

REGULAR MEETING  
CITY COUNCIL

February 10, 2021

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Syracuse, Nebraska met at the Syracuse Public Library located at 480 5<sup>th</sup> Street Syracuse, Nebraska at 6:00 P.M. on February 10, 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 Wesley Halvorsen, Orv Gigstad, 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 January 13, 2021 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. Blome reported on the January 2021 Financials. All accounts have been reconciled and tied out and utility billings are up primarily to water revenue being up. Fluctuating taxes are due to timing of when property taxes are paid. Ambulance collections are up while expenses are down, Parks expenses are also down for the year but the budgeted items will begin to come out as projects proceed and capital purchases are made.

Blome explained transferring of funds from Utilities, Aqua Center Bathhouse and Ambulance accounts; this had been discussed with Clerk Farmer and City Administrator Meyer. The transfers would reimburse the main Operating Account for larger purchases and projects for these particular departments. Orv Gigstad moved to approve the transfer of \$92,509.60 from the Utilities Fund to the main Operating Account, Laramie Werner seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Wesley Halvorsen, Orv Gigstad, Jerry Werner, Laramie Werner. Nays: none. Laramie Werner moved to approve transfer of \$7009.50 from the Aqua Center Bathhouse Fund to the main Operating Account, Wesley Halvorsen seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Jerry Werner, Laramie Werner, Wesley Halvorsen, Orv Gigstad. Nays: none. Jerry Werner moved to approve transfer of \$87,928.68 from the Ambulance Fund to reimburse the main Operating Account, Orv Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Laramie Werner, Orv Gigstad, Wesley Halvorsen, Jerry Werner. Nays: none. Council Member Orv Gigstad moved to approve the report and pay the claims, Wesley Halvorsen seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Laramie Werner, Jerry Werner, Wesley Halvorsen, Orv Gigstad. Nays: none.

Mayor Dettmer asked if anyone is in attendance for Hearing of Those Present; Wendy Werner present to give Chamber of Commerce report. She announced Clean-Up Day is scheduled for Saturday April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2021; included will be paper shredding and tire disposal. German Fest has been scheduled for August 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

SHERIFF REPORT – Sheriff Caudill present. Total incidents for January 2021 were 36; 18 of those were traffic stops, three traffic crashes with damages (none at the truck stop), three ATV/UTV inspections and two traffic hazards to name a few. One vehicle was towed at the City's request. Hours for the department have exceeded the minimum required in the Interlocal Agreement with the City since the new agreement was signed.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and approval of City's 2020 Financial Audit; Julie Baumann present. Baumann explained this year's audit was almost entirely virtual and led a power point presentation of the City's audit. The overall opinion of the audit was an Unmodified Opinion which is the best opinion available. The audit will be sent electronically to the state by March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021. For the 2021 audit, the City will need to also have a Single Audit due to the Water System Improvement Project. Baumann reported the City did a good job moving forward with the budgeted projects even with the pandemic going on. Council Member Jerry Werner moved to approve the 2020 Financial Audit, Wesley Halvorsen. Roll Call: Yeas: Laramie Werner, Orv Gigstad, Jerry Werner, Wesley Halvorsen. Nays: none. Laramie Werner moved to approve the Mayor sign the Management Representation Letter, Orv Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Jerry Werner, Wesley Halvorsen, Orv Gigstad, Laramie Werner. Nays: none.

A-1 LOCKSMITH - 138.00, AFLAC - 506.40, AKRS - 47.55, AMERICAN PUBLIC POWER ASSOCIATION - 1295.96, B & B PUMP-N-GO, INC. - 1868.42, BEERS FARMS LLC - 5330.00, BENEFIT PLANS INC. - 313.75, BETTER HOMES AND GARDENS - 6.00, BMG CPA'S - 2500.00, BORDER STATES INDUSTRIES, INC. - 943.65, BRANDT LAND & CATTLE CO. - 5210.00, BRIAN VODICKA - 40.83, CAPITAL BUSINESS SYSTEMS, INC. - 38.25, 179.93, CHAMBER OF COMMERCE - 100.00, CLEANING AUTHORITY - 276.92, 321.76, CLINE WILLIAMS - 963.00, CONTINENTAL FIRE SPRINKLER CO. - 250.00, COUNTRY LIVING - 29.97, CRAIG & JANE NEEMANN - 1970.00, CULLIGAN WATER - 28.90, DEMCO, INC. - 32.92, DTS TECHNOLOGY - 10.94, EAKES OFFICE PLUS - 29.75, ECHO GROUP INC. - 1360.05, EMERGENCY SVCS. SOLUTIONS, LLC - 750.00, FIELD FORD, INC. - 721.71, FIVE NINES TECHNOLOGY GROUP - 53.61, 2416.57, GREAT AMERICA FINANCIAL SVCS. - 1572.82, HAWKINS, INC. - 191.65, HENKE AUTOMOTIVE REPAIR, LLC - 1241.53, INGRAM LIBRARY SERVICES - 585.29, IOWA PUMP WORKS - 665.63, JEO CONSULTING GROUP, INC. - 3758.25, 6140.00, 1733.75, 1712.50, JESSICA & MIKE SCHMITT - 30.00, JULIE SLAFTER - 32.21, KANEQUIP, INC. - 149.78, KELLY FARMER - 327.27, MID-AMERICAN BENEFITS, INC. - 393.00, MIDWEST LABORATORIES, INC. - 129.50, MIKE'S WINDOW SERVICE, LLC - 75.08, 48.72, MUNICIPAL SUPPLY INC. OF NE - 4095.70, MUNICIPAL SUPPLY OF OMAHA - 661.76, MY-LOR, INC. - 20.84, NE DEPT. OF ENVIRONMENT & ENERGY - 23.50, NEBRASKA CITY UTILITIES - 1575.92, 237.74, NEBRASKA PUBLIC HEALTH ENVIRONMENTAL LAB - 537.00, NEBRASKA MUNICIPAL POWER POOL - 2460.00, OMAHA PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT - 123598.65, ONE CALL CONCEPTS, INC. - 11.93, OTOE COUNTY - 16500.00, OTOE COUNTY MUTUAL AID ASSOCIATION - 40.00, PREVENTION - 48.00, PRINCIPAL LIFE INSURANCE CO. - 485.20, QUICK MED CLAIMS - 1354.17, RANDY & CYNTHIA POST - 7470.00, READER'S DIGEST - 16.00, RODNEY NINCEHELSE - 1437.50, RON ROSENTHAL - 1562.50, RTR DEVELOPMENT - 200.00, SARGENT DRILLING - 600.00, SHAFFER COMMUNICATIONS - 242.00, SIMPLE SOLUTIONS COMPUTER GROUP, INC. - 46.10, JH SPORIASSE

LLC - 124.54, STRYKER SALES CORPORATION - 391.13, CITY OF SYRACUSE - 1030.86, 305.70, 309.87, SYRACUSE DO IT BEST - 491.29, SYRACUSE IRON WORKS - 24.70, 18.15, SYRACUSE LUMBER CO. - 346.11, SYRACUSE MOTOR SUPPLY - 211.70, SYRACUSE RESCUE SQUAD - 59.98, TCA OUTDOOR POWER - 1444.41, TERRY'S FAMILY FOODS - 12.72, TRUGREEN COMMERCIAL - 980.00, TY'S OUTDOOR POWER & SERVICE - 136.80, ULINE - 666.64, UNITE PRIVATE NETWORKS - 2322.04, VERIZON WIRELESS - 198.04, WESTERN AREA POWER ADMINISTRATION - 3108.91, WINDSTREAM - 200.00, WOMAN'S DAY - 19.97

LIBRARY REPORT – Librarian Sue Antes present. Circulation for January is a little below average, but Overdrive is up significantly. Antes discussed the Library Board is recommending a more individualized Summer Reading Program for the children with goals and prizes being awarded on their individual achievements. Teachers at SDA will be able to promote the program at the March Parent Teacher Conferences. All adult programming has been cancelled at this time. The meeting had seven bookings for the month of January.

AMBULANCE REPORT – Chief Tim Wilson present. Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and approval of new member to SRS. Wilson presented Randy Lee James Fillion. Council Member Laramie Werner moved to approve Fillion to the squad, Wesley Halvorsen seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Orv Gigstad, Jerry Werner, Wesley Halvorsen, Laramie Werner.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and presentation of the SRS annual report. Wilson reported 2020 was a record year for calls. Transfers were down, this does affect their income. Wilson went through peak hours noting 61% of calls are between 6:00 A.M. and 6:00 P.M. Day shift staffing is critical at this point with very limited resources basically relying on two people during the day; one of these individuals is looking at retiring soon. The squad cannot roll with only one person available during these peak hours. Nine members were eligible for tax credit. A new rig was purchased in 2020. Immediate long term planning needs are primarily staffing and increasing transfers. No motion needed.

PARKS & REC REPORT – Parks and Rec Manager Jill Crook present along with Parks employee Tyler Collin.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and Resolution No. 21-12 to approve Standard Form of Agreement between the City of Syracuse and Scheele-Kayton, authorizing Mayor's signature; City Attorney Stilmock present via teleconference. Stilmock explained details of the contract. Council Member Wesley Halvorsen moved to adopt Resolution No. 21-12, Laramie Werner seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Orv Gigstad, Jerry Werner, Wesley Halvorsen, Laramie Werner. Nays: none.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and approval of 16' Torro mower replacement to be purchased. Crook and Collin had put together mowing time data when using a 16' mower versus an 11' and 72" mowers. Council Member Orv Gigstad moved to approve the bid for \$93,019.99 from Midwest Turf and Irrigation, noting \$54,000.00 coming from the Parks budget and \$39,019.00 from the Improvement and Extension Fund (Account 1008 in BMG Financial Report), Laramie Werner seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Wesley Halvorsen, Jerry Werner, Orv Gigstad, Laramie Werner. Nays: none.

City Administrator Jessica Meyer explained the Improvement and Extension Fund will move to the Utilities Bond Reserve Fund to ensure the required Debt Service Reserve be at the \$130,000.00 needed and the remainder of the Improvement and Extension Funds be transferred to the main Operating Account ultimately dissolving the Improvement and Extension Fund. Both the Utilities Bond Reserve Fund and Improvement and Extension Fund came from funds from the main Operating Account when those were opened years ago. Meyer and Clerk Farmer had spoke to Todd Blome of BMG regarding this; he felt this was the logical move for these two funds.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and approval of sidewalk from parking lot west of complex to complex. Crook explained the need for the concrete at the complex at the west entrance and presented two options from Baragary. Crook mentioned the truck bid came in under budget therefore those leftover budgeted funds can be used to cover the cost of this. Council Member Jerry Werner moved to approve Option #1 at \$5,780.00, Orv Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Wesley Halvorsen, Laramie Werner, Orv Gigstad, Jerry Werner. Nays: none.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and approval of getting the pool painted prior to opening in 2021. Crook submitted three bids for the pool painting. Crook had budgeted \$25,000.00 for the pool painting. Council Member Laramie Werner moved to approve the Platinum Pools bid at \$22,900.00, Wesley Halvorsen seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Jerry Werner, Orv Gigstad, Laramie Werner, Wesley Halvorsen. Nays: none.

Crook also reported softball and t-ball registrations are currently underway. Crook has been contacted regarding multiple tournaments requesting to be at the City's Sports Complex.

PUBLIC WORKS – Superintendent Jeff Vogt present.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion, consideration, and award of bid for 2020 Water Supply Improvement Project; Tim Adams and Dane Simonsen of JEO present via teleconference. Bid openings were held in early February with 10 bids submitted. JEO reported Van Kirk came in as low bid at \$6,248,897.93 which is under projected cost. Council Member Jerry Werner moved to

approve the bid from Van Kirk, Wesley Halvorsen seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Orv Gigstad, Jerry Werner, Laramie Werner, Wesley Halvorsen. Nays: none.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and approval of bid for WWTP pump control panel. Vogt explained the need for the panel and distributed a bid of \$30,513.00 from Electric Pump. This purchase will come from Capital Outlay budgeted funds in the Sewer department. Council Member Jerry Werner moved to approve the purchase of the panel, Wesley Halvorsen seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Orv Gigstad, Laramie Werner, Wesley Halvorsen, Jerry Werner. Nays: none.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and Resolution No. 21-13 to approve Master Agreement Work Order for Gravity Sewer Extension between City of Syracuse and Olsson, authorizing Mayor's signature; Justin Stark of Olsson present. Discussion was had. Council Member Orv Gigstad moved to adopt the agreement, Wesley Halvorsen seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Jerry Werner, Laramie Werner, Wesley Halvorsen, Orv Gigstad. Nays: none.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and approval of Change Order No. 1 for Electrical Distribution System Improvements Project; Matt Kalin of JEO present via teleconference. Council Member Wesley Halvorsen moved to approve Change Order No.1, Jerry Werner seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Laramie Werner, Orv Gigstad, Jerry Werner, Wesley Halvorsen. Nays: none.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and approval of Application for Payment No. 1 for Electrical Distribution System Improvements Project; Matt Kalin explained the project has been completed. Vogt had budgeted \$170,000.00 for this. Council Member Jerry Werner moved to approve the payment of \$166,024.71, Laramie Werner seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Wesley Halvorsen, Orv Gigstad, Jerry Werner, Laramie Werner. Nays: none.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and approval of Certificate of Substantial Completion for Electrical Distribution System Improvements Project; Matt Kalin explained. This begins a one-year warranty period by the contractor. Council Member Orv Gigstad moved to approve the completion certificate, Laramie Werner seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Wesley Halvorsen, Jerry Werner, Laramie Werner, Orv Gigstad. Nays: none.

Council Member Laramie Werner spoke of concerns regarding snow removal and hitting the emergency snow routes a little more especially on the inclined areas. Mayor Dettmer thanked Jeff and Utilities staff for all of their work during the last couple weeks and lots of snow.

OLD BUSINESS – Mayor Dettmer opened the public hearing, discussion and ordinance for Application for Small Tract Subdivision of the following-described real estate: Hansen 2<sup>nd</sup> Subdivision, a tract of land located in the South ½ of the S.E. ¼ of Section 9, Tract 8 North, Range 11 East of the 6<sup>th</sup> P.M.; Mark Easter of Easter and Associates present. Stilmock explained the Planning Commission recommended approval with the condition the plat be revised to show the drainage easement and coinciding language; the plat cannot be signed until these changes are made. The easement was dedicated by owner, Mrs. Hansen. JEO will flag the area. Justin Stark suggested declaring the area as an easement. Mark Easter is concerned that elevation has changed since the house was built and would like to make sure the correct area is marked. Stilmock suggested keeping the public hearing open and continue to next Council meeting. Council Member Wesley Halvorsen moved to continue the public hearing until March 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 P.M., Orv Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Laramie Werner, Jerry Werner, Orv Gigstad, Wesley Halvorsen. Nays: none.

Mayor Dettmer opened the public hearing and discussion on ordinances to amend Figure 23, Future Land Use and Transportation Map of the Syracuse Comprehensive Development Plan and to amend and adopt a new Zoning Map of the City of Syracuse. Attorney Stilmock explained these map items will need to be continued until a future meeting to allow for discussion to be had by the Planning Commission and coordinate with JEO. Council Member Wesley Halvorsen moved to continue to the public hearing until April 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 P.M., Orv Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Laramie Werner, Jerry Werner, Orv Gigstad, Wesley Halvorsen. Nays: none.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and ordinance to amend Code of Ordinances of the City of Syracuse Section 10-20 Sexton, appointment and duties, Section 10-21 Digging graves, Section 10-21 Park Hill Cemetery Operation, Section 10-22 Official plat; lots; prices, Section 10-23 Perpetual Care endowments, Section 10-24 Funds created; donations, Section 10-25 Deeds; certificates of purchase, Section 10-26 Care of lots, Repeal Section 10-58 Organization, Repeal Section 10-59 Labor, purchase of equipment, Repeal Section 10-60 Surveys, subdivision, Repeal Section 10-61 Miscellaneous regulations, rules, Repeal Section 10-62 Salary of secretary, Repeal Section 10-63 Free burial space.

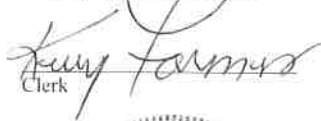
NEW BUSINESS – Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and approval of Manager Application for Liquor License for Ameer Pinto Castillo at B&B Pump-N-Go. Council Member Orv Gigstad moved to approve the application for B&B's new owner, Wesley Halvorsen seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Jerry Werner, Laramie Werner, Orv Gigstad, Wesley Halvorsen. Nays: none.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion on Jim Webster property. This item is tabled until a future City Council meeting.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion on request for \$1300.00 match support for Fiscal Year 2020-2021 by Blue Rivers Area Agency on Aging. Council Member Wesley Halvorsen moved to approve the match request, Orv Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Jerry Werner, Laramie Werner, Orv Gigstad, Wesley Halvorsen. Nays: none.

Mayor Dettmer asked a Council Member to motion to adjourn. Council Member Wesley Halvorsen moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:47 P.M., Laramie Werner seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Orv Gigstad, Jerry Werner, Wesley Halvorsen, 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

