

REGULAR MEETING  
CITY COUNCIL

April 10, 2024

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 May 15, 2024 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, Jerry Werner, and Nate Patton; Orv Gigstad was absent. Mayor Deb Dettmer read the following: We will work collaboratively to achieve consensus while valuing differences of opinion both within our Council and when considering the input of others. We will gather the necessary data; seek expertise from city staff; provide questions to staff prior to meetings and hear from citizens to make wise decisions that achieve the greatest good for the greatest number of citizens. We will each individually support the collective decisions of Council. 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 April 10, 2024 meeting were approved as written.

Mayor Dettmer led the approval of claims and Treasurers Report; Todd Blome of BMG present. The April Treasurer's Report has been distributed. Todd Blome presented a list of claims over \$3000.00 as well the monthly report showing seven months into the fiscal year. Blome noted all activity is recorded and reconciled as of April 30<sup>th</sup>. Comparing April 2024 to April 2023, there is minimal expense for the water capital outlay due to the Water Improvement Project, building expenses are up due to some new windows at City Hall, park expenses up due to sprinkler work by Judsons and also a lot of street expenses from the low water crossing construction work. Receipts exceeded disbursements by about \$7000.00 in April. Next Blome discussed year to date numbers. Sales tax collections are up by about 10%, ambulance income is up quite a bit, electric capital outlay expense is up due to purchases of a bucket truck and backhoe, water expenses are down due to less payouts for the water improvement project as well as sewer expenses. There has been a \$400,000.00 increase in street expenses year to date as mentioned earlier. Blome encouraged the City Council to be diligent about the City's billing rates and those rates are adequate ahead of time and to not get behind. Council Member Nate Patton moved to approve the Treasurers Reports and to pay the claims, Wesley Halvorsen seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Jerry Werner, Nate Patton, Wesley Halvorsen. Nays: none.

ABC TERMITE & PEST CONTROL, INC. - 120.00, AFLAC - 124.44, AKRS - 749.99, ALL ROADS BARRICADE, INC - 385.92, ANDREWS MONUMENT WORKS - 40.00, ANTES FAMILY HARDWARE LLC - 602.72, AQUA-CHEM, INC. - 2548.55, AUSTIN LANDWEHR - 200.00, BENEFIT PLANS INC. - 302.50, BMG CPA'S - 2800.00, BORDER STATES INDUSTRIES, INC. - 396.08, BOUND TREE MEDICAL, LLC - 3909.43, BRENT TETEN - 100.00, CAPITAL BUSINESS SYSTEMS, INC. - 39.71, 89.58, CARDMEMBER SERVICE - 7255.83, CARRIE SCHUBARTH - 231.00, CHRISTIANSEN TREE SVC. INC. - 470.00, CINDY TROYER - 35.00, CITY OF SYRACUSE - 1861.46, CIVIC PLUS LLC - 3168.09, CLEANING AUTHORITY - 436.65, 383.40, COLUMN SOFTWARE PBC - 292.56, CORE-MARK MIDCONTINENT, INC. - 2364.02, CUBBY'S INC. - 1619.69, CULLIGAN WATER - 63.39, DAVE KASBOHM - 98.00, DAVID FOLEY - 35.00, DEB DETTMER - 1449.15, DELAINEY CAST - 30.00, DEREK HARMS - 5250.00, DITCH WITCH - 331.92, DTS TECHNOLOGY - 10.64, EAKES OFFICE PLUS - 305.94, ECHO GROUP INC. - 793.95, EMIRI SIEFKEN - 63.75, EMSAR - 138.05, ERIN BETH DESIGNS - 641.00, EZ CONSTRUCTION - 64544.00, FIVE NINES TECHNOLOGY GROUP - 10.00, 3164.56, FRONTIER COOPERATIVE - 458.00, GLASS DOCTOR - 984.41, GOTTULA PROPANE SERVICE, INC. - 1893.09, GPM - 5004.00, HEMJE PLBG., HTG. AND AIR COND - 1260.00, 851.60, HENNING CARPENTRY - 72684.50, INT. INSTITUTE OF MUNICIPAL CLERKS - 210.00, INVOICE CLOUD INC - 474.80, JEN STAACK - 542.27, JEO CONSULTING GROUP, INC. - 9046.25, KANEQUIP, INC, - 298.58, KEARNEY PUBLIC LIBRARY - 10.00, KENT ANTES - 1210.00, LARAMIE WERNER - 672.88, MACQUEEN EQUIPMENT - 5999.52, MARTIN MARIETTA AGGREGATES - 1638.28, MATHESON TRI-GAS, INC - 271.78, MID-AMERICAN BENEFITS, INC. - 120.00, 540.10, MIDWEST FARMERS COOP - 150.00, MIDWEST LABORATORIES, INC. - 169.82, MIDWEST WALLS & LANDSCAPES, INC. - 237.00, 604.56, 925.00, MUNICIPAL SUPPLY OF OMAHA - 2847.25, NE GENERATOR SERVICE - 1596.22, NEBRASKA CITY UTILITIES - 1177.85, NEBRASKA PUBLIC HEALTH ENVIRONMENTAL LAB - 631.00, NEBRASKA TURF PRODUCTS - 804.40, NEXT-GEN CLEANING - 800.00, NMC EXCHANGE LLC - 563.02, OMAHA PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT - 117912.09, ONE CALL CONCEPTS, INC. - 44.56, OTOE COUNTY - 61.70, P & D ANTENNA SVC. INC. - 13827.59, PEPSI COLA OF LINCOLN - 2489.54, 1208.00, PETTY CASH PARK & REC. - 490.00, PORT-A-JOHNS - 120.00, PREVENTION - 48.00, READER'S DIGEST LARGE PRINT - 30.00, RHONDA EARITH - 343.75, RICK NORDHUES - 100.00, RYAN TONKIN - 225.00, SE NEBRASKA DEVELOPMENT DIST. - 13997.38, STOMP CHOMP ROAR - 500.00, SYRACUSE IRON

WORKS - 274.16, SYRACUSE LUMBER CO. - 2036.59, SYRACUSE MARKET LLC - 255.84, SYRACUSE MOTOR SUPPLY - 393.37, THE NEBRASKA MED CENTER - 1339.03, TIM PEARSON - 718.05, TOM JONES - 631.93, TYLEIGH MILLER - 22.50, UNITE PRIVATE NETWORKS - 2332.78, VAN KIRK BROTHERS CONSTRUCTION - 240733.18, VERIZON - 493.76, 768.19, WESTERN AREA POWER ADMINISTRATION - 3006.50, 3365.29, WILLIAM VOLKMER - 150.00, WINDSTREAM - 184.05, YONG CONSTRUCTION - 50942.42

Claims paid out prior to the May 15<sup>th</sup> meeting date included: ANTES FAMILY HARDWARE – 59.30, NEBRASKA CITY UTILITIES – 108.21, SCHOEN’S ROOFING – 5515.54, ADAM BADBERG – 3072.15, JARED BICKFORD – 1345.10, TYLER COLLIN – 2822.80, TERA EDEN – 2630.03, KELLY FARMER – 4867.75, LEAH GANZEL – 1018.19, SONNI GRAVES – 3961.24, MELISSA JUILFS – 3325.68, JESSICA MEYER – 5487.44, IAN MITCHELL – 3025.60, JULIE SLAFTER – 2411.07, CURTIS STANBERRY – 3664.81, BRENT TETEN – 3660.17, DEB MCWILLIAMS – 484.83, BRIAN VODICKA – 3214.41, JEFF VOGT – 4160.10, MAX BRAMMIER – 324.24, TOM JONES – 660.85, ROBERT SHANKS – 523.00, SAM PESTER – 526.995, MEDICA – 15984.44, MID-AMERICAN BENEFITS – 397.18, 540.10, PRINCIPAL – 1245.78, DEB DETTMER – 620.87, KRISTINE GERKING – 157.00, ORV GIGSTAD – 230.88, WESLEY HALVORSEN – 230.87, BRUCE NEEMANN – 1881.82, NATE PATTON – 207.79, JERRY WERNER – 207.79, DAVID SABATKA -150.00, SCHUYLAR ARGO – 150.00, SCOTT WIEBUSCH – 450.00, HILLARY WIEBUSCH – 200.00, JEN STAACK – 250.00, KODY CARDINAL – 300.00, MARCIA SCHEINOST – 350.00, TAMI ANDERA – 300.00, TIM WILSON – 400.00, CAMRYN TOMPKINS – 230.55, GRACE & SPACE – 1600.00, ELAN CARDMEMBER SERVICES – 7255.83, U.S. POST OFFICE – 320.00

HEARING OF THOSE PRESENT – No one present.

Mayor Dettmer led Resolution No. 24-18 authorizing Mayor to sign Proclamation acknowledging EMS Week. Mayor Dettmer read the proclamation while members of the Syracuse Rescue Squad were present. Dettmer announced to honor the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of EMS Week, the City is collecting gift cards at City Hall to pass out to SRS Volunteers at the end of EMS Week. Wesley Halvorsen and Hillary Wiebusch spoke about the EMS Week celebration happening at Williams Park on Saturday from 10 A.M. to 2 P.M. Pictures of the volunteers were taken. Council Member Wesley Halvorsen moved to adopt Resolution No. 24-18 acknowledging EMS Week, Jerry Werner seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Nate Patton, Wesley Halvorsen, Jerry Werner. Nays: none.

LIBRARY REPORT – Director Melissa Juilfs not present. No further discussion.

PARKS & REC REPORT – Director Sonni Graves not present. Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and Resolution No. 24-19 approving Master Agreement Work Order for basketball and pickleball courts construction phase services, authorizing Mayor’s signature; Justin Stark and Shayne Huxholl present. Stark explained the agreement is for time and materials not to exceed \$8500.00. Council Member Jerry Werner moved to approve Resolution No. 24-19, Nate Patton seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Wesley Halvorsen, Jerry Werner, Nate Patton. Nays: none.

PUBLIC WORKS – Superintendent Jeff Vogt present. Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and Resolution No. 24-20 approving Change Order No. 12 for the 2020 Phase II Water Supply Improvement Project, authorizing Mayor’s signature; JEO not present. The change order is for a two month contract extension due to an environmental review as well as a material change and tree planting. Council Member Wesley Halvorsen moved to approve Resolution No. 24-20, Jerry Werner seconded. Roll call: Yeas: Nate Patton, Jerry Werner, Wesley Halvorsen. Nays: none.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and Resolution No. 24-21 to approve JEO Water Improvement Project Contract Amendment No. 4, authorizing Mayor’s signature; JEO not present. City Administrator Jessica Meyer explained the amendment is to record the water system improvements into the City’s GIS system currently used. Council Member Wesley Halvorsen moved to adopt Resolution No. 24-21, Nate Patton seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Nate Patton, Jerry Werner, Wesley Halvorsen. Nays: none.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and approval of job posting and pay range for Utility/Streets Maintenance Worker. Jeff Vogt explained this position is to replace Todd Aksamit and to get back to full staff. Meyer suggested the pay range be from \$18 to \$22 per hour. The position will post by next week and the position will remain open until filled. Council Member Nate Patton moved to approve the pay range and posting of the position, Wesley Halvorsen seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Jerry Werner, Nate Patton, Wesley Halvorsen. Nays: none.

Vogt updated the Mayor and City Council on the Mohawk Street water main project started today with the boaring process. The AMI water project field work is done and antennas have been installed; the next step is to get the software installed to allow for the next month’s meter reading to utilize the system and software.

OLD BUSINESS – Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and Resolution No. 24-22 to approve Professional Service Agreement and SENDD Construction Management Contract for DTR Project #22DTR013; SENDD not present. DED has changed their requirements and would like cities to approve and retroactively approve contracts that have been signed. Council Member Wesley Halvorsen moved to approve Resolution No. 24-22, Nate Patton seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Nate Patton, Jerry Werner, Wesley Halvorsen. Nays: none.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and Resolution No. 24-23 to approve Professional Service Agreement and SENDD General Administration Contract for DTR Project #22DTR013, authorizing Mayor's signature. Meyer explained is similar to item A with DED changing their requirements. City Council Member Jerry Werner moved to adopt Resolution No. 24-23, Wesley Halvorsen seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Jerry Werner, Wesley Halvorsen, Nate Patton. Nays: none.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and Resolution No. 24-24 to approve revised Syracuse DTR Guidelines; SENDD not present. Meyer explained this revision removes the maximum amount of \$50,000.00 previously allowed by the program and its guidelines; this is reflected on page five of sixteen, Number 6 in the guidelines. City Council Member Nate Patton moved to adopt Resolution No. 24-24, Wesley Halvorsen seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Jerry Werner, Wesley Halvorsen, Nate Patton. Nays: none.

NEW BUSINESS- Mayor Dettmer opened the public hearing, discussion and consideration of Ordinance No. 1151 for Application for Conditional Use Permit pursuant to Syracuse Municipal Zoning Code Section 4.16 to reduce set back requirement on the following-described real estate: Lot 8 Country Club Heights City of Syracuse, Otoe County, Nebraska; Donn Schroeder of 800 Parker Drive present. City Attorney Jerry Stilmock explained the addition to the property consists of a sunroom and bedroom and would be inside the 25-foot required set back. Schroeder explained their house backs up to the west side of the Syracuse Golf Course. The Planning Commission recommended approval of the conditional use permit and to move onto City Council for approval. Building and Zoning Inspector explained the Schroeders are asking to go 9' 4" into the set back. Mayor Dettmer closed the public hearing. Council Member Wesley Halvorsen introduced Ordinance No. 1151 and move the statutory rule requiring reading on three different days be suspended and to include language stating the addition shall maintain 10' 2 1/2" rear yard set back, Jerry Werner seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Wesley Halvorsen, Nate Patton, Jerry Werner. Nays: none. Jerry Stilmock read Ordinance No. 1151 by title. Council Member Jerry Werner moved for final passage of the ordinance, Wesley Halvorsen seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Nate Patton, Wesley Halvorsen, Jerry Werner. Nays: none.

Mayor Dettmer opened the public hearing and discussion of application for approval of ZCI 2<sup>nd</sup> Addition Preliminary Plat of the following-described real estate: A replat of Lot 5, Block 2 1<sup>st</sup> Addition all in the City of Syracuse, Otoe County, Nebraska; Gregg Zahn present. Stilmock explained the Planning Commission recommended approval of the preliminary plat and to move onto City Council for approval. Zahn explained the two acre parcel will consist of five lots; three on 16<sup>th</sup> Street and two facing old Highway No. 2. Olsson submitted a letter in April consisting of items to be addressed for the final plat. Justin Stark explained addressing the two lots facing the highway and not relying on a private drive. In the past, the access drives have been required to be approved by NDOT; an email was circulated showing response by NDOT with positive response of the access from the highway. This will need to be finalized for the final plat. Stark also spoke of components of drainage access identifying an old culvert. Stark feels the solution is fine as long as NDOT approves as it is within the right of way. Stark suggested addressing sidewalks and private drive. Mayor Dettmer closed the public hearing. City Council Member Jerry Werner moved to concur with the Planning Commission's approval of the preliminary plat, Nate Patton seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Wesley Halvorsen, Jerry Werner, Nate Patton. Nays: none.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion on street closure request for 2024 Otoe County Fair Parade Saturday July 27<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 P.M. to include 5<sup>th</sup> Street and side streets from Plum to Mohawk; Mike Rudolph of Otoe County Ag Society present. Council Member Wesley Halvorsen moved to approve the street closures for the fair parade, Nate Patton seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Jerry Werner, Nate Patton, Wesley Halvorsen. Nays: none.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion on street closure request for 2024 Otoe County Fair July 25<sup>th</sup> thru 28<sup>th</sup> from 1<sup>st</sup> and Plum to 2<sup>nd</sup> and Plum Streets including 2<sup>nd</sup> Street gravel drive between OK Pavilion and Kimmel Ag Expo; Mike Rudolph of Otoe County Ag Society present. Council Member Jerry Werner moved to approve the street closures for during the fair, Nate Patton seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Wesley Halvorsen, Nate Patton, Jerry Werner. Nays: none.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion on SDL request for 2024 Otoe County Fair beer garden for the dates and times of 12:00 P.M. Thursday July 25<sup>th</sup> to 1:00 A.M. Monday July 29<sup>th</sup>; Mike Rudolph present. City Council Member Nate Patton moved to approve the SDL request, Jerry

Werner seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Jerry Werner, Wesley Halvorsen, Nate Patton. Nays: none.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and request to close 5<sup>th</sup> Street from Midland to Mohawk on Sunday August 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024 from 4:00 P.M. to 10:00 P.M. for Mat Club youth wrestling event; Zach Woods of Syracuse Mat Club present. Woods explained the event will be the same set up as the last two years. A request for an SDL will be needed at a future meeting for the event. City Council Member Wesley Halvorsen moved to approve the street closure, Nate Patton seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Wesley Halvorsen, Nate Patton, Jerry Werner. Nays: none.

Council Member Wesley Halvorsen moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:07 P.M., Nate Patton seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Nate Patton, Jerry Werner, Wesley Halvorsen. Nays: none.

I the undersigned City Administrator 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.

---

City Administrator

---

Mayor