

REGULAR MEETING
CITY COUNCIL

January 13, 2021

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Syracuse, Nebraska met at the Syracuse Public Library located at 480 5th Street Syracuse, Nebraska at 6:00 P.M. on January 13, 2021 for their regular meeting. Notice of meeting was given by posting in five places. Mayor Dettmer requested roll call; present were Mayor Dettmer and Council members Orv Gigstad, Jerry Werner, Wesley Halvorsen, Laramie Werner. A copy of the posting notice and acknowledgement of notice to the Council is attached to these minutes. Minutes for the January 4, 2021 special 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 Dettmer led the approval of claims and Treasurer's Reports, Todd Blome of BMG present via telephone. BMG has sent the December financial report for the Mayor and Council to review. Blome reported the budget year is at the end of its first quarter. All bank accounts are reconciled and balanced. The bonds have all been tied out; multiple bond payments were made in December. The 2010 Utility Bond (sewer project) has been paid off. Blome noted department fluctuations and comparisons to the December 2019 Financial Report. Overall, revenues for utilities are up and highway allocations are up 13%; ambulance revenue is up. Capital Outlay expenses for water are up due to the water main transmission project; ambulance expenses are down as they purchased an ambulance last year. Parks expenses are down. Clerk Farmer will reach out to the City's auditor, Julie Bauman to see if she will be attending the February Council meeting to present the audit; Blome would like to attend that meeting. Council Member Orv Gigstad moved to approve the December Financial Report and pay the claims, Wesley Halvorsen seconded, Roll Call: Yeas: Orv Gigstad, Jerry Werner, Wesley Halvorsen, Laramie Werner, Nays: none.

AKRS - 1.26, AMERICAN WATER WORKS ASSOCIATION - 328.00, ANDY BRACE - 320.00, ASCAP - 367.00, AWARDS UNLIMITED, INC. - 143.07, B & B PUMP-N-GO, INC. - 1012.08, BIBLIONIX LLC - 1400.00, BMG CPA'S - 2500.00, BORDER STATES INDUSTRIES, INC. - 3293.51, BRANDT, HORAN, HALLSTROM & STILMOCK - 1714.50, BRENT TETEN - 58.00, CAPITAL BUSINESS SYSTEMS, INC. - 36.91, CAROL LINQUIST - 200.00, CLEANING AUTHORITY - 160.88, 138.46, CLINE WILLIAMS - 456.00, CREATIVE SITES - 1499.00, DTS TECHNOLOGY - 10.94, EAKES OFFICE PLUS - 28.71, FASS FARMS LLC - 242.13, FIRST WIRELESS, INC. - 153.76, FIVE NINES TECHNOLOGY GROUP - 2402.51, FRONTIER COOPERATIVE - 102.92, 778.48, GRAINGER - 38.43, GREAT AMERICA FINANCIAL SVCS. - 1572.82, INGRAM LIBRARY SERVICES - 309.70, JEN STAACK - 120.00, JEN WALLMAN - 120.00, JODY BRUNS - 40.00, JOE REISDORFF - 80.00, KENNETH HALVORSEN - 40.00, KIM BELLINDER - 240.00, KODY CARDINAL - 120.00, LARAMIE WERNER - 40.00, MAGNOLIA JOURNAL - 20.00, MARCIA SCHEINOST - 40.00, MARTIN MARIETTA AGGREGATES - 525.07, MCGRATH / NORTH ATTORNEYS - 232.00, MCKESSON MEDICAL-SURGICAL INC. - 341.09, MICRO MARKETING ASSOC. - 32.38, MIDWEST LABORATORIES, INC. - 129.50, NEBRASKA CITY UTILITIES - 1185.83, 92.57, NEBRASKA LIFE MAGAZINE - 24.00, NMC EXCHANGE LLC - 1159.55, OMAHA PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT - 121962.57, ONE CALL CONCEPTS, INC. - 28.06, OTOE COUNTY - 16500.00, OTOE COUNTY TREASURER - 182.66, PETTY CASH - 146.10, QUICK MED CLAIMS - 1139.82, RODNEY NINCEHELSE - 250.00, RON ROSENTHAL - 500.00, SIMPLE SOLUTIONS COMPUTER GROUP, INC. - 46.10, SKARSHAUG TEST LAB. INC. - 98.98, SYRACUSE LUMBER CO. - 46.86, SYRACUSE MOTOR SUPPLY - 283.82, SYRACUSE U-SAVE PHARMACY - 4.68, TAMI ANDERA - 120.00, TERRY'S FAMILY FOODS - 44.47, TIM WILSON - 550.00, TRAFFIC SAFETY STORE - 1499.99, TY'S OUTDOOR POWER & SERVICE - 133.97, TYLER COLLIN - 100.00, U.S. POST OFFICE - 76.00, 56.00, UNITE PRIVATE NETWORKS - 2322.04, VERIZON WIRELESS - 21.08, 176.98, WESTERN AREA POWER ADMINISTRATION - 3135.48, ZOLL - 111.83

HEARING OF THOSE PRESENT – no one present.

SHERIFF REPORT – Sheriff Caudill present. Total incidents for December 2020 were 56; 34 of those were traffic stops, three traffic crashes with damages, and one weapon offense to name a few. Hours for the department have exceeded the minimum required in the Interlocal Agreement with the City since the new agreement was signed. Caudill feels public awareness regarding the movement of trains through town is going well. The department will continue to be vigilant in reminding residents. The average speed of the trains going through town is around 25 mph.

LIBRARY REPORT – Librarian Sue Antes present. Circulation for December is a little below average, but Overdrive is up. Storytime had 32 kids attend for Mrs. Claus. The key cards had stopped working again for the doors as well as the keypad on the back door quit working. Antes had hard keys made for the back; the repair man is coming this week to repair the door and get new keys. He feels the issues come from when the power goes out.

BUILDING & ZONING REPORT – Inspector Bruce Neemann not present. Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and Resolution No. 21-02 to amend City's Building Permit Application form. Attorney Stilmock explained the Council adopted the 2018 International Building Codes: the revisions to the Building Permit reflect this language. Council Member Laramie Werner moved to adopt the revised form for Resolution No. 21-02, Orv Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Wesley Halvorsen, Jerry Werner, Laramie Werner, Orv Gigstad, Nays: none.

FIRE REPORT – Chief Eric Fass present. Fass reported calls are up from last year from 36 to 51. Fass and three officers are attending Firefighter II in Nebraska City. Nationwide the big push is to get everyone at least their Firefighter I; many of the current volunteers do not have that. The department has a huge commitment but there is a lot more training that has been required in the past. The department is working with an individual out of Texas on a grant; the big ticket

currently is 30 air-packs and 40 masks with a price-tag roughly at \$250,000.00; air-packs have a life span of 15 years.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and approval of new members to SVFD. Fass presented Schuyler Argo and Cody Lintner; both live in Syracuse. Council Member Jerry Werner moved to approve the two individuals, Laramie Werner seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Orv Gigstad, Wesley Halvorsen, Jerry Werner, Laramie Werner. Nays: None

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and Resolution No. 21-03 to approve Interlocal Agreement between City of Syracuse and Syracuse Rural Fire District, authorizing Mayor's signature. Attorney Stilmock explained items the still needed to be filled in. Eric Fass asked if the agreement could be five years. Council Member Orv Gigstad moved to adopt Resolution No. 21-03 to expire after five years, Jerry Werner seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Laramie Werner, Wesley Halvorsen, Jerry Werner, Orv Gigstad. Nays: none.

PARKS & REC REPORT – Tyler Collin present for Jill Crook.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion on two new signs for soccer/dog park entrance. Crook is still waiting on pricing for the signs from Writetime Communications. The item is tabled until a future meeting.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion on repairs to the well drive at Sports Complex; Collin explained the bids presented from Precision Well Service and Sargent Drilling. Council Member Laramie Werner moved to approve the bid from Precision for \$3,350.00, Orv Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Wesley Halvorsen, Jerry Werner, Laramie Werner, Orv Gigstad. Nays: none.

PUBLIC WORKS – Superintendent Jeff Vogt present.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and Ordinance No. 1094 to amend Code of Ordinances of the City of Syracuse Section 32-1 Application for Utilities, Section 32-21 Notice Required, Section 32-22 Contents of the Notice, Section 32-23 Conference to Dispute, Section 32-24 Appeal; Hearing; Procedure, Section 32-25 Third Party Notice Procedures, 32-26 Article Not Applicable, Repeal Section 32-54 Consumer's Application, Repeal Section 32-344. City Administrator Jessica Meyer explained she, Jerry Stilmock and Utility Billing Clerk had been working together to make sure the language for the City's utilities policies mirror the state statutes. Landlords will receive reminder notices at the same time their tenants do for unpaid utility bills, noting a disconnection date if payment is not made. Council Member Orv Gigstad moved to introduce Ordinance No. 1094 and move that the statutory rule requiring reading on three different days be suspended, Wesley Halvorsen seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Jerry Werner, Laramie Werner, Orv Gigstad, Wesley Halvorsen. Nays: none. Attorney Stilmock read Ordinance No. 1094. Council Member Jerry Werner moved for final passage of the Ordinance No. 1094, Wesley Halvorsen seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Laramie Werner, Wesley Halvorsen, Orv Gigstad, Jerry Werner. Nays: none.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and Resolution No. 21-04 to update Utility Policies, Utility Service Disconnect Notice, Notice of Appeal Hearing of Utility Bill and Procedure for Hearing, Utility Conference Notice, Owner's Consent and Guaranty of Payment for Unpaid Utility Charges for Rental Property. Administrator Meyer explained along with the codes, the City is also updating forms. Council Member Wesley Halvorsen moved to adopt Resolution No. 21-04, Orv Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Laramie Werner, Orv Gigstad, Jerry Werner, Wesley Halvorsen. Nays: none.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and Resolution No. 21-05 approving the Farm Lease Agreement, authorizing Mayor's signature. Attorney Stilmock explained bids were opened and awarded at the December Council meeting. Current tenant Mark Lutchens was high bidder at \$205.00 per cropland acre. Council Member Laramie Werner moved to adopt Resolution No. 21-05, Orv Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Wesley Halvorsen, Jerry Werner, Orv Gigstad, Laramie Werner. Nays: none.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion on 17th Street Lift Station Rebuild options; Jeff Vogt and City Engineer Justin Stark explained. The discussion had been started at the December Council meeting. Vogt is looking for guidance as to if the City is going to rebuild the lift station or take it out and put in gravity sewer. Over 60-year time period, the lift station would end up costing more. Vogt explained whichever way the Council decides to go, there is \$100,000.00 budgeted. Up front costs for the gravity sewer include planning, design, surveying, engineering. Current budgeted funds could go towards that and then plan for additional costs in future budget or budgets. If the lift station is to be rebuilt, a grinder would be needed as well as 3-phase power which alone is \$15,000 to \$20,000. Council Member Jerry Werner mentioned the possibility of future development of homes where the proposed sewer may be. Stark added that is something they have on their radar even though no development has been discussed. Overall, it sounds like the gravity sewer would be the more efficient way to go. The item is tabled until a future Council meeting to allow for more research to be done.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and approval of Baragary Construction bid for concrete work in alley behind Hemje's Plumbing, Heating and AC; Vogt explained. The bid from Baragary is \$32,900.00. This project is on the One & Six Year Plan and is budgeted. Council Member Jerry

Werner moved to accept the bid from Baragary, Laramie Werner seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Orv Gigstad, Jerry Werner, Wesley Halvorsen, Laramie Werner. Nays: none.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and Resolution No. 21-06 on JEO Project Scope for GIS Implementation for use on tablets and mobile devices; Travis Klasna of JEO present via Microsoft Teams virtual meeting. Klasna provided information to coincide with the project scope and bid for their services in setting up and implementing the electric, water and sewer data and information into the Esri application for GIS, Klasna is on a platform so it is not shared with anyone we do not want it to be. The contract is a direct contract with the software vendor, Esri. Esri support is available to the City for questions but Klasna suggested reaching out to JEO. Council Member Jerry Werner moved to adopt Resolution No. 21-06 approving the scope and agreement, Wesley Halvorsen seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Orv Gigstad, Laramie Werner, Jerry Werner, Wesley Halvorsen. Nays: none.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and Resolution No. 21-07 on approval of Nemaha NRD Hazard Mitigation Plan, authorizing Mayor's signature. Administrator Meyer explained if the City would ever require funding from FEMA or anything like that, this plan needs to be in place. Justin Stark said in a disaster situation this plan is huge. Council Member Orv Gigstad moved to adopt Resolution No. 21-07, Wesley Halvorsen seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Laramie Werner, Jerry Werner, Orv Gigstad, Wesley Halvorsen. Nays: none.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and approval of Electric Pump bid for grinder at WWTP; Vogt explained. The bid from Electric Pump came in at \$23,618.60; Vogt had asked for a bid from Iowa Pump but they didn't respond. The grinder is called the Muffin Monster and has received very good reviews; Yutan recently installed one of these. Council Member Laramie Werner moved to approve the bid from Electric Pump for the Muffin Monster, Orv Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Wesley Halvorsen, Jerry Werner, Laramie Werner, Orv Gigstad. Nays: none.

OLD BUSINESS - Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and Resolution No. 21-08 on approval of Syracuse Country Club Agreement, authorizing Mayor's signature. Attorney Stilmock explained the City owns six wells they lease to the Country Club as the City does not use the water from those wells anymore. The agreement expires December 31, 2025. Council Member Jerry Werner moved to adopt Resolution No. 21-08, Orv Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Wesley Halvorsen, Laramie Werner, Orv Gigstad, Jerry Werner. Nays: none.

NEW BUSINESS - Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and recommendations for the following appointments: Tammy Kelch to the Planning Commission, two plus one alternate for the Board of Appeals, and one for the Board of Adjustments. Council Member Laramie Werner moved to approve Tammy Kelch to the Planning Commission for a three-year term, Wesley Halvorsen seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Jerry Werner, Orv Gigstad, Wesley Halvorsen, Laramie Werner. Nays: none. For the Board of Adjustments and Board of Appeals, City staff will continue to reach out to possible volunteers. These two board appointments tabled until a future meeting.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and approval to proceed with Southeast Nebraska Development District Membership; Tom Bliss of SENDD present. The City were members with SENDD in the past but not for a few years. SENDD helps with seeking out funds and grants for various City needs such as infrastructure, downtown revitalizations, building projects, nuisance properties as well as workforce housing for its citizens. An annual membership for Syracuse would be \$1651.00 based on per capita. A representative for Nebraska City was present to report their positive experiences with SENDD. Council Member Orv Gigstad moved to approve the membership with SENDD, Wesley Halvorsen seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Jerry Werner, Laramie Werner, Orv Gigstad, Wesley Halvorsen. Nays: none.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and Resolution No. 21-09 to approve Right of Way Permit Agreement between Windstream and City of Syracuse, authorizing Mayor's signature. This permit is for Headwinds on 1st Street. Council Member Laramie Werner moved to adopt Resolution No. 21-09, Wesley Halvorsen seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Orv Gigstad, Jerry Werner, Laramie Werner, Wesley Halvorsen. Nays: none.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and recommendation on including overtime compensation when determining retirement plan contributions for employees; Attorney Stilmock explained. The current plan says overtime compensation not be included in retirement contributions. Either the plan needs to be amended to include overtime compensation in the contributions or the plan stays the same and moving forward, the retirement contributions no longer have any overtime compensation included. Past minutes did not reflect any discussion on whether or not to include overtime compensation in the contributions. Clerk Farmer reported for overtime hours for 2020 the additional amount included into retirement contributions was \$1,603.08. Council Member Orv Gigstad moved to approve continuing to include overtime into the contributions. Laramie Werner seconded. Yeas: Wesley Halvorsen, Jerry Werner, Orv Gigstad, Laramie Werner. Nays: none. Attorney Stilmock will move forward with having the current plan amended.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and Resolution No. 21-10 to approve Master Agreement for Professional Services with Justin Stark of Olsson, authorizing Mayor's signature. Stark explained he will continue to work with JEO as the City's previous City Engineer and Street Superintendent. Stark explained the agreement and services provided, rates, as well as his work with Bobbi Pettit

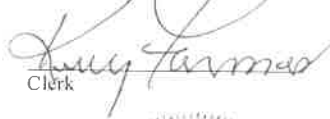
for her knowledge of planning and zoning. Council Member Laramie Werner moved to adopt Resolution No. 21-10, Wesley Halvorsen seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Jerry Werner, Orv Gigstad, Wesley Halvorsen, Laramie Werner. Nays: none.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and Resolution No. 21-11 to release Special Assessment for real estate located at Lot 11 Block 6 Compton's Addition in Syracuse, authorizing Mayor's signature. Attorney Stilmock explained the assessment is for an unpaid water bill at a residence under Syracuse Utilities jurisdiction. Council Member Orv Gigstad moved to adopt Resolution No. 21-11, Jerry Werner seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Wesley Halvorsen, Laramie Werner, Orv Gigstad, Jerry Werner. Nays: none.

Mayor Dettmer announced information on League of Municipalities Conference is included in their Dropbox. Council Members should reach out to Jessica Meyer if they wish to participate in any of the virtual meetings.

Mayor Dettmer asked a Council Member to motion to adjourn. Council Member Laramie Werner moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:31 P.M., Orv Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Jerry Werner, Wesley Halvorsen, Orv Gigstad, 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

