werner seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Jerry Werner, Orv Gigstad, 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.

  
Clerk



  
Mayor