

REGULAR MEETING
CITY COUNCIL

August 14, 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 August 14, 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, Nate Patton; Orv Gigstad 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 July 10, 2024 meeting were approved as written.

Mayor Dettmer led the approval of claims and Treasurers Report; Todd Blome of BMG not present. The July Treasurer's Report has been distributed. Todd Blome presented a list of claims over \$3000.00 as well as the monthly report showing eight months into the fiscal year. No further discussion was had. Council Member Wesley Halvorsen moved to approve the Treasurers Reports and to pay the claims, Nate Patton seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Jerry Werner, Nate Patton, Wesley Halvorsen. Nays: none.

ABC TERMITE & PEST CONTROL, INC. - 100.00, AE SUPPLY - 235.00, AFTER HOURS GRAFFIX -1293.13, ANTES FAMILY HARDWARE LLC - 1679.02, AQUA-CHEM, INC. - 2168.10, BEATRICE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS - 1443.31, BENEFIT PLANS INC. - 313.75, BMG CPA'S - 2800.00, BORDER STATES INDUSTRIES, INC. - 2228.50, BOUND TREE MEDICAL, LLC - 788.51, BRANDT, HORAN, HALLSTROM & STILMOCK - 3159.00, CANON FINANCIAL - 127.68, CAPITAL BUSINESS SYSTEMS, INC. - 90.73, 16.91, CAROL LINQUIST - 200.00, CHLOE HILLMAN - 35.00, CITY OF NEBRASKA CITY - 229.29, CITY OF SYRACUSE - 2007.29, CLARK ENERSEN - 100.00, CLEANING AUTHORITY - 436.65, 383.40, COLUMN SOFTWARE PBC - 122.41, CONTINENTAL FIRE SPRINKLER CO. - 405.00, 135.00, CORE-MARK MIDCONTINENT, INC. - 1798.15, CULLIGAN WATER - 150.99, D3 INTERIORS - 440.00, DARREL & JEAN BRADFORD - 35.00, DEEPLY ROOTED - 275.51, DTS TECHNOLOGY - 10.64, DUTTON LAINSON CO. - 1840.68, ERIN BETH DESIGNS - 24.00, 69.00, ET'S LAWN & LEISURE - 1599.37, FIVE NINES TECHNOLOGY GROUP - 3187.06, 130.00, FRONTIER COOPERATIVE - 335.08, GOTTULA PROPANE SERVICE, INC. - 2610.03, HAWKINS, INC. - 389.70, HEMJE PLBG., HTG. AND AIR COND - 806.00, HILLMAN MASONRY & RESTORATION - 35.00, INVOICE CLOUD INC - 485.20, JC DIRT WORK - 9820.00, JCI INDUSTRIES, INC. - 175.00, JEN FOLEY - 150.00, JEO CONSULTING GROUP, INC. - 377.00, 717.50, 11533.75, JESSICA MEYER - 83.02, JUDSON IRRIGATION INC. - 2710.03, KANEQUIP, INC. - 116.05, KELLY MCINTOSH - 200.00, KNOX COMPANY - 584.00, LEAGUE ASSOCIATION OF RISK MANAGEMENT - 50.00, 34.58, LEAGUE OF NEBR. MUN. - 7120.00, LONM - UTILITIES SECTION - 1336.00, MARTIN MARIETTA AGGREGATES - 662.16, MATHESON TRI-GAS, INC - 277.06, MAX BRAMMIER - 1420.00, MELISSA JUILFS - 30.37, MICHAEL TODD & CO., INC. - 250.63, MID-AMERICAN BENEFITS, INC. - 112.00, MIDWEST LABORATORIES, INC. - 179.82, MIDWEST TURF & IRRIGATION - 216.11, MIDWEST WALLS & LANDSCAPES, INC. - 1083.22, 304.00, MIKE'S WINDOW SERVICE, LLC - 135.26, MTZ CONSTRUCTION - 205208.55, MUNICIPAL ENERGY AGENCY OF NE - 500.00, MUNICIPAL SUPPLY OF OMAHA - 11958.63, MY-LOR, INC. - 49.95, NEBRASKA CITY UTILITIES - 1076.35, NEBRASKA LIBRARY COMMISSION - 500.00, NEBRASKA PUBLIC HEALTH ENVIRONMENTAL LAB - 64.00, NEXT-GEN CLEANING - 400.00, ONE CALL CONCEPTS, INC. - 67.26, OTOE KIDS CLUB - 118.81, PEPSI COLA OF LINCOLN - 1229.45, PORT-A-JOHNS - 240.00, POST 100 BASEBALL 481.19, PRECEPTOR TAU - 809.92, PROJECT PLAYGROUND - 447.67, RAY WERNER - 150.00, RICK & SHANNON AVARD - 35.00, SCHOEN'S ROOFING - 6010.37, SDA STARLETTES DANCE TEAM - 222.38, SHAUN REMPEL - 35.00, SHIVELY LAW GROUP - 1026.00, SKARSHAUG TEST LAB. INC. - 799.29, JH SPORHASE LLC - 191.00, SPRINKLER ZONE - 1920.00, ST. JOHNS LUTHERAN CHURCH OF OTOE - 133.44, ST. PAULINUS CATHOLIC CHURCH-R. SWEAT - 100.00, STATE OF NEBRASKA POWER REVIEW BOARD - 287.36, STRYKER SALES LLC - 2053.91, SUBSURFACE SOLUTIONS - 181.02, SYRACUSE FCA - 158.13, SYRACUSE LUMBER CO. - 195.32, SYRACUSE MARKET LLC - 732.30, SYRACUSE MOTOR SUPPLY - 499.93, SYRACUSE YOUTH BASEBALL - 281.76, TG TECHNICAL SERVICES - 163.94, THE ADDED TOUCH - 86.00, THE NEBRASKA MED CENTER - 1339.03, THIELE GEOTECH, INC. - 536.00, TRI STATE RENTALS - 80.00, TROUT PAINTING SERVICES - 20152.00, TYLEIGH MILLER - 33.75, UNITE PRIVATE NETWORKS - 2338.30, VAN KIRK BROTHERS CONSTRUCTION - 325703.24, VERIZON - 960.56,

WESTERN AREA POWER ADMINISTRATION - 3166.95, WINDSTREAM - 183.72, WJH CONSTRUCTION - 35.00

Claims paid outside of the August 14 meeting date included: XAVIER APEL – 238.25, 639.42, 395.92, ADAM BADBERG – 1583.82, 1475.47, 1528.45, JARED BICKFORD – 645.16, 701.94, 651.95, MAX BRAMMIER – 110.82, 73.14, SAWYER BRAMMIER – 943.99, 832.06, 880.54, BRANDON CAMPBELL – 488.99, 465.57, 599.80, BRIDGET DONOVAN – 558.31, 421.00, 328.60, KATHLEEN DONOVAN – 179.14, 531.47, 473.21, MARGARET DONOVAN – 148.84, 401.39, 296.05, TYLER COLLIN – 1381.89, 1440.91, 1390.92, TERA EDEN – 1312.69, 1367.34, 1317.34, KELLY FARMER – 2404.36, 2463.39, 2413.38, LEAH GANZEL – 627.78, 557.10, 454.15, SARAH GANZEL – 113.59, 113.59, 141.30, NOLAN GARTNER – 204.74, 588.03, 455.12, DAYTON GRAVES – 245.32, 594.78, 492.38, SONNI GRAVES – 1976.11, 1985.12, 1985.13, CARSON HOLZ – 664.87, 382.98, 754.54, KYLE HOLZ – 697.39, 663.38, 901.93, MELISSA JUILFS – 1633.74, 1691.95, 1644.45, ELIZABETH LEVENHAGEN – 68.10, JESSICA MEYER – 2737.43, 2750.01, 2750.03, IAN MITCHELL – 1483.81, 1541.79, 1491.78, COLLIN OELKE – 779.94, 887.01, 800.38, CLAIRE NOERRLINGER – 586.49, 1055.17, 536.89, BRYAN MORQUECHO – 533.76, 117.42, 263.26, SAM PESTER – 867.86, 916.48, 733.63, KALEB SCHULTZ – 698.28, 673.88, 782.61, KADYN SISCO – 915.65, 656.47, 385.75, CY PETERSEN – 971.06, 629.04, 979.92, JUSTICE SCHMIDT – 316.32, 630.02, 536.42, AVERY SEARCY – 348.63, 539.26, 610.87, JULIE SLAFTER – 1176.57, 1234.51, 1184.50, MAYSON SPRAGUE – 304.47, 787.71, 630.13, CURTIS STANBERRY – 1740.96, 1923.86, 1997.61, KENNEDY STANLEY – 355.29, 752.29, JACE STINSON – 816.84, 431.71, 381.90, JOSH STINSON – 678.55, 606.98, 577.40, EASTON STUBBENDICK – 822.22, 1004.24, 1021.20, BRENT TETEN – 2153.75, 1881.01, 1750.91, CHARYS TOMPKINS – 675.46, 574.20, 857.19, 329.12, CHESSA TOMPKINS – 279.35, 486.64, DEB MCWILLIAMS – 177.78, 271.51, 271.50, BRIAN VODICKA – 1965.16, 1636.73, 1850.15, JEFF VOGT – 2073.76, 2086.34, 2086.35, TOM JONES – 532.52, 579.62, 550.18, ROBERT SHANKS – 930.85, 891.05, 319.62, HALEIGH WERNER – 247.21, 279.93, 183.76, GREGG WIEBUSCH – 762.72, 1026.98, 888.32, REAGAN WILHELM – 757.79, 540.05, SIDNEY SCHUBARTH – 777.30, 379.71, 453.04, MID-AMERICAN BENEFITS – 434.69, 273.00, DEB DETTMER – 643.68, KRISTINE GERKING – 156.99, ORV GIGSTAD – 207.79, WESLEY HALVORSEN – 207.78, BRUCE NEEMANN – 1143.17, NATE PATTON – 230.88, JERRY WERNER – 230.87, 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 – 1097.45, 1365.43, 775.05, ELAN CARDMEMBER SERVICES – 9860.75, AFLAC – 124.44, DUANE HANSEN – 530.00, ONE BILLING SOLUTIONS – 3153.20.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and approval of 2024-2025 Budgets including wage increases. Mayor Dettmer explained the City utilized a budget committee again this year for reviewing and approving department budgets. The committee was comprised of the Mayor, Jerry Werner, Nate Patton, the City Clerk and the City Administrator. The committee discussed salary increases for City of Syracuse employees and a 4% salary increase is being recommended by the budget committee for all employees. The committee considered prior salary increases, the consumer price index, employee benefits and a comparison with other municipalities in reaching the 4% figure. City Administrator Jessica Meyer provided the Mayor and City Council with a spreadsheet; three other adjustments were made following consideration by the budget committee. No further discussion had. Council Member Jerry Werner moved to approve the final department budgets including the proposed wage increases, Nate Patton seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Wesley Halvorsen, Jerry Werner, Nate Patton. Nays: none.

HEARING OF THOSE PRESENT – No one present.

LIBRARY REPORT – Director Melissa Juilfs not present. Juilfs distributed a report prior to the meeting and is included in these minutes. No further discussion had.

FIRE REPORT – Chief Keith McWilliams present. Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and acceptance of the 24-25 Syracuse Volunteer Fire Department Officers. Otoe County Rural Fire Board approved the following at their July 8, 2024 meeting: Chief – Keith McWilliams, Assistant Fire Chief – Craig Hemje, Assistant Fire Chief – Darin Lintner, Assistant Fire Chief: Otoe Station – Liza Godsey, Foreman – Adam Holz, Foreman – Tim Seelhoff, President – Thomas Neemann, Secretary – Matt Weddingfeld, Treasurer – Justin Apel. Council Member Nate Patton moved to approve the 24-25 Officers, Wesley Halvorsen seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Jerry Werner, Wesley Halvorsen, Nate Patton. Nays: none. McWilliams commented four individuals have reached out regarding joining the department.

PARKS & REC REPORT – Director Sonni Graves present. Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and approval to replace Williams Park Shelter garage door. Graves provided bids from Langfeldt as well as Syracuse Lumber; the Syracuse Lumber bid is just for the doors, the City would need to find someone to do the installation. Pictures were provided to show the current garage door; Graves also discussed an issue with mice getting inside the shelter. Council Member Nate Patton moved to approve the bid from Langfeldt at \$3,050.00, Jerry Werner seconded. Roll Call: Wesley Halvorsen, Nate Patton, Jerry Werner. Nays: none.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and approval to purchase mower. Bids for a 72” mower were

received from Akrs John Deere and Kan Equip as well as a quote from Akrs to repair the Parks department existing broken mower. The current mower is a 2015 and has over 2000 hours. The Parks department mows 86 acres currently. A request is to lift the deck with a button instead of a pedal as it's easier for shorter individuals; this is not offered by KanEquip. Airless tires are also in the bid; Graves noted they've had three blowouts this year. Rear discharge is necessary to be used at the cemetery; the John Deere can do either side or rear. Discussion was had on funding a new mower; Jerry Werner mentioned using interest money from ARPA Funds. The ARPA interest funds have not been allocated yet. Nate Patton would like to see where the funds would come from to purchase a new mower before moving forward on one. Akrs would give \$1500.00 trade in for the 2015 mower toward the new one. Akrs did not anticipate the 2015 mower will last very much longer with the quoted repairs with the amount of mowing the Parks department does. City Administrator confirmed the ARPA funds interest could be allocated and transferred in September if the issue could wait a month. Council Member Wesley Halvorsen moved to approve the Akrs bid to repair the current Parks mower at \$2,134.92 and to use budgeted funds, Nate Patton seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Jerry Werner, Nate Patton, Wesley Halvorsen. Nays; None.

RESCUE REPORT – Chief Tim Wilson present. Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and approval of Stryker Xpedition equipment purchase. Stryker quotes were provided for both one and two stair chairs options. Currently the squad has two stair chairs, the new would be replacing those. These would be paid from the \$25,000 allocated to Rescue Squad with the remaining from budgeted capital outlay rescue funds. Council Member Nate Patton moved to approve the quote for the two chairs for \$29,725.68, Wesley Halvorsen seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Wesley Halvorsen, Jerry Werner, Nate Patton. Nays: none.

PUBLIC WORKS – Superintendent Jeff Vogt not present. Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and Resolution No. 24-32 to approve Municipal Annual Certification of Program Compliance, authorizing Mayor's signature; Justin Stark of Olsson present. Stark explained this is an annual resolution for certification ensuring highway allocation funds. Council Member Jerry Werner moved to adopt Resolution No. 24-32, Nate Patton seconded. Roll call: Yeas: Wesley Halvorsen, Nate Patton, Jerry Werner. Nays: none.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and Resolution No. 24-33 to approve JEO Order No. 13 for Phase II Water Supply Improvements project, authorizing Mayor's signature; Lucas Schroeder of JEO not present. Jessica Meyer explained the change order is based upon issues VanKirk had by SDA High School with creek crossing and additional utilities present; additional testing was also required pushing the Phase II substantial completion back a few weeks; a few businesses located in the Syracuse Business Center will be affected for a short time when the tap is ready to be connected. Council Member Jerry Werner moved to adopt Resolution No. 24-33, Wesley Halvorsen seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Nate Patton, Wesley Halvorsen, Jerry Werner. Nays: none.

OLD BUSINESS – Mayor Dettmer led the continued public hearing, discussion and consideration of Ordinance of Application for approval of ZCI 2nd Addition Final Plat of a replat of Lot 5, Block 2, 1st Addition all in the City of Syracuse, Otoe County, Nebraska; Gregg Zahn present as well as Kyle Crouch of JEO. City Attorney Jerry Stilmock explained three items: first is to approve the final plat, the second and third being the subdivision agreement and escrow agreement ensuring the security is in place by a bond by the developer or the developer would pledge some sort of asset through a bank. Once all the documents are signed, the Mayor then signs. City Engineer Justin Stark is fine with the documents presented for ZCI 2nd Addition by JEO for final submission. Mayor Dettmer closed the public hearing. Council Member Wesley Halvorsen moved to introduce Ordinance No. 1157 and move the statutory rule requiring reading on three different days be suspended, Jerry Werner seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Nate Patton, Wesley Halvorsen, Jerry Werner. Nays: none. Jerry Stilmock read Ordinance No. 1157 by title. Council Member Jerry Werner moved for final passage of the ordinance, Nate Patton seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Wesley Halvorsen, Nate Patton, Jerry Werner. Nays: none.

Mayor Dettmer led discussion and Resolution No. 24-34 to approve Subdivision Agreement and Escrow Agreement between City of Syracuse and BACOG LLC, authorizing Mayor's signature. No further discussion had. Council Member Wesley Halvorsen moved to adopt 24-34, Nate Patton seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Jerry Werner, Nate Patton, Wesley Halvorsen. Nays: none.

NEW BUSINESS – Mayor Dettmer opened the public hearing, discussion and consideration of Ordinance No. 1158 to approve Application for Conditional Use Permit to allow additional wall signs located on the outside of the building at the following property: West half Lot Ten and Lot B Bank Subdivision of Lot Nine Block 19 Syracuse Proper; Antes Hardware owners Carli and Tim Antes present. Jerry Stilmock explained the Syracuse Code authorizes a Downtown Commercial business to have one wall sign; the conditional use permit would allow additional three wall signs to be placed for a total of four. Planning Commission moved for consideration

of the application by City Council at their August meeting. Tim Antes explained they have contacted Do It Best and have a revised plan to involve less signs. The exterior work will be contingent based on the award of grant funds from Downtown Revitalization grant funds. Council Member Wesley Halvorsen moved to introduce Ordinance No. 1158 and move the statutory rule requiring reading on three different days be suspended; Jerry Werner seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Nate Patton, Wesley Halvorsen, Jerry Werner. Nays: none. Jerry Stilmock read Ordinance No. 1158 by title. Council Member Jerry Werner moved for final passage of Ordinance No. 1158; Wesley Halvorsen seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Nate Patton, Jerry Werner, Wesley Halvorsen. Nays: none.

Mayor Dettmer opened the public hearing, discussion and consideration of ordinance for Application of Zoning Text Amendment to the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Syracuse, Nebraska to consider amending Sections 4.12 and 5.07.05.01 to increase size of accessory building at 1392 White Pine; Chad Loecker not present. Council Member Wesley Halvorsen moved to approve the public hearing be continued until Wednesday September 11th, 2024 at 6:00 P.M. at the next City Council meeting, Nate Patton seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Jerry Werner, Nate Patton, Wesley Halvorsen. Nays: none.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion on City's commitment to match \$1,430.00 annual contribution for 24-25 Budget year for Blue Rivers Area Agency on Aging. Council Member Wesley Halvorsen moved to approve the annual contribution of \$1,430.00 as and letter of support, Nate Patton seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Jerry Werner, Wesley Halvorsen, Nate Patton. Nays: none.

Mayor Dettmer led the SDL request for B&J's beer garden for 2024 Germanfest; Anthony Hensley not present. A map has been provided by Hensley and the request is for Saturday October 18th from 8:00 P.M. to 2:00 A.M. Sunday October 19th. The Germanfest Committee will be present at the September City Council meeting to present requests for the annual event. The Council tabled the request until the Germanfest Committee attends to announce their plans and see how Hensley's request can coincide.

Mayor Dettmer asked for motion to go into Closed Session for the purpose of potential litigation inviting Jessica Meyer, Kelly Farmer, Jerry Stilmock and Bruce Neemann to stay. Jerry Werner moved to go into Closed Session, Nate Patton seconded. Roll Call: Wesley Halvorsen, Jerry Werner, Nate Patton. Nays: none. Clerk Farmer confirmed motion has been made and approved to go into Closed Session at 6:58 P.M. Recording devices are turned off during Closed Session.

Council Member Nate Patton moved to come out of Closed Session at 7:19 P.M., Wesley Halvorsen seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Jerry Werner, Wesley Halvorsen, Nate Patton. Nays: none.

No discussion had or motions made after coming out of Closed Session.

Council Member Nate Patton moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 P.M., Wesley Halvorsen seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Jerry Werner, Nate Patton, 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 Clerk

Mayor