

REGULAR MEETING
CITY COUNCIL

July 14, 2021

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Syracuse, Nebraska met at Syracuse City Hall Council Chambers located at 495 Midland Street Syracuse, Nebraska at 6:00 P.M. on July 14, 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, Wesley Halvorsen, 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 June 16th & June 28th, 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 not present. Blome sent the June 2021 Financials prior to the meeting along with some comments. Mayor Dettmer read Blome's comments and explained an additional worksheet provided. City Administrator spoke about submitting paperwork to begin to receive reimbursement for well field expenses. Council Member Wesley Halvorsen moved to approve the report and pay the claims, Orv Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Laramie Werner, Jerry Werner, Orv Gigstad, Wesley Halvorsen. Nays: none.

A-1 LOCKSMITH - 236.50, ADDISON GOEBEL - 33.58, ADKINS SIGNS - 81.50, AKRS - 535.83, ALTEC INDUSTRIES, INC. - 1976.65, ANDY BRACE - 160.00, AQUA-CHEM, INC. - 1124.37, 455.85, AWARDS UNLIMITED, INC. - 18.77, B & B PUMP-N-GO, INC. - 2140.37, BEACON ATHLETICS - 1440.72, BMG CPA'S - 2500.00, BORDER STATES INDUSTRIES, INC. - 5956.40, 942.90, BOUND TREE MEDICAL, LLC - 973.08, 229.20, BRANDT, HORAN, HALLSTROM & STILMOCK - 1611.50, BROOKE CARLSON - 105.00, CAPITAL BUSINESS SYSTEMS, INC. - 278.19, 90.11, 38.93, CARLYE ROTHESCHILD - 35.00, CAROL LINQUIST - 100.00, CHESSA TOMPKINS - 293.45, CHRISTA REISDORFF - 100.00, CLEANING AUTHORITY - 274.25, 319.52, CLIA LABORATORY PROGRAM - 180.00, CLINE WILLIAMS - 1410.00, CODY PESTER - 35.00, CONNIE KERSHNER - 100.00, CORE-MARK MIDCONTINENT, INC. - 1571.40, CREIGHTON - 534.00, CULLIGAN WATER - 38.85, DANA ANDERSON - 1050.00, DEMCO, INC. - 68.27, DOMINIC PETERSON - 70.00, DTS TECHNOLOGY - 10.84, DUTTON LAINSON CO. - 18079.44, ECHO GROUP INC. - 1218.73, ELIZA BENNETT - 82.98, ERIC FASS - 500.00, FIELD FORD, INC. - 64.95, FIVE NINES TECHNOLOGY GROUP - 2570.25, 66.96, FRONTIER COOPERATIVE - 832.93, GATEHOUSE MEDIA NEBRASKA HOLDINGS, INC. - 36.24, GOTTULA PROPANE SERVICE, INC. - 308.00, GREAT AMERICA FINANCIAL SVCS. - 1572.82, HANK'S GARAGE - 278.00, HANNAH KNOX - 33.59, HAWKINS, INC. - 209.43, HUNTER MARRS - 35.00, IMAGE 360 - 3500.60, INGRAM LIBRARY SERVICES - 394.89, JEN STAACK - 160.00, JEN WALLMAN - 30.00, JENNY HAAG - 43.69, JEO CONSULTING GROUP, INC. - 2680.00, 2255.00, 14744.75, JESSICA MEYER - 154.56, JODY BRUNS - 160.00, JOE REISDORFF - 40.00, JOSH MEDEIROS - 150.00, JUDSON IRRIGATION INC. - 961.75, KERNS EXCAVATING - 1197.00, KLARYSA THROCKMORTON - 93.55, KNAKE TREE SVC, LLC - 1499.00, KODY CARDINAL - 150.00, LARAMIE WERNER - 80.00, LARRY GRUNDMAN - 100.00, LAUREN SIEFKEN - 105.00, LEAGUE ASSOCIATION OF RISK MANAGEMENT - 168.95, LEAH LEVENHAGEN - 43.69, LILLY WINDHORST - 149.90, LIZ LEVENHAGEN-SDA DANCE - 116.31, LOGAN JORDING - 70.00, MACQUEEN EQUIPMENT - 1095.99, MADELINE WERNER - 105.00, MAGNOLIA JOURNAL - 20.00, MAINSTREET BANK - 50.00, MARCIA SCHEINOST - 120.00, MICRO MARKETING ASSOC. - 16.19, MID-AMERICAN BENEFITS, INC. - 186.00, MIDWEST LABORATORIES, INC. - 157.53, MIDWEST WALLS & LANDSCAPES, INC. - 450.00, MIKE WEYERS - 35.00, MIKE'S WINDOW SERVICE, LLC - 48.72, 75.08, NEBRASKA CITY UTILITIES - 350.88, 52.34, 100.23, NEBRASKA PUBLIC HEALTH ENVIRONMENTAL LAB - 15.00, NEBRASKA SOD COMPANY INC - 8123.38, NICHOLAS EMERSON - 35.00, NORTH BRANCH RANCHEROS 4H CLUB - 325.45, OLSSON ASSOCIATES - 7408.83, OMAHA PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT - 389.15, 147548.49, ONE CALL CONCEPTS, INC. - 42.31, OTOE COUNTY - 14750.00, OTOE COUNTY ROADS DEPARTMENT - 25.00, 25.00, PANHANDLE EMS EDUCATION, LLC - 2300.00, PEPSI COLA OF LINCOLN - 2628.10, 73.80, PRECEPTOR TAU - 508.94, PETTY CASH - 91.45, PRINCIPAL LIFE INSURANCE CO. - 485.20, QUICK MED CLAIMS - 2280.54, QUINTIN BAUMEISTER - 60.00, RANDY FILLION - 90.00, REC SUPPLY - 584.13, ROBERT SHIPPS - 35.00, SAM PESTER - 105.00, SCHEELE-KAYTON CONSTRUCTION - 234294.00, SDA CHEERLEADERS - 478.84, SECURITY EQUIPMENT INC. - 1362.00, JH SPORHASE LLC - 92.66, 69.70, STATE OF NEBRASKA POWER REVIEW BOARD - 259.42, STOCK SEED FARMS, INC. - 940.00, SYRACUSE DO IT BEST - 1930.44, SYRACUSE JOURNAL DEMOCRAT - 52.50, SYRACUSE LUMBER CO. - 365.29, SYRACUSE MOTOR SUPPLY - 759.86, SYRACUSE RESCUE SQUAD - 29.99, 76.38, SYRACUSE UTILITIES - 541.55, 2070.12, SYRACUSE VETERINARY SERVICE - 62.34, TAMI ANDERA - 180.00, TERRY'S FAMILY FOODS - 1857.14, TIM WILSON - 700.00, U.S. POST OFFICE - 347.48, ULINE - 1211.20, UNITE PRIVATE NETWORKS - 2322.04, VAN KIRK BROTHERS CONSTRUCTION - 342776.53, VERIZON WIRELESS - 789.59, 153.36, WAYNE WOHLERS - 35.00, WESLEY HALVORSEN - 60.00, WESTERN AREA POWER ADMINISTRATION - 2583.65, WRITE TIME COMMUNICATIONS - 898.20

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and Resolution No. 21-25 to approve BMG Engagement Letter for 21-22 Budget Prep services, authorizing Mayor's signature. Council Member Jerry Werner moved to approve the signing of the letter, Wesley Halvorsen seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Laramie Werner, Orv Gigstad, Wesley Halvorsen, Jerry Werner. Nays: none.

HEARING OF THOSE PRESENT – Randy Rutar and Devlin Limbach present to explain some issues they are having with moving forward with building on their property they own west of Syracuse. They have met with Dave Schmitz and have communicated with Bruce Neemann. Rutar explained a letter received from Bruce Neemann stating they were in violation by placing a storage container on the property. Rutar has also spoken with Brent Jorgenson and his thoughts on regulating temporary structures. City Attorney Jerry Stilmock explained the Council cannot action on the matter as it is in Hearing of Those Present and not an agenda item. Stilmock suggested they have a private conversation outside of the Council meeting.

SHERIFF REPORT – Sheriff Caudill present. Caudill spotlighted details from the June report distributed prior to the meeting. Total incidents were 56 out of 77 calls for service. No further

discussion was had.

LIBRARY REPORT – Librarian Sue Antes present. The Library monthly report had been distributed to the Mayor and Council. Antes reported summer reading is up to 125 children, circulation is up, all four book clubs are meeting and will be attending a catered meal in August. Jessica Meyer and Mayor Dettmer attended a Library Board meeting. Open Meetings Act protocol was discussed. There is currently an open seat on the Library Board but the individual Meyer and Dettmer have suggested lives outside of the City limits. Antes has been advised and the current Board members would like for the individual to reside within the corporate limits.

AMBULANCE REPORT – Rescue Chief Tim Wilson present. Wilson explained Rebecca Lechner has turned in an application for volunteer member for the SRS. Council Member Laramie Werner moved to accept the application for Rebecca Lechner pending squad approval, Wesley Halvorsen seconded. Roll call: Yeas: Orv Gigstad, Jerry Werner, Wesley Halvorsen, Laramie Werner. Nays: none.

BUILDING & ZONING REPORT – Inspector Bruce Neemann present. Mayor Dettmer opened the discussion and Ordinance No. 1105 to amend Syracuse Municipal Code Section 30-89 & 30-91. Stilmock explained he has drafted two different ordinances for the Council to consider for the parking item. Alternative #1 allows a total time of 24 hours to park on a City street clarifying the type of recreational vehicle and alternative #2 has a maximum of four hours allowed for the type of recreational vehicle allowed to park on a City street adjacent to a residential neighborhood. Neemann explained various scenarios where four hours would be restrictive. Jerry Werner believes these types of vehicles can cause a lot of congestion when parked along residential City streets. Council Member Orv Gigstad introduced the Alternative #1 for 24-hour parking ordinance and moved the statutory rule requiring reading on three different days be suspended, Laramie Werner seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Wesley Halvorsen, Orv Gigstad, Laramie Werner. Nays: Jerry Werner – motion passed. Stilmock read Ordinance No. 1105 by title. Council Member Wesley Halvorsen moved for final passage of Ordinance 1105, Laramie Werner seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Laramie Werner, Orv Gigstad, Wesley Halvorsen. Nays: Jerry Werner – motion passed.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and Resolution No. 21-26 to approve Application to Place Recreational Vehicle in Transitional Ag Zoning District, authorizing Mayor's signature. Roll Call: Yeas: Jerry Werner, Orv Gigstad, Wesley Halvorsen, Laramie Werner. Nays: none. Stilmock read Ordinance No. 1103 by title. Council Member Wesley Halvorsen moved for final passage of Ordinance 1103, Orv Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Jerry Werner, Laramie Werner, Orv Gigstad, Wesley Halvorsen. Nays: none.

PARKS AND REC REPORT – Parks and Rec Coordinator Jill Crook is present. Mayor Dettmer led the presentation and update on 6th Street Project. Committee Members Julie Zahn, Colleen Christiansen, Terry Zimmers present; absent Committee Members included Elaine Zahn and Brianne Wilhelm. Julie Zahn explained the Master Gardeners will maintain the area but the Parks department will need to do the mowing and may need to help with planting some trees. Donations can be sent to Syracuse Foundation. Zahn explained a water source will need to be installed for irrigation. Julie Zahn will meet with City Administrator Jessica Meyer and Jill Crook regarding funds. It was suggested this may be an opportunity to utilize City Keno funds if necessary. The project will officially be named "6th Street Community Garden". No motion needed at this time.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and approval to purchase a drinking fountain for Sports Complex. Crook explained the existing water fountains are in bad shape. The new unit, containing two faucets, will be paid out of Complex Amenities in the Parks budget. Council member Jerry Werner moved to approve the fountains at \$2383.99, Laramie Werner seconded. Roll Call: Wesley Halvorsen, Orv Gigstad, Jerry Werner, Laramie Werner. Nays: none.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and approval to purchase trailer. Crook explained the need for the trailer for the Parks department. She received a bid for an H&H Trailer. Jerry Werner suggested the item be tabled and Crook look into if the trailer is a two-axle and has a width of 6 1/2' and if better pricing is available for an 18' trailer.

Crook reported the Aqua Center has been averaging 150 patrons a day. Swim lessons are being held. Syracuse is hosting the Legion Jr's Tourney and t-ball games have begun.

PUBLIC WORKS – Superintendent Jeff Vogt present. Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and approval to purchase wire reel trailer. Vogt presented a bid from Murphy Tractor and Equipment for \$13,852.00. Vogt explained he will use budgeted funds originally meant for a building at the Utility shop location; the building will be proposed next budget year. Council Member Jerry Werner moved to approve the bid for the reel trailer at \$13,852.00, Laramie Werner seconded. Roll Call: Laramie Werner, Orv Gigstad, Wesley Halvorsen, Jerry Werner. Nays: none.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and approval of past utility account write-offs. Utility Billing Clerk, Nicole Vonderschmidt is not present. Jessica Meyer explained past due balances are sent to Credit Management but the City does never fully receive the full balance as Credit Management's fee is approximately 30%. Jerry Werner asked about why there may be balances when someone passes away; why is this not taken care of by the estate. Jerry Stilmock will visit with City staff on how to file for those to be paid by an estate. No further discussion was had. Council Member

Wesley Halvorsen moved to approve to proceed with the past utility account write-offs, Orv Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Wesley Halvorsen, Jerry Werner, Orv Gigstad, Laramie Werner. Nays: none.

OLD BUSINESS – Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and Ordinance No. 1106 to allow fowl within corporate limits. Syracuse resident Randy Dunster present; he had presented his argument to allow fowl in city limits at a previous City Council meeting. Laramie Werner moved to introduce Ordinance No. 1106 but not waive the statutory rule of reading on three different days, Wesley Halvorsen seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Wesley Halvorsen, Laramie Werner. Nays: Jerry Werner, Orv Gigstad. Vote tied at two, therefore Mayor Dettmer's vote is Nay; motion not approved. Mayor Dettmer declared Ordinance No. 1106 did not pass on first reading.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and Resolution No. 21-27 to approve employee long-term disability policy; Jessica Meyer explained. Details of the policy had been distributed and reviewed previously. Council Member Wesley Halvorsen moved to approve the policy, Orv Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Wesley Halvorsen, Jerry Werner, Laramie Werner, Orv Gigstad. Nays: none.

Mayor Dettmer announced no action needed on the Employee Handbook revisions as they were already approved at the June 28th, 2021 City Council meeting.

NEW BUSINESS – Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and approval to use Sports Complex sand volleyball courts August 27th from 6:00 P.M. to 1:00 A.M. August 28th for 2021 Germanfest event and Resolution No. 21-28 authorizing consumption of alcohol, authorizing Mayor's signature; Kim Kreifels of Chamber of Commerce Germanfest Committee present. The Chamber of Commerce will provide the Certificate of Insurance to the City. Council Member Orv Gigstad moved to approve use of volleyball courts and to adopt Resolution No. 21-28, Wesley Halvorsen seconded. Roll call: Yeas: Orv Gigstad, Jerry Werner, Wesley Halvorsen, Laramie Werner. Nays: none.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion on SDL request for 2021 Germanfest beer garden from noon Saturday August 28th to 1:00 A.M. August 29th at the Otoe County Fairgrounds; Tim Collin of The Beer Stein not present. Council Member Laramie Werner moved to approve the SDL request for the Otoe County Fair beer garden, Wesley Halvorsen seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Jerry Werner, Orv Gigstad, Laramie Werner, Wesley Halvorsen. Nays: none.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion on Syracuse Municipal Code Sections 4-1 (b)(2), 4-32 (a)(b), 4-72 (a)(2)(b). Jerry Stilmock explained 4-1 refers to all animals; 4-32 refers to dogs and 4-72 refers to cats. The issue is that 4-1 doesn't have a time frame. This item tabled until a future City Council meeting; Jerry Stilmock will prepare an ordinance.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and request for street closure of Mohawk Street from 11th to 12th Streets on Sunday September 12th from 8:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. for Rally Sunday at Luther Memorial Church. Council Member Laramie Werner moved to approve the street closure request, Jerry Werner seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Orv Gigstad, Wesley Halvorsen, Jerry Werner, Laramie Werner. Nays: none.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion on SDL request for 2021 Germanfest beer garden on Saturday August 28th at the Otoe County Fairgrounds; Rich Halama of Rich Harvest Winery present. Halama explained the SDL for Rich Harvest would be from noon to 5:00 P.M. to be located in the same beer garden as The Beer Stein. Rich Harvest will be providing wine and sangria. Council Member Jerry Werner moved to approve the SDL request for Rich Harvest at Germanfest, Laramie Werner seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Orv Gigstad, Wesley Halvorsen, Jerry Werner, Laramie Werner. Nays: none.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and request for Germanfest parade street closure change to 9:00 A.M. Saturday August 28th and to include 4th Street from Poplar to Plum Streets; Wendy Werner explain. Council Member Wesley Halvorsen moved to approve street closures, Laramie Werner seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Jerry Werner, Orv Gigstad, Laramie Werner, Wesley Halvorsen. Nays: none.

Before adjourning Mayor Dettmer announced the August regular City Council meeting will be held on Wednesday August 18th instead of August 11th, 2021.

Jessica Meyer gave an update on the Downtown Revitalization Grant.

Council Member Wesley Halvorsen moved to adjourn at 7:42 P.M., Orv Gigstad seconded. Roll call: Yeas: Laramie Werner, 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.

Jim Furman
Clerk

Deb Dettmer
Mayor

