

SPECIAL MEETING
CITY COUNCIL

August 9, 2021

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Syracuse, Nebraska met at City Hall Council Chambers located at 495 Midland Street Syracuse, Nebraska at 6:00 P.M. on August 9, 2021 for a special 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 was absent. A copy of the posting notice and acknowledgement of notice to the Council is attached to these minutes. 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 discussion and approval of stamped concrete at Sixth Street Community Garden; City Administrator Jessica Meyer explained. The Sixth Street Garden Committee recently met to discuss plans and bids for stamped concrete at the location. Donations of \$14,000.00 have been confirmed up to this point. Meyer and Parks and Rec Director Jill Crook will continue to research grants for the garden. Two bids were submitted for the project. Jerry Werner moved to approve the bid from Zeb Kreifels Concrete for \$15,825.00 on the condition that he can complete the work by September 15th, Orv Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Wesley Halvorsen, Orv Gigstad, Jerry Werner. Nays: none.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion on 21-22 proposed budgets. Tim Wilson not present for the Ambulance budget, Clerk Farmer explained his revisions. Council Member Wesley Halvorsen moved to approve Ambulance proposed budget, Orv Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Jerry Werner, Orv Gigstad, Wesley Halvorsen. Nays: none.

Clerk Farmer spoke on behalf of the Fire budget. Farmer went over the few revisions discussed at the July 20th Budget meeting. Council Member Orv Gigstad moved to approve the proposed Fire budget, Wesley Halvorsen seconded. Roll Call: Orv Gigstad, Jerry Werner, Wesley Halvorsen. Nays: none.

Sue Antes not present for the Library budget; Clerk Farmer went over the 2nd draft. Sue has asked Leah Ganzel to document her time when cleaning the Library. Council Member Jerry Werner moved to approve the proposed Library budget, Wesley Halvorsen seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Wesley Halvorsen, Orv Gigstad, Jerry Werner. Nays: none.

Julie Slafter not present for the Concessions budget; Clerk Farmer discussed any changes suggested from the first budget meeting. One of these changes included a telephone stipend for Julie's cell phone for six months of the year. Council Member Jerry Werner moved to approve the proposed concessions budget, Wesley Halvorsen seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Orv Gigstad, Jerry Werner, Wesley Halvorsen. Nays: none.

Parks and Rec Director Jill Crook present to discuss the proposed Cemetery budget. Crook discussed suggested changes from the Council at the prior meeting. Council Member Orv Gigstad moved to approve the proposed Cemetery budget, Wesley Halvorsen seconded. Jerry Werner discussed his recent conversation with Bob Keim and possible land to purchase for Park Hill Cemetery. Keim would prefer to develop the area instead with the cemetery running along the east side of a possible street to the old Highway 2. Werner explained possibly looking at an area to house urns. Roll Call: Yeas: Jerry Werner, Wesley Halvorsen, Orv Gigstad. Nays: none.

Parks and Rec Director Jill Crook present to discuss the proposed Parks budget. Crook discussed changes for phone stipend for the Parks Manager, professional and schooling fees, and soccer field expenses. Also addressed were work on the Gazebo, epoxy flooring for the Williams Park Shelter, as well as engineering for future Sports Complex development. Council Member Wesley Halvorsen moved to approve the proposed Parks budget, Orv Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Jerry Werner, Orv Gigstad, Wesley Halvorsen. Nays: none.

Parks and Rec Director Jill Crook present to discuss the proposed Swimming Pool budget. Crook discussed a few items she had in her proposed budget but would rather come to the next Council meeting and ask for those as she has the funds in her current budget. These include pool ladder, diving board and vacuum. Council Member Jerry Werner moved to approve the proposed Swimming Pool budget, Orv Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Wesley Halvorsen, Orv Gigstad, Jerry Werner. Nays: none.

Parks and Rec Director Jill Crook present to discuss the proposed Rec Program budget. Council Member Orv Gigstad moved to approve the proposed Rec Program budget, Wesley Halvorsen seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Jerry Werner, Orv Gigstad, Wesley Halvorsen. Nays: none.

Bruce Neemann came to the meeting to discuss possible property for a new Fire/Rescue Complex. Neemann is handling the budget and Fire claims for Eric Fass. The land in question was discussed as well as how the City would pay for the purchase of the land. Orv Gigstad motioned to amend the original motion made above for the Fire budget to add \$50,000.00 into Capital Improvements for the 21-22 Fire Budget for future land purchase fund to be placed into a sinking fund, Wesley Halvorsen seconded. Jessica Meyer will discuss this with our accountant

at BMG as well as Jay Spearman, the City's Bond Counsel before we speak with the owner or it's realtors regarding the City's interest. Roll Call: Jerry Werner, Wesley Halvorsen, Orv Gigstad. Roll Call: Yeas: Jerry Werner, Wesley Halvorsen, Orv Gigstad. Nays: none.

Superintendent of Public Works Jeff Vogt presented the proposed Electric budget. Vogt spoke about adjustments to the salaries and retirement. He asked to bump up his inventory line due to the cost of materials being up. Council Member Wesley Halvorsen moved to approve the proposed Electric budget, Orv Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Wesley Halvorsen, Orv Gigstad, Jerry Werner. Nays: none.

Superintendent of Public Works Jeff Vogt presented the proposed Sewer budget. Vogt spoke about suggested revisions at the last Council meeting as well as revisions to the capital expenditure items. Council Member Orv Gigstad moved to approve the proposed Sewer budget, Wesley Halvorsen seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Jerry Werner, Orv Gigstad, Wesley Halvorsen. Nays: none.

Superintendent of Public Works Jeff Vogt presented the proposed Water budget. Vogt spoke about suggested revisions at the last Council meeting including phone stipends approved. Jerry Werner discussed possible future sites for a second water tower. Council Member Wesley Halvorsen moved to approve the proposed Water budget, Orv Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Jerry Werner, Orv Gigstad, Wesley Halvorsen. Nays: none.

Superintendent of Public Works Jeff Vogt presented the proposed Street budget. Vogt spoke about suggested revisions at the last Council meeting including a phone stipend for Todd Aksamit. Council Member Orv Gigstad moved to approve the proposed Street budget, Jerry Werner seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Wesley Halvorsen, Jerry Werner, Orv Gigstad. Nays: none.

City Clerk Kelly Farmer presented the proposed General budget. Farmer spoke about suggested revisions at the last Council meeting and completed some lines that weren't completed at the first budget meeting. A new portion was added for Building and Zoning costs. Jessica Meyer explained the item for updating Zoning and Comp Plan. The line item for Council tablets or iPads was reduced. Council Member Wesley Halvorsen moved to approve the proposed General budget, Orv Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Jerry Werner, Wesley Halvorsen, Orv Gigstad. Nays: none.

City Clerk Kelly Farmer presented the proposed Building budget. Farmer spoke about suggested revisions at the last Council meeting and completed some lines that weren't completed at the first budget meeting. The City's work on Downtown Revitalization may include improvements for City Hall. Council Member Wesley Halvorsen moved to approve the proposed Building budget, Orv Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Wesley Halvorsen, Jerry Werner, Orv Gigstad. Nays: none.

City Clerk Kelly Farmer presented the proposed Keno budget. No changes were needed. Council Member Orv Gigstad moved to approve the proposed Keno budget, Wesley Halvorsen seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Jerry Werner, Orv Gigstad, Wesley Halvorsen. Nays: none.

City Clerk Kelly Farmer presented the proposed Sales Tax budget. No changes were needed. Council Member Jerry Werner moved to approve the proposed Sales Tax budget, Wesley Halvorsen seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Orv Gigstad, Wesley Halvorsen, Jerry Werner. Nays: none.

City Clerk Kelly Farmer presented the proposed Sheriff budget. No changes were needed. Council Member Orv Gigstad moved to approve the proposed Sheriff budget, Jerry Werner seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Wesley Halvorsen, Orv Gigstad, Jerry Werner. Nays: none.

Council Member Wesley Halvorsen moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:29 P.M., Orv Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Jerry Werner, Wesley Halvorsen, Orv Gigstad. 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