

REGULAR MEETING
CITY COUNCIL

April 13, 2022

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Syracuse, Nebraska met at Syracuse City Council Chambers located at 495 Midland Street Syracuse, Nebraska at 6:00 P.M. on April 13, 2022 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 Jerry Werner, Laramie Werner, Orv Gigstad, Wesley Halvorsen. A copy of the posting notice and acknowledgement of notice to the Council is attached to these minutes. Minutes for the March 22, 2022 regular 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 jumped ahead to agenda Item 10-A and opened the discussion and approval of ADA Swing Seat for the Williams Park playground; four Girl Scouts from Troop 20835 present. The girls explained they are working to achieve a Girl Scout Bronze Award which focuses on giving back to the community. Each scout explained details and the need for the Jenning at the Williams Park Playground. The Troop is asking for \$357.15 from City Keno Funds with the total cost exceeding \$600.00; they currently have fundraised the difference. Council Member Jerry Werner moved to approve the Jenning and the use of City Keno funds in the amount of \$357.15, Laramie Werner seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Laramie Werner, Wesley Halvorsen, Orv Gigstad, Jerry Werner. Nays: none.

Mayor Dettmer led the approval of claims and Treasurer's Reports, Todd Blome of BMG not present. The financial report for March was distributed prior to the meeting; no discussion was had. Blome sent comments with his report explaining all bank accounts, bonds and notes have been reconciled and balanced. Blome noted March was heavy in expenses with claims from Electric, Water, Sewer and the Swimming Pool departments. Council Member Wesley Halvorsen moved to approve the Treasurer's Report and to pay the claims except for the Olsson Pay Certificate No. 4 to Van Kirk claim as it will be discussed later in the meeting, Orv Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Jerry Werner, Laramie Werner, Orv Gigstad, Wesley Halvorsen. Nays: none.

A TO Z CARPET CLEANING & DETAILING - 292.00, ADAM HOLZ - 35.00, AKRS - 585.97, ANDY BRACE - 120.00, B & B PUMP-N-GO, INC. - 2170.28, BARAGARY CONSTRUCTION, INC. - 2085.00, BEN BIEHL - 200.00, BMG CPA'S - 3870.00, BORDER STATES INDUSTRIES, INC. - 5984.96, BOUND TREE MEDICAL, LLC - 9656.94, BRANDT, HORAN, HALLSTROM & STILMOCK - 2132.00, CAPITAL BUSINESS SYSTEMS, INC. - 6.15, 28.00, 76.22, CAROL LINQUIST - 300.00, CASEY PORTER - 60.00, CHASE BUSEKIST - 51.25, CHRISTA REISDORFF - 100.00, CLEANING AUTHORITY - 261.99, 230.04, CULLIGAN WATER - 28.90, DEMCO, INC. - 217.99, DTS TECHNOLOGY - 10.94, DUTTON LAINSON CO. - 629.63, FIREGUARD, INC. - 612.61, 277.20, FIRST WIRELESS, INC. - 109.00, FIRSTBANK OF NEBRASKA - 25.00, FIVE NINES TECHNOLOGY GROUP - 20.00, 2576.25, GATEHOUSE MEDIA NEBRASKA HOLDINGS, INC. - 53.55, GRAINGER - 34.29, HILLARY WIEBUSCH - 60.00, HOLIDAY OUTDOOR DECOR - 2380.85, INGRAM LIBRARY SERVICES - 499.37, JEN STAACK - 80.00, JEN WALLMAN - 150.00, JEO CONSULTING GROUP, INC. - 27858.00, JODY BRUNS - 160.00, JULIE D. BAUMAN, CPA, P.C. - 15625.00, KODY CARDINAL - 60.00, LAKEVIEW BOOKS - 127.94, LANGFELDT OVERHEAD DOOR INC. - 1730.00, MARCIA SCHEINOST - 200.00, MATHESON TRI-GAS, INC - 221.02, MICRO MARKETING ASSOC. - 31.44, MID-AMERICAN BENEFITS, INC. - 93.00, MIDWEST LABORATORIES, INC. - 159.24, MIDWEST WALLS & LANDSCAPES, INC. - 860.05, Me2 INC. - 2751.44, NATHANIAL CORDRAY - 30.00, NEBRASKA CITY UTILITIES - 313.47, 1389.71, 194.98, NEBRASKA DEPT. OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY - 200.00, NEBRASKA MUNICIPAL POWER POOL - 1226.99, OLSSON ASSOCIATES - 6392.76, 973.35, OMAHA PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT - 118999.78, ONE CALL CONCEPTS, INC. - 62.12, OTOE COUNTY - 16250.00, OTOE COUNTY TREASURER - 150.00, 150.00, PATRICK HUGHES - 100.00, PATTY BUCHHOLZ - 160.88, PETTY CASH - 210.00, 3000.00, PETTY CASH PARK & REC. - 490.00, QUENTIN BAUMEISTER - 60.00, QUICK MED CLAIMS - 589.44, RANDY FILLION - 90.00, RAY WERNER - 150.00, SAMPSON CONSTRUCTION - 200.00, JH SPORHASE LLC - 505.49, CITY OF SYRACUSE - 2010.29, SYRACUSE DO IT BEST - 620.93, SYRACUSE LUMBER CO. - 367.45, SYRACUSE MARKET LLC - 4.58, SYRACUSE MOTOR SUPPLY - 474.20, SYRACUSE RESCUE SQUAD - 29.99, SYRACUSE TOW & TIRE LLC - 737.16, SYRACUSE VOL. FIRE DEPT. - 692.24, TAMI ANDERA - 60.00, TIM WILSON - 400.00, UNITE PRIVATE NETWORKS - 2319.94, UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA - LINCOLN - 3000.00, VAN KIRK BROTHERS CONSTRUCTION - 227802.22, 54797.86, VERIZON WIRELESS - 274.93, WESLEY HALVORSEN - 90.00, WESTERN AREA POWER ADMINISTRATION - 2892.79, TODD AKSAMIT - 2301.54, ADAM BADGERG - 2702.36, JARED BICKFORD - 2566.60, TYLER COLLIN - 2582.68, JILL CROOK - 2429.56, KELLY FARMER - 3373.21, JESSICA MEYER - 5270.03, IAN MITCHELL - 2603.75, JULIE SLAFTER - 2166.14, CURTIS STANBERRY - 3559.94, BRIAN VODICKA - 2726.11, BRENT TETEN - 3190.36, JEFF VOGT - 3717.19, NICOLE VONDERSCHMIDT - 2522.04, SUE ANTES - 2179.07, CAROLYN BREMER - 442.16, DEB DETTMER - 460.86, LEAH GANZEL - 522.71, ORV GIGSTAD - 184.70, WESLEY HALVORSEN - 184.70, BRUCE NEEMANN - 922.29, SHARON VANHOUSEN - 233.64, JERRY WERNER - 161.62, LARAMIE WERNER - 184.70.

HEARING OF THOSE PRESENT - No one present.

SHERIFF REPORT - Sheriff Caudill present. Caudill reported details from the March

Incident Report distributed prior to the meeting. There were 87 calls for service consisting of a couple traffic crashes, warrant arrests and one death investigation just to name a few. Caudill explained the department has been dealing with a dog issue at the golf course.

FIRE REPORT- Interim Chief Keith McWilliams present. Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and approval for SVFD members to attend Fire School. McWilliams explained they are looking to send two people to Grand Island May 20th thru the 22nd for the education. Council Member Orv Gigstad moved to approve the schooling, Wesley Halvorsen seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Jerry Werner, Wesley Halvorsen, Orv Gigstad, Laramie Werner. Nays: none.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and approval to close Plum Street from 1st to 3rd Streets on May 23rd, 2022 from 8:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. for fire hose testing. McWilliams confirmed there are no events being held at the Kimmel or Fair Center during that time. Council Member Jerry Werner moved to approve the temporary street closure request, Wesley Halvorsen seconded. Roll Call: Yeas Laramie Werner, Orv Gigstad, Jerry Werner, Wesley Halvorsen. Nays: none.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and review of fire truck bids; City Attorney Jerry Stilmock explained. McWilliams explained the original bids won't change much except for the specific items clarified. Jerry Stilmock Council Member Orv Gigstad moved to reject all bids, Jerry Werner seconded. Roll Call: Laramie Werner, Wesley Halvorsen, Orv Gigstad, Jerry Werner. Nays: none. Council Member Laramie Werner moved to approve resubmitting Request for new bids to include the new specs, Wesley Halvorsen seconded. The bidding close will be on April 22nd, 2022 at 4:30 P.M.; bids can be emailed to City Clerk up to that date and time. Roll Call: Yeas: Jerry Werner, Laramie Werner, Orv Gigstad, Wesley Halvorsen. Nays: none.

LIBRARY REPORT – Librarian Sue Antes not present; her report was distributed prior to the meeting. No further discussion was had.

PUBLIC WORKS – Superintendent Jeff Vogt present. Mayor Dettmer led the discussion on Interconnection for Parallel Installation and Operation of Small and Large Customer-Owned Renewal Electric Generating Facilities; Matt Reed of NMPP Energy/MEAN (Municipal Energy Agency of Nebraska) present via telephone. Reed discussed the use of solar generation. An agreement and policies has been provided by NMPP is to be used between the customer and the City when someone wants to interconnect to the City's grid; an application for the customer to complete when they're going to install a solar unit is also included in the proposed agreement. A fee is due with the application as well and inspections are required as the policy states. Jerry Stilmock spoke about excess energy and providing credit back to the customer; Reed recommends this is done monthly rather than annually. He also recommended the credit is given back as a dollar amount not in kilowatts. MEAN has a calculated rate factor for under 25 kilowatts of 0.04070 per kilowatt hour; this the wholesale rate MEAN pays. For over 25 kilowatts the wholesale rate is 0.04209 per kilowatt hour. These rates are calculated at the beginning of each year and the updated rates are released to communities typically in February. Stilmock noted on page 3 of the agreement the "application fee" as well as additional costs the City Utilities department may acquire during the installation process; the customer would pay back to the City those additional costs. Superintendent Jeff Vogt suggested on the proposed agreement page 3, the paragraph discusses a generator meter and Vogt doesn't feel this meter is necessary but maybe should be worded as a voluntary item; this generator meter adds up how much the solar unit generates. Reed explains it takes the direct measurement and they require it as they do some reporting on an annual basis. The City would need to cover the cost of this meter. Vogt explained the bi-directional meter will also measure this; Brendall Meyer of NMPP has been working with Jeff on this. Stilmock suggested to the Mayor and Council he go back and work on the resolution to make some adjustments before the Council votes. James Kazalski, a Syracuse resident who has recently installed a solar unit at his residence, was in the audience. Kazalski has the unit already in place but needs the net meter to be installed and will be required to complete the application which is part of the proposed resolution. Kazalski asked what he needs to do at this time. Stilmock explained the application will need to be completed and the fee paid once the Council votes on the resolution at the next City Council meeting on May 11th, 2022. Vogt explained he has the meter at the Utility shop and once the resolution is approved Kazalski will be able to tie into the City's grid. This discussion and approval of policy and guidelines and approval of buyback rate determination will be discussed further at the May Council meeting.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and Resolution No 22-07 to approve Change Order #1 for foundation rock, cleanout repair and culvert work, authorizing Mayor's signature. Justin Stark of Olsson present to explain. Van Kirk Bros. did the work for these items. Council Member Wesley Halvorsen moved to adopt Resolution No. 22-07, Laramie Werner seconded.

Roll call: Yeas: Orv Gigstad, Jerry Werner, Wesley Halvorsen, Laramie Werner. Nays: none.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and approval of Pay Certificate No. 4 to Van Kirk for services a Gravity Sewer Extension project. This item is the exclusion from the claims approval earlier in the meeting. Stark explained this is for some of the work explained in Resolution No. 22-07; this will end up being a cost savings. Council Member Jerry Werner moved to approve the Pay Certificate, Orv Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Wesley Halvorsen, Laramie Werner, Orv Gigstad, Jerry Werner. Nays: none.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and Resolution No. 22-08 for approval to release Syracuse Country Club easements, authorizing Mayor's signature. Jerry Stilmock explained this is the release of an easement and a new easement will be put in place. Council Member Orv Gigstad moved to adopt Resolution No. 22-08, Wesley Halvorsen seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Laramie Werner, Orv Gigstad, Wesley Halvorsen, Jerry Werner. Nays: none.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion on dirt work behind 1341 Walnut Street. Jason Brandt, and parents Jan and Jon Brandt present. Jason explained they have concerns regarding flooding at their house due to the recent gravity sewer project. Previous heavy rains have caused storm sewer backups that flow over to this property and cause flooding. He is concerned the berm created to cover the pipe for the project will create even more flooding issues and the pipe may potentially become clogged. Their property naturally is a low point in the area so they receive the brunt of the run-off normally. His suggestion would be to drop the line five feet and push the water out 9th Street instead of 11th Street. Justin Stark met with Jason at the site earlier that day to see their concerns. Stark explained the project was designed to minimize issues as much as possible; there were multiple options researched and the 11st Street option was the best option in the opinion of the engineers and City. He mentioned the risk for a pipe plugging is always there but with regular maintenance this should be prevented. Mayor Dettmer told the Brandt's they would continue to look at options. Stilmock encouraged the Brandt's to watch the agendas for upcoming meetings.

OLD BUSINESS – Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and update on Walnut Street Bridge. Jerry Stilmock explained in 2008 an agreement between the City and County where the County's responsibility was to maintain the bridge and the City was responsible for paving a portion to the south of the bridge. Recent discussions with the County have been had to move forward with possible engineering in order to acknowledge what is needed for bridge repairs and maintenance; the existing agreement was not brought forward at that time. Stilmock brought forward the issue to see if the Council would like to move forward with the existing agreement or work more with the County on resolving questions pertaining to the bridge. Stilmock noted the importance of the bridge for access to City facilities. Repairs have been done to the bridge but it is an ongoing issue that will need to be regularly maintained. Jessica Meyer has spoken with Jon Brinkman for possible options and proposals between the City and County to split surveying, design, material. The Council would like Stilmock to continue working on a proposed agreement and utilizing one of the possible options brought forward by the County. Justin Stark assisted with this discussion. At this time the only cost the City knows is the engineering cost. Direction was given to Stilmock to go with box culvert and 50/50; the discussion was tabled until a future City Council meeting.

NEW BUSINESS – Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and Resolution No. 22-09 for approval of Five Nines Partnership Renewal with City of Syracuse, authorizing Mayor's signature. Council Member Jerry Werner moved to adopt Resolution No. 22-09, Wesley Halvorsen seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Orv Gigstad, Laramie Werner, Wesley Halvorsen, Jerry Werner. Nays: none.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and consideration to adopt Resolution No. 22-10 authorizing Mayor to sign the Amended and Restated Pole Attachment Agreement between City of Syracuse and Zito Media, authorizing Mayor's signature. Stilmock explained there were some items mis-typed in the previous agreement; this does not change the time period of the agreement. Council Member Orv Gigstad moved to adopt Resolution No. 22-10, Wesley Halvorsen seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Laramie Werner, Wesley Halvorsen, Jerry Werner, Orv Gigstad. Nays: none.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and approval of electrician and plumber license applications; a list has been provided and is attached to these minutes. Council Member Wesley Halvorsen moved to approve the applications for plumbers and electricians, Laramie Werner seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Orv Gigstad, Jerry Werner, Laramie Werner, Wesley


Halvorsen. Nays: none.


Council Member Jerry Werner moved to go into Closed Session at 7: 28 P.M. for the purpose of update and action items for Water Improvement Project, Wesley Halvorsen seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Orv Gigstad, Wesley Halvorsen, Jerry Werner, Laramie Werner. Nays: none. Invited to stay for Closed Session were City Administrator Jessica Meyer, City Clerk Kelly Farmer, and City Attorney Jerry Stilmock.

Council Member Laramie Werner moved to adjourn Closed Session at 7:41 P.M., Wesley Halvorsen seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Orv Gigstad, Jerry Werner, Wesley Halvorsen, Laramie Werner. Nays: none.

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

