

REGULAR MEETING
CITY COUNCIL

June 15, 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 June 15, 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 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 May 23, 2022 Special meeting as well as the May 23, 2022 Joint Council and Rural Fire District 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. The financial report for May was distributed prior to the meeting. Blome included a couple extra reports. These include detail on the May checks for bigger ticket items, a balance sheet for the SRF loan draws and reimbursements, and also capital outlay purchases for the Electric, Water, Sewer and General departments. The largest expenditures are for the water and then sewer. These come from the Water Improvement Project and the Gravity Sewer Extension Project. Blome reported all accounts and bonds have been reconciled and tied out through May 31st and is on a modified cash basis. At year end, Blome will work with the auditor to reclassify the SRF detail. Blome spoke about the audit process for the upcoming year. He has reached out to Julie Baumann to discuss deadlines and if she would like to do the City's audit again next year. Council Member Wesley Halvorsen moved to approve the Treasurer's Report and to pay the claims, Jerry Werner seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Orv Gigstad, Laramie Werner, Jerry Werner, Wesley Halvorsen Nays: none.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and authorization for Mayor to sign Engagement Letter from BMG CPAs for 2022-2023 Budget services. Council Member Jerry Werner moved to approve the Engagement Letter for the upcoming budget year, Orv Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Wesley Halvorsen, Orv Gigstad, Laramie Werner, Jerry Werner. Nays: none.

14U SOFTBALL - 136.44, ABC TERMITE & PEST CONTROL, INC. - 875.00, ADKINS SIGNS - 54.00, AKRS - 292.55, ALL ROADS BARRICADE, INC - 1658.26, ALYSSA RHOADES - 40.00, AQUA-CHEM, INC. - 228.52, B & B PUMP-N-GO, INC. - 2996.56, BEACON ATHLETICS - 1692.12, BEETHE CARPENTRY - 252.00, BEN LESEBERG - 325.00, BETTER BEEF PRODUCERS - 193.19, BLUE RIVERS AREA AGENCY ON AGING - 1300.00, BMG CPA'S - 2750.00, BORDER STATES INDUSTRIES, INC. - 87.67, BRANDT, HORAN, HALLSTROM & STILMOCK - 4181.50, BRUCE NEEMANN - 42.24, CANON FINANCIAL - 281.98, CAPITAL BUSINESS SYSTEMS, INC. - 203.03, 12.63, 46.07, CHAMBER OF COMMERCE - 100.00, CHERRY ROAD MEDIA - 21.08, 166.25, CHRIS ARMKNECHT - 725.00, CLEANING AUTHORITY - 306.72, 349.32, CONCRETE INDUSTRIES - 528.88, CONNIE KERSHNER - 100.00, CONTINENTAL FIRE SPRINKLER CO. - 125.00, 125.00, CORE-MARK MIDCONTINENT, INC. - 1668.13, CULLIGAN WATER - 44.00, DANA ANDERSON - 1050.00, DAVID DEMELLO - 35.00, DTS TECHNOLOGY - 10.94, DUTTON LAINSON CO. - 338.88, ELECTRONIC CONTRACTING COMPANY - 195.00, ERIN BETH DESIGNS - 1381.00, FIVE NINES TECHNOLOGY GROUP - 2726.25, INGRAM LIBRARY SERVICES - 480.11, JULIE SLAFTER - 31.59, KANDICE DANNER - 210.00, KANEQUIP, INC. - 114.66, KAYTLIN DANNER - 140.00, LAMSON, DUGAN & MURRAY - 210.50, LARRY GRUNDMAN - 100.00, MACQUEEN EQUIPMENT - 436.37, MARTIN MARIETTA AGGREGATES - 647.49, 885.49, MICRO MARKETING ASSOC. - 19.83, MID-AMERICAN BENEFITS, INC. - 124.00, MIDWEST ALARM SERVICES - 74.16, MIDWEST LABORATORIES, INC. - 118.65, MIKE'S WINDOW SERVICE, LLC - 126.74, MUNICIPAL SUPPLY OF OMAHA - 2620.22, MURPHY TRACTOR & EQUIPMENT CO. - 281.61, Mc2 INC. - 571.67, NE STATE FIRE MARSHAL AGENCY - 61.00, NEBRASKA CITY UTILITIES - 884.35, 96.10, 81.96, NEBRASKA PUBLIC HEALTH ENVIRONMENTAL LAB - 48.00, NEBRASKA STATEWIDE ARBORETUM - 862.00, NMC EXCHANGE LLC - 2029.19, NORTH BRANCH RANCHEROS 4H CLUB - 70.13, OLSSON ASSOCIATES - 1700.00, 4239.78, 1158.75, 2791.93, ONE CALL CONCEPTS, INC. - 59.42, OPPD - 123384.69, OTOE COUNTY - 16250.00, PEPSI COLA OF LINCOLN - 3831.38, PRECEPTOR TAU - 621.00, QUICK MED CLAIMS - 1895.40, RHAЕ WERNER - 79.18, RICK WILEN - 70.00, RON'S AUTO & TIRE REPAIR - 213.94, RTR DEVELOPMENT - 12777.11, SAM PESTER - 200.00, SDA CHEERLEADERS - 725.10, SDA STARLETTES DANCE TEAM - 1310.93, SHYANNE FREDERICK - 70.00, SIMPLE SOLUTIONS COMPUTER GROUP, INC. - 55.60, JH SPORHASE LLC - 45.50, SYDNEY PARSONS - 70.00, CITY OF SYRACUSE - 2001.96, 320.54, SYRACUSE DO IT BEST - 868.83, SYRACUSE MARKET LLC - 1294.19, SYRACUSE MOTOR SUPPLY - 413.78, SYRACUSE TOW & TIRE LLC - 281.30, SYRACUSE VOL. FIRE DEPT. - 2629.87, THE BRONZE HORSE, LLC - 3250.00, THIELE GEOTECH, INC. - 1997.50, TRAFFIC SAFETY STORE - 1580.99, U.S. POST OFFICE - 130.00, ULINE - 1759.32, UNITE PRIVATE NETWORKS - 2319.94, VERIZON WIRELESS - 648.00, 185.14, WESCO RECEIVABLES CORP. - 1324.11, WESTERN AREA POWER ADMINISTRATION - 1657.78.

FIRE REPORT- Interim Chief Keith McWilliams present. Mayor Dettmer led the discussion, consideration and award of fire truck bid for the SVFD explained. Todd Blome was invited to stay for the discussion. McWilliams presented the SVFD Truck Committee's consideration for the City Council to move forward with the Pierce truck. Representatives from Pierce and Toyne present. A proposal to move forward with the Pierce truck was also

distributed by the Rural Fire District. Council Member Jerry Werner explained he has a hard time justifying the approximately additional \$100K the Pierce truck costs. McWilliams explained the Pierce truck has the ability to speak with the vendor with its navigation system and software. The Pierce representative spoke of this software as well as other features; the Toyne representative spoke about their truck having more compartment space and compatible software. The Toyne truck does not have the seat moving configuration. Jerry Stilmock reminded the public to direct their comments to Mayor Dettmer. The new truck will be used as the first response vehicle. As discussed at the May joint meeting with the Council and Rural Fire District, the other pumper would need to be put out for bids where the Fire District could bid on it. Stilmock explained his role is to advise the Council and Mayor and the legalities and risks of not taking the low bid and to ask a series of questions in order to give justification to the Council. Stilmock explained it is the City of Syracuse accepting the bid. His third comment is the information regarding the City of Omaha and their current contract signing with Pierce. Omaha participated in a bidding and specification package; they did not engage in custom built vehicles as the City of Syracuse has. Any entity could participate in this program as Omaha did. Mayor Dettmer read a timeline she put together along with comments. Dettmer spoke about discrepancies of compartment size and gave her recommendation the City would establish irreparable harm to the City of Syracuse if they did not go with the low bid of Toyne. She thanked the truck committee and all their work they put toward the matrix. Council Member Wesley Halvorsen commented fundraising may be a solution. Council Member Laramie Werner commented she wants to be a good steward of the City and feels if the City Council did not go with the SVFD and Rural Fire District recommendations it would be a disrespect to the men who spent their time on this. She included fundraising could be an option and asked if the rural board would need to follow bidding procedures as well. Stilmock said yes they would need to be required to follow the same procedures. Council Member Jerry Werner commented on the bond information provided by Piper Sandler and the time line of the payment schedule; Piper Sandler not present. Werner suggested possibly putting money into savings to help build up a fund. Blome explained the amortization schedule and how the Rural's contribution could help if substantial enough. Stilmock explained the same issue of legality is going to be apparent if the City Council decides to award a bid or defer. As of June 24, 2022 the Toyne bid is no longer valid; the Pierce bid is good until February 1, 2023. Council Member Laramie Werner moved to motion to defer SVFD request and wait on Rural Board contribution. Wesley Halvorsen seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Orv Gigstad, Wesley Halvorsen, Laramie Werner. Nays: Jerry Werner, motion passed 3 to 1. Due to the motion, Items B & C under the Fire Report are not needed at this time.

RESCUE REPORT – Chief Tim Wilson present. Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and approval of monthly pay increases for SRS Officers. Wilson explained at their recent meeting the Rescue Squad officers discussed increasing the monthly pay stipends for the current officers, appointed Steward and appointed Assistant Steward. The increases were not budgeted; Wilson did not see the discussion coming. Council Member Laramie Werner moved to approve the stipend increases effective June 2022, Wesley Halvorsen seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Orv Gigstad, Jerry Werner, Wesley Halvorsen, Laramie Werner. Nays: none.

HEARING OF THOSE PRESENT – Jim Grotrian introduced himself and explain he is running as a candidate for the Southeast Nebraska OPPD District Board. He wanted to thank Syracuse and the strong support the community gave him in the primary election. Wendy Werner of the Syracuse Chamber of Commerce present to give details on 2022 Germanfest. The event is scheduled for August 27th with co-chairs being Nikki Wenzel and Taylor Dettmer.

SHERIFF REPORT – Sheriff Caudill present. Caudill reported details from the May Incident Report distributed prior to the meeting. There were 43 calls generating incident reports. Calls detailed included an injury crash involving a semi and a frontend loader, a missing persons report, a death investigation and executed a search warrant in town recovering stolen property. This resulted in three arrests. Caudill explained the department now has a Criminal Analyst and are currently down two deputies. The department does have an applicant coming on a couple of weeks; this person will be the first female deputy in the department since the 80's. The department is budgeting to hire another deputy next year.

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

PARKS & REC REPORT – Director Jill Crook present. Mayor Dettmer led the discussion on frisbee golf course at Williams Park; Nathaniel Cordray present. Cordray is working toward his Eagle Scout for Boy Scouts and he would like to construct the course for this project. Cordray had presented the idea originally last year but was instructed to get

permission from the Syracuse School Board; they are on board with the project. Cordray explained the Library Foundation will help with financing and he is speaking with Syracuse Lumber for lumber and Zeb Kreifels for concrete work. Cordray does require approval by the Boy Scout Council and would like to have the project complete by mid-July. Council Member Jerry Werner moved to approve the project, Orv Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Wesley Halvorsen, Orv Gigstad, Jerry Werner, Laramie Werner. Nays: none.

Mayor Dettmer led discussion and Resolution No. 22-17 to approve Interlocal Agreement between the City of Syracuse and Syracuse-Dunbar-Avooca Public School District regarding the division of survey services to be performed by JEO Consulting Group, authorizing Mayor's signature. Council Member Jerry Werner moved to adopt the agreement with the school, Orv Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Wesley Halvorsen, Orv Gigstad, Jerry Werner, Laramie Werner.

PUBLIC WORKS – Superintendent Jeff Vogt not present. Mayor Dettmer led the discussion on community solar options; Dave Peterson of JEO present. Peterson explained he has been working with Jeff Vogt and Billing Clerk Nicole Vonderschmidt on the rate study. He had been notified of customers inquiring on solar panels for the private residences and thought the City may like to hear how some communities are providing community solar options where customers can buy into. Norfolk has 40 acres they are utilizing for a community solar field. Each customer is limited to 1200 kw per month and there are currently approximately 250 customers signed up; there is a waiting list currently. If you move to another house within the community you can take the service with you. A tax incentive is available as well for cities; the upfront cost typically needs to be bonded. A community solar option would save the City the transmission cost you find with private users and is low maintenance. The community option saves roughly 10% of the demand; the total cost to the City greatly goes down. This is a good option for homes that are structurally not able to handle it.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion on the request to redirect water on the west side of the property at 1085 Walnut Street; property owner Chuck Sieck present along with his wife. Sieck explained he has a water runoff issue at his property due to what he believes has been caused by the Gravity Sewer Extension Project. Sieck went through a timeline of significant recent rains; a video had been provided by he and his wife previously to show the flow of the water and standing water. A statement had been made back to Sieck that the City does not feel the water is caused by the project and that the City would entertain further discussion upon a surveyor's or engineer's opinion if Sieck pursued. Sieck reached out to Surveyor Jorgenson who was present at the meeting. His general thoughts are that the water coming south on Walnut has historically made the corner onto 11th and flowed across the Sieck property at a low rate. To him it seems there has been a created area where the water concentrates and flows at a higher rate over the Sieck property. Jorgenson recommends raising the south side of gravel driveway to push water back to the north side, over to the new culvert and away. He doesn't feel this would be a costly fix. Stilmock thanked the people for attending and speaking and to allow for Justin Stark for follow up as needed.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and update on 11th Street low water crossing; Justin Stark of Olsson present to explain. Stark presented results of the hydraulic analysis and options to correct. To replace what's there will be roughly \$75K to \$150K. To raise the street would require a larger box culvert but to keep the street level the same would require two arch culverts. Riprap being placed would help slow velocity. Stark suggested splitting the costs up between two budgets with design being in one year and then construction carrying over to the next budget year. The Mayor and Council gave Stark direction to scope the project with the two arch culvert plan.

OLD BUSINESS – Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and Resolution No. 22-18 to approve Interlocal Agreement between the City of Syracuse and Otoe County regarding the Walnut Street Bridge, authorizing Mayor's signature. Jerry Stilmock explained the proposal is to give direction to the engineer to move forward with studies to see what the options are. Council Member Jerry Werner moved to adopt the agreement, Laramie Werner seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Orv Gigstad, Wesley Halvorsen, Jerry Werner, Laramie Werner. Nays: none.

NEW BUSINESS – Mayor Dettmer led the discussion on Resolution No. 22-19 for no parking at corner of 17th and Cherl Drive and on Plum Street from 9th to 11th Streets. City Administrator Jessica Meyer explained the issues of having parking allowed on the curve off of 17th Street has posed problems for drivers by narrowing the driving area and causing visibility issues; this was brought up at the May Council meeting. The other item is on Plum Street where parking on both sides of the street is causing congestion therefore the City is proposing to allow parking on the east side only from 9th to 11th Streets; this is where the houses are, Williams Park is on the west side. Council member Orv Gigstad moved to adopt

Resolution No. 22-19, Laramie Werner seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Orv Gigstad, Jerry Werner, Wesley Halvorsen, Laramie Werner. Nays: none.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and action on Ordinance No. 1125 to provide regulations on the use and sale of fireworks. Jerry Stilmock explained currently the only thing the Sheriff can enforce is disturbing the peace. The proposed ordinance is to put in place set dates and hours when fireworks will be allowed to be set off. The ordinance will read fireworks shall not be set off on the dates of June 24th thru July 5th for the times of 12:01 A.M. until 10:00 A.M. Council Member Laramie Werner introduced Ordinance 1125 and moved the statutory rule requiring reading on three different days be suspended, Orv Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Orv Gigstad, Wesley Halvorsen, Jerry Werner, Laramie Werner. Nays: none. Stilmock read Ordinance No. 1125 by title. Jerry Werner moved for final passage of ordinance, Orv Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Laramie Werner, Orv Gigstad, Jerry Werner, Wesley Halvorsen. Nays: none.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion on City's commitment to match \$1300.00 annual contribution for 21-22 Budget Year. Council Member Laramie Werner moved to approve the contribution, Wesley Halvorsen seconded. Roll call: Yeas: Jerry Werner, Orv Gigstad, Wesley Halvorsen, Laramie Werner. Nays: none.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion on SDL request for 2022 Otoe County Fair beer garden for the dates and times of 12:00 P.M. Thursday July 28th to 1:00 A.M. Monday August 1st, 2022; Otoe County Ag Society not present. Council Member Jerry Werner moved to approve the SDL request, Wesley Halvorsen seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Laramie Werner, Wesley Halvorsen, Jerry Werner, Orv Gigstad. Nays: none.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion on street closure request for 2022 Otoe County Fair Parade Saturday July 30th at 1:00 P.M. to include 5th Street and side streets from Plum to Mohawk; Otoe County Ag Society not present. Council Member Laramie Werner moved to approve the street closure, Wesley Halvorsen seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Orv Gigstad, Jerry Werner, Laramie Werner, Wesley Halvorsen. Nays: none.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion on street closure request for youth wrestling even on Saturday August 6th, 2022 from 4:00 P.M. to 12:00 A.M. to include 5th Street from Midland to Mohawk; Zach Woods present. Woods explained the event will include is a fundraiser for the Syracuse Mat Club for a wrestling dual between Syracuse and Wahoo Newmann and will include one mat. Council Member Orv Gigstad approved the street closure, Wesley Halvorsen seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Laramie Werner, Orv Gigstad, Jerry Werner, Wesley Halvorsen. Nays: none. Travis Walters is meeting with Jay Weiler to have a Certificate of Liability provided to the City.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion on SDL request for The Beer Stein for youth wrestling event on Saturday August 6th, 2022 from 4:00 P.M. to 11:00 P.M. to be held on 5th Street from Midland to Mohawk; Zach Woods present. Concern was voiced regarding having a beer garden and alcohol being in the same area as where the kids event is being held. Council Member Laramie Werner moved to approve the SDL request, Orv Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Wesley Halvorsen, Laramie Werner, Orv Gigstad. Nays: Jerry Werner.

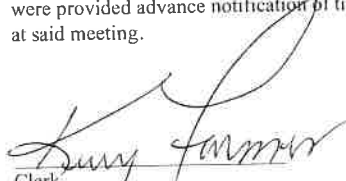
Council Member Laramie Werner moved to go into Closed Session at 8:32 P.M. for the purpose of update and action items for Water Improvement Project as well as update and action items on Aqua Center Bathhouse, Wesley Halvorsen seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Orv Gigstad, Laramie Werner, Jerry Werner, Wesley Halvorsen. Nays: none. Invited to stay for Closed Session were City Administrator Jessica Meyer, City Clerk Kelly Farmer, and City Attorney Jerry Stilmock.

Council Member Jerry Werner moved to adjourn Closed Session at 8:43 P.M., Wesley Halvorsen seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Laramie Werner, Jerry Werner, Wesley Halvorsen, Orv Gigstad. Nays: none.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and Resolution No. 22-20 to approve Change Order #2 for extension of substantial completion date for Water Improvement Project, authorizing Mayor's signature. No action on the change order besides modifying the two dates to July 1, 2023 for substantial completion and August 1, 2023 for ready for final payment. Council Member Laramie Werner moved to approve the change order date modifications, Orv Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Jerry Werner, Wesley Halvorsen, Orv Gigstad, Laramie Werner. Nays: none.

Council Member Wesley Halvorsen moved to adjourn at 8:46 P.M., Laramie Werner seconded. Roll call: Yeas: Wesley Halvorsen, Orv Gigstad, Jerry Werner, 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

