REGULAR MEETING

CITY COUNCIL

November 8, 2023

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Syracuse, Nebraska met at Syracuse City Hall Council Chambers at 495 Midland Street at 6:00 P.M. on November 8, 2023 for a regular meeting. The meeting was open to the public and notice of meeting was given by posting in five places: Syracuse City Hall lobby, First Bank of Nebraska lobby, Countryside Bank, U.S. Post Office lobby and Syracuse Market window. Proof of publication in Syracuse Journal Democrat was shown. Mayor Dettmer was present and requested roll call; present were Council members Wesley Halvorsen, Orv Gigstad, Jerry Werner, and Nate Patton. A copy of the publication notice and acknowledgement of notice to the Council is attached to these minutes. Dettmer noted the Open Meetings Act was posted. Availability of the agenda was communicated in advance notice. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the meeting was open to the public. Minutes for the October 11, 2023 meetings were approved as written.

Mayor Dettmer led the approval of claims and Treasurers Report; Todd Blome of BMG not present. Mayor Dettmer read Blome’s comments regarding activity for the month of October 2023; no further discussion was had. Council Member Wesley Halvorsen moved to approve the Treasurers Reports and to pay the claims, Orv Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Nate Patton, Jerry Werner, Orv Gigstad, Wesley Halvorsen. Nays: none.

ABC TERMITE & PEST CONTROL, INC. - 510.00, ALTEC INDUSTRIES, INC. - 1067.14, AMERICAN

WATER WORKS ASSOCIATION - 358.00, BARNES & NOBLE, INC. - 127.84, BLUE VALLEY PUBLIC

SAFETY, INC. - 3855.00, BOB STANBERRY - 5696.81, BRANDT, HORAN, HALLSTROM & STILMOCK

- 2518.00, BROWN GLASS CO., INC. - 918.32, CANON FINANCIAL - 101.06, CAPITAL BUSINESS

SYSTEMS, INC. - 92.06, CAPITAL BUSINESS SYSTEMS, INC. - 121.58, 20.32, 121.58, CITY OF

SYRACUSE - 1996.04, CLEANING AUTHORITY - 306.72, 349.32, COLUMN SOFTWARE PBC - 74.58,

CONCRETE INDUSTRIES - 572.95, CREATIVE SITES - 688.00, CUBBY'S INC. - 2580.35, CULLIGAN

WATER - 85.79, DEMCO, INC. - 263.27, DTS TECHNOLOGY - 10.64, DUTEAU CHEVROLET - 101.10,

EASTER & ASSOCIATES - 1000.00, ECHO GROUP INC. - 2774.95, ERIN BETH DESIGNS - 887.00,

FIVE NINES TECHNOLOGY GROUP - 3068.30, GLOBAL RENTAL - 6794.70, GOTTULA PROPANE

SERVICE, INC. - 2265.21, HILLMAN DIESEL & REPAIR - 492.50, INVOICE CLOUD INC - 466.15, JEO

CONSULTING GROUP, INC. - 13917.50, KANSAS TURNPIKE AUTHORITY - 29.25, LEAGUE

ASSOCIATION OF RISK MANAGEMENT - 976.93, MACHEL TICHACEK-BROWER - 70.00, MAINELLI

MECHANICAL CONTRACTORS, INC. - 1951.18, MATHESON TRI-GAS, INC - 415.70, MELISSA JUILFS

- 92.00, 127.07, MELISSA NANNEN - 35.00, MID-AMERICAN BENEFITS, INC. - 112.00, 24.00,

MIDWEST LABORATORIES, INC. - 46.92, MIDWEST SOUND & LIGHTING, INC. - 382.50, MUNICIPAL

SUPPLY OF OMAHA - 6833.01, NEBRASKA PUBLIC HEALTH ENVIRONMENTAL LAB - 482.00,

NEBRASKA RURAL WATER ASSOC. - 400.00, NEXT-GEN CLEANING - 400.00, NZ CONSTRUCTION -

200.00, OLSSON ASSOCIATES - 5248.65, 2232.26, 3035.90, ONE CALL CONCEPTS, INC. - 36.60,

OTOE COUNTY CLERK - 235.85, PORT-A-JOHNS - 440.00, SANDRY FIRE SUPPLY, INC. - 780.00,

STOCK SEED FARMS, INC. - 1200.00, SUGARLOAF AMBUL. RESCUE VEHICLES, LLC - 844.06,

SYRACUSE JOURNAL-DEMOCRAT - 59.00, SYRACUSE LUMBER CO. - 70.69, SYRACUSE MARKET

LLC - 64.36, SYRACUSE MOTOR SUPPLY - 127.62, THE NEBRASKA MED CENTER - 1339.03,

TRAVIS DAY - 200.00, UNITE PRIVATE NETWORKS - 2332.78, VAN KIRK BROTHERS

CONSTRUCTION - 269107.67, VAN KIRK SAND & GRAVEL - 2500.00, VERIZON WIRELESS - 779.37,

VIKING INDUSTRIAL PAINTING - 26439.00, WINDSTREAM - 107.92, YONG CONSTRUCTION -

39672.95, Combined Salaries – 56868.84

 HEARING OF THOSE PRESENT – No one present.

LIBRARY REPORT – Director Melissa Juilfs present. Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and approval for reallocation of ARPA Funds for use at Library for technology programs. City Administrator Jessica Meyer explained there are $6895.98 of unallocated ARPA funds and there is interest earned in the amount of $4471.69. The thought was that these Library technology needs could be funded with ARPA funds. Juilfs discussed a software from Capital Business Solutions to allow printing at the Library with a mobile device. All libraries have this capability, Syracuse does not. The door software needs to be updated through Johnson Hardware. The system has not been used to its capacity and never has been. Juilfs is not able to duplicate key cards for meeting room reservations or just as a backup. The software also tracks when people using a code to enter, such as staff. This software requires use of an android device so Juilfs will need to purchase a tablet. Council Member Jerry Werner moved to approve the use of unallocated ARPA funds towards the amount of $8725.00, Nate Patton seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Wesley Halvorsen, Orv Gigstad, Nate Patton, Jerry Werner. Nays: none.

PARKS & REC REPORT – Director Sonni Graves present. Graves reported green lights have been placed in the lanterns at Williams Park to represent Veteran’s Day, pumpkin bags are out for pumpkin disposal, lots of end of season work being done at Park Hill Cemetery and to prepare for Veteran’s Day, and Graves has met with Bob Brandt to discuss planting trees around the City; this will help replace trees that have needed to be removed.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and Resolution No. 23-42 to approve Civic Plus Statement of Work for CivicRec Program Management, authorizing Mayor’s signature. Graves explained the program allows for the public to utilize the scheduling system for any rec or parks programs going on with the City; this includes lights, field schedules. Open

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communication between the Parks and Rec Department, parents, coaches, team rosters, swimming pool staff and customers. Reports can be printed for monthly financial reconciliation as well. There will be admin access, coaches separate access and a link for parents to access a portal. Jessica Meyer explained since we currently use Civic Plus/Municode for the City’s online code book the City received a break in pricing for the program. The reduced price is $8963.00. Funds from Parks and Rec Programs will be used to fund. Council Member Orv Gigstad moved to adopt Resolution No. 23-42 for the CivicRec Program, Nate Patton seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Wesley Halvorsen, Jerry Werner, Orv Gigstad, Nate Patton. Nays: none.

PUBLIC WORKS – Superintendent Jeff Vogt present. Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and Resolution No. 23-43 to approve signing of the Year End Certification of Street Superintendent for Determining Incentive Payment (January 1 thru December 31) for 2023, for the Nebraska Department of Transportation, authorizing Mayor’s signature. Justin Stark explained this is an annual approval for these services. Council Member Wesley Halvorsen moved to adopt Resolution No. 23-43, Nate Patton seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Orv Gigstad, Nate Patton, Jerry Werner, Wesley Halvorsen. Nays: none

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and approval of bid for backhoe purchase. Bids were received from CAT and John Deere and do include three attachments for the machine. Vogt budgeted $164,000.00 between his four budgets. The current backhoe will be used as trade in toward the purchase. The low bid was from John Deere at $159,371.57. Discussion was had on the status of the bucket truck rental as it is also on the agenda. Vogt has done a lot of research and unfortunately used trucks are not available anywhere. If a new one was purchased Vogt was told it would be four years to receive it. At this point Vogt is looking at fixing the current City bucket truck and look at saving up for a new one possibly making a decision on ordering a new one later in the budget year. Council Member Nate Patton moved to approve the bid from John Deere, Jerry Werner seconded. Roll call: Yeas: Wesley Halvorsen, Orv Gigstad, Jerry Werner, Nate Patton. Nays: none.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion on approval of bid for Wastewater Treatment Plant replacements/upgrades. Vogt explained this is for the automatic transfer switch and disconnect upgraded. Option 1 is for an open transition which isn’t good for the blower, Option 2 is for a delayed transition which has been recommended for bigger motors. Council Member Jerry Werner moved to approve Option 2 at $23,185.00, Wesley Halvorsen seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Nate Patton, Orv Gigstad, Jerry Werner, Wesley Halvorsen. Nays: none.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and update of Altec AA-55 utility bucket truck rental and approval to proceed with repairs to existing bucket truck as explained during the backhoe discussion. Council Member Wesley Halvorsen moved to approve repairs to the current City bucket truck up to $30,000.00 and to continue the rental of the current rental for use during Holiday decorating, Orv Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Jerry Werner, Nate Patton, Wesley Halvorsen, Orv Gigstad. Nays: none.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and Resolution No. 23-44 to advertise for cash rent bids for 2024, 2025, & 2026 crop years for the Southeast Quarter 33-7-11 Otoe County Nebraska, authorizing Mayor’s signature. The acres currently on the agreement may need to be updated. The deadline for bids will be December 4th at 4:00 P.M. due to City Hall; the bids must be sealed. Council Member Nate Patton moved to adopt Resolution No. 23-44, Jerry Werner seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Wesley Halvorsen, Orv Gigstad, Nate Patton, Jerry Werner. Nays: none.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and Resolution No. 23-45 to approve Change Order No. 9 for 2020 Water Supply Improvement Project, authorizing Mayor’s signature; JEO not present. Meyer explained some materials were not needed to be used on the project, work on the chem feed building is going to be done. Council Member Jerry Werner moved to adopt Resolution No. 23-45 to approve the change order, Nate Patton. Roll Call: Yeas: Wesley Halvorsen, Nate Patton, Orv Gigstad, Jerry Werner. Nays: none.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and Resolution No. 23-46 to approve Master Agreement Work Order No. 7 for 7th Street Bridge Inspection, authorizing Mayor’s signature. Justin Stark explained this stems from the need for bridge inspections to be done on a rotating basis. The last inspection on the 7th Street bridge was performed in 2018. Council Member Wesley Halvorsen moved to adopt Resolution No. 23-46 for the work order, Orv Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Jerry Werner, Wesley Halvorsen, Nate Patton, Orv Gigstad. Nays: none.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion on updates to downtown infrastructure and approval to proceed with planning and bonding process. Jessica Meyer and Justin Stark explained they

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have met to discuss how Highway Allocation funds are used and what they can be used for since the previous Highway Allocation Bond was paid off in the fall. This would include infrastructure, sidewalks, curbs, streets in the downtown area. Very preliminary cost estimates put together were about $3 Million dollars. Other discussion included recognizing the magnitude of the project and the timeline. Council Member Nate Patton moved to proceed planning and bonding process for downtown infrastructure updates. Stark estimates he will be back with more information after the first of the year. Council Member Nate Patton moved to approve the permission to proceed, Orv Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Jerry Werner, Wesley Halvorsen, Orv Gigstad, Nate Patton. Nays: none.

OLD BUSINESS – Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and Resolution No. 23-47 to approve fee for use of shipping container application per Ordinance No. 1145, authorizing Mayor’s signature. Council Member Orv Gigstad moved to approve the application fee of $75.00 in Resolution No. 23-47, Nate Patton seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Wesley Halvorsen, Nate Patton, Jerry Werner, Orv Gigstad. Nays: none.

NEW BUSINESS – Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and approval of employee health insurance renewal. Jessica Meyer explained the increase of 6 to 8% and that company has been good to work with. Council Member Wesley Halvorsen moved to approve the health insurance renewal, Jerry Werner seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Orv Gigstad, Nate Patton, Wesley Halvorsen, Jerry Werner. Nays: none.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and approval of bid for City Hall window replacements. The windows are not efficient and water has been leaking through. A bid weas received from Brown’s Glass out of Nebraska City for the amount of $15,642.00. The replaced windows would be the 4 large windows on the north side of City Hall and the two block rectangle windows on the east side close to the front door. Council Member Nate Patton moved to approve the window replacement bid, Orv Gigstad seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Orv Gigstad, Jerry Werner, Wesley Halvorsen, Nate Patton. Nays: none.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and Resolution No. 23-48 to approve Unite ROW request, authorizing Mayor’s signature. Council Member Nate Patton moved to adopt Resolution No. 23-48, Wesley Halvorsen seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Orv Gigstad, Jerry Werner, Wesley Halvorsen, Nate Patton. Nays: none.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and approval of Syracuse Owner Occupied Rehab Housing Program Applications for Projects: 002, 003, 006, 008, 009, 012, 013, 014, 017, 019; Ryan Bauman of SENDD present to explain. Council Member Wesley Halvorsen moved to approve the project applications, Orv Gigstad seconded. Roll call: Yeas: Nate Patton, Jerry Werner, Orv Gigstad, Wesley Halvorsen. Nays: none.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and request for street closure of 5th Street from Plum to Mohawk Streets on Tuesday December 5th, 2023 from 3:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M. for Tannenbaum to include the side streets of Thorne and Midland north to 6th. The street closures are the same as years past. Council Member Nate Patton moved to approve the street closures, Jerry Werner seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Wesley Halvorsen, Orv Gigstad, Jerry Werner, Nate Patton. Nays: none.

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

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Clerk Mayor