

City of St. Paul Regular Meeting
704 6th Street
St. Paul, NE 68873

Monday, June 15, 2020

A meeting of the Mayor and City Council of the City of St. Paul, Nebraska was held at City Hall in said City on Monday, June 15, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.; the meeting was also held by conference call by Telephone number (877)568-4106 and Access code #396-896-989. Present were Mayor Joel M. Bergman and Councilmembers Brenda Klanecky, Ralph Kezeor, Katie Kowalski & Jerry Thompson. Absent: None. Notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by publication in the Phonograph Herald, a legal newspaper published in said City and County. Notice of the meeting was also posted in three (3) public places. Notice of this meeting was communicated in the advance notice. All proceeds thereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was opened to the attendance of the public.

Mayor Bergman opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m., announcing that the City of St. Paul abides by the Open Meetings Act; there is a current posting on the west wall of the City Council Chambers as required by Nebraska State Law; also available on the web at "Nebraska State Statutes §84-1407 through §84-1413; and at the link:
https://nitc.nebraska.gov/documents/statutes/NebraskaOpenMeetingsAct_current.pdf

Mayor Bergman also stated that the City Council may vote to go into Closed Session on any agenda item as allowed by State Law; this was followed by the "Pledge of Allegiance."

Individuals who have appropriate agenda items for City Council consideration should complete the "Request for Future Agenda Items" form located at the City Office. If the issue can be handled administratively without Council action, notification will be provided. If the item is scheduled for a meeting or study session, notification of the date will be given.

There was an opportunity for individuals wishing to provide input on any of tonight's agenda items. Those individuals were asked to reserve time to speak.

Rich Kosmicki was in attendance to represent the "Lake of the Woods" Association regarding the City fogging for mosquitoes and insects at the "Lake of the Woods". The most optimum time to fog is in the evenings prior to sunset or early sunrise with a 5 mph wind. City personnel questioned whether the City was setting a precedent on spraying other local communities when the City can't find an optimum time to spray their own community. The cost of spraying would be approximately \$200. The Mayor and Council stated that it would be difficult to get the commitment and the resources to move forward on this project. No motion presented.

On Thursday, June 4, 2020 the Mayor and Council members held a special meeting to form policy and procedures according to the Directed Health Measurers (DHM) regarding the opening of the City swimming pool. The policy and procedures were approved by City Attorney White, Loup Basin Health Dept. (LBHD), the League Association of Risk Management (LARM) and Kristy Smith, St. Paul Water Park Manager prior to the regular Council meeting on Monday, June 15, 2020. On Monday, June 22, 2020 the new Phase III DHM guidelines will need to be followed concerning the changes to the swimming pool guidelines; the changes include: (1) outdoor "gatherings" will be limited to 75% of rated occupancy, instead of 25% rated occupancy; (2) groups shall be no larger than eight (8) individuals, instead of six (6) individuals; and (3) need to have six (6) feet of separation between groups, which remained the same. Mayor Bergman and City Clerk Beck will visit with Kristy Smith, St. Paul Swimming Pool Manager regarding the new swimming pool DHM guidelines. The City of St. Paul will continue to follow the changing guidelines.

Council member Thompson moved to approve the St. Paul Royal Coachmen Car Club have a "Show & Shine" car show during Grover Cleveland Alexander (GCA) Days on Saturday, July 11, 2020 from 7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. The event will be simplified this year due to the Covid-19 restrictions and guidelines. Cars will be spaced appropriately apart, along with following Covid-19 Directed Health Measure (DHM) guidelines. The GCA Day general liability blanket insurance policy will be provided by Christensen Insurance regarding the event; Covid-19 waivers will be signed by the participants entering the car show and Covid-19 advisory signs will be posted in the City Park. Council member Kowalski seconded the motion. Council members Klanecky,

Kezeor, Kowalski & Thompson voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0. Brian Sack was in attendance to answer questions. Porta potties were in question; this will be discussed with a GCA Day committee member.

Council member Kowalski moved to approve Jared Rice having a Grover Cleveland Alexander (GCA) Day softball tournament at the St. Paul Ball Park (Taylor Street) on Saturday, July 11, 2020 from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. All tournament players will sign Covid-19 waivers prior to game play. The DHM spectator guidelines were unclear; therefore City Clerk Beck will contact the Loup Basin Health Dept. regarding clarification. It was stated by Mr. Rice that all Covid-19 DHM guidelines will be followed. The GCA Day general liability blanket insurance policy will be provided by Christensen Insurance regarding the event. Council member Thompson seconded the motion. Council members Klanecky, Kezeor, Kowalski & Thompson voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0. Utility Superintendent Helzer will unlock the restrooms; Mr. Rice stated that he will take care of sanitizing the restrooms.

On Monday, April 6, 2020 the City Council members approved waiving the LB 840 loan payment; the ten (10) day late assessment fee of \$20; and the twenty (20) day late payment default provision beginning May 1, 2020; this was due to the Covid-19 emergency declaration. St. Paul Development Corp. Executive Director Mike Coghlan stated that one (1) recipient took advantage of waiving the LB 840 fees. Council member Klanecky moved to approve cancelling the waived (Sales Tax) LB 840 Loan Deferment payment; the ten (10) day late assessment fee of \$20; and the twenty (20) day late payment default provision. Council member Thompson seconded the motion. Council members Klanecky, Kezeor, Kowalski & Thompson voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0. The LB 840 loan recipient will sign an amendment to the promissory note; the deferred payments of three (3) months will be added to the end of the current payment schedule. The final payment will be August 15, 2030 instead of May 15, 2030.

On Monday, April 6, 2020 the City Council members approved waiving the utility bill late and disconnect fee beginning the month of May 2020, due to the Covid-19 emergency declaration. After a brief discussion, Council member Thompson moved to approve cancelling the waived utility bill late and disconnect fee. Council member Klanecky seconded the motion. Council members Klanecky, Kezeor, Kowalski & Thompson voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0. Utility meters were read on May 31, 2020; the utility bills were emailed or sent by mail on June 5, 2020; and the City will place penalty on the delinquent utility bills the morning of June 22, 2020. The City Office will be mailing out a letters to the delinquent utility customers in acquiring a payment plan to collect the past due amount.

Council member Kezeor moved to approve the May 2020 Treasurer's Report. Council member Kowalski seconded the motion. Council members Klanecky, Kezeor, Kowalski & Thompson voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

Council member Kowalski moved to approve the zoning permits of Monday, June 8, 2020, with the stipulation of removing permit 2020-34. This is due to adding an additional item to the zoning permit. Council member Thompson seconded the motion. Council members Klanecky, Kezeor, Kowalski & Thompson voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

Council member Kowalski moved to approve three (3) property improvement applications to repair or replace awnings in the St. Paul downtown area: (1) County Cage (Kersten Kucera) at 614 Howard Avenue to repair and replace awnings in the front and back of the establishment costing \$4,000; (2) Wroblewski Buildings (Barbara & Loren Wroblewski) at 613/615 Howard Avenue to repair and replace awnings in the front of the establishment costing \$1,500; and (3) Brick Street Mall (Janet & Marion Douglass) at 611 Howard Avenue to repair and replace awnings in the front of the establishment costing \$3,000. Council member Kezeor seconded the motion. Council members Klanecky, Kezeor, Kowalski & Thompson voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0. Tri-City Sign Co., Grand Island, NE will install the new awnings before Grover Cleveland Alexander (GCA) days.

Council member Kowalski moved to approve City Clerk Beck attending the 2020 Municipal Accounting & Finance teleconference in June, July and August 2020. Council member Kezeor seconded the motion. Council members Klanecky, Kezeor, Kowalski & Thompson voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0. City Clerk Beck will utilize her office computer regarding the teleconference.

On May 18, 2020 the City Council discussed billing out for street lot mowing that is normally performed in the summer time; this item was tabled until all individuals were identified on the mowing list. Utility Superintendent Helzer utilized the Geographic Information System (GIS) to identify individually all the residential or commercial property owner(s) concerning the up-keep of properties. Street Commissioner Jamie Klanecky stated that at the very minimum, the Street Dept. mows four (4) times a year; this takes five (5), eight (8) hour days each time, along with fuel cost. Council member Klanecky stated that when it comes to saving City funds, maybe the City should look at other areas to cut cost. The item was tabled until Mr. Klanecky could mow one (1) time to understand the time, labor and fuel cost regarding the process of the mowing. The single pass mowing option was also discussed

This is per Governor Rickett's Executive Order: Beginning Wednesday, July 1, 2020, the City Council members cannot hold meetings electronically by video or telephone conference call. However, social distancing requirements will still be necessary including compliance with the Directed Health Measures (DHM).

Mayor Bergman requested to place this item on the agenda, so that the Council is aware of the "Cops Hiring Program" (CHP) grant submitted by Chief of Police Paczosa back in February 2020. If the City is awarded the grant, the cost would cover up to 75 percent of the approved entry-level salary and fringe benefits of each newly hired or rehired full-time law enforcement officers. This would be over a three (3) year (36-month) award period, with a minimum 25 percent local cash match requirement from the City and a maximum federal share of \$125,000 per officer position. Chief of Police Paczosa stated that he should be receiving an award answer in July 2020. The retention requirement is that all award recipients must retain any CHP-funded officer positions for at least 12 month immediately after the 36 months of federal funding has ended for each position. Budgeting for the City's 25 percent was briefly discussed. Council member Kowalski unaware of the grant, inquired if a fifth (5th) police officer was necessary.

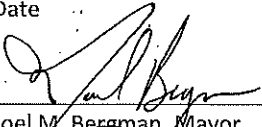
Utility Superintendent Helzer updates included: (1) thanking the Electrical Department for keeping the electrical lines clear of trees, due to the extreme winds St. Paul has experienced; (2) Diamond Engineering is placing new storm sewer pipe on Howard Avenue; (3) paving the first two (2) blocks will commence shortly on Howard Avenue; and (3) the swimming pool will be getting filled with water shortly for the opening on Monday, June 29, 2020.

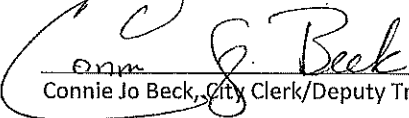
Chief of Police Paczosa reported on nuisances; stated he may have to start the nuisance process on some properties and Police Officer Trev Sharman is passing his test at the Law Enforcement Center.

Mayor Bergman updates includes: (1) sale of City property and (2) Chief of Police Paczosa thank you card.

Mayor Bergman adjourned the City Council meeting at 8:39 p.m.

7-6-20
Date


Joel M. Bergman, Mayor


Connie Jo Beck, City Clerk/Deputy Treasurer