

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

Monday, December 21, 2020

NOTICE OF THE REGULAR CITY OF ST. PAUL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2020 AT 7:00 P.M., WHICH MEETING WAS ACCORDING TO GOVERNOR RICKETTS EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 20-34: CORONAVIRUS - PUBLIC MEETINGS REQUIREMENT LIMITED WAIVER FOR ALTERNATIVE PARTICIPATION FOR ELECTED OFFICIALS AND EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 20-36 - CORONAVIRUS - PUBLIC MEETINGS REQUIREMENT LIMITED WAIVER.

The City of St. Paul encourages those who want to participate in the City Council meeting due to Covid-19 can utilize the Telephone Number and Access Code below to attend it by conference call.

- Join the meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone:
<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/843834357> or
- Dial in using your phone: United States (Toll Free): 1-866-899-4679 with Access Code: 843-834-357

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, December 21, 2020, at 7:00 p.m. Present were Mayor Joel M. Bergman and Council members: Katie Kowalski, Jerry Thompson, Chuck Schmid & Mike Feeken. 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 this meeting was also posted in four (4) 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., thanking the public for attending and announcing that the City of St. Paul abides by the Open Meetings Act, which is posted on the west wall as required by Nebraska State Law. 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 or on the City website. 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.

City Utility Superintendent Helzer and JoAnn Urbanski owner of Jim's Champlin Inc. were present to explain and discuss the land purchase process; the assessment in Street Improvement District #2014-3 in the amount of \$1,658; and the Stevens Land Surveying LLC fee of \$1,600 regarding the City property of Lots One (1); Two (2), Three (3), Four (4), Seven (7) and Eight (8), Block Forty-Seven (47), Original Town. Todd Wicken, Property Management Supervisor of the NE Dept. of Transportation stated that the Department will not ask to be paid back for their portion of the costs, as the Department name is not on the deed and has no record of the transaction. The Department does request that there is enough right-of-way to be retained for the functionality of US Hwy 281. Council member Kowalski moved to approve the City paying Mrs. Urbanski the street assessment of \$1,658 and half (1/2) of the survey cost, which is \$800 through the street money market fund. Council member Schmid seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Thompson, Schmid & Feeken voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

Council member Thompson introduced Ordinance 1015; directing and authorizing the sale of all that portion of Lots One (1); Two (2), Three (3), Four (4), Seven (7) and Eight (8), Block Forty-

Seven (47), Original Town, St. Paul, Howard County, NE. See ordinance regarding the detailed property description. Council member Kowalski waived the three (3) readings of Ordinance 1015 at three (3) different occasions. Council member Schmid seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Thompson, Schmid & Feeken voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0. Council member Kowalski moved for final passage of Ordinance 1015. Council member Thompson seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Thompson, Schmid & Feeken voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

Council member Schmid moved to approve Mayor Bergman signing the Municipal Corporation Special Deed regarding Jim's Champlin Inc. (JoAnn Urbanski) purchasing the land in Block Forty-Seven (47), Original Town, St. Paul, NE; City Clerk Beck will deposit the funds of \$5.00 in the City Street fund account. Council member Thompson seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Thompson, Schmid & Feeken voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0. JoAnn Urbanski (Jim Champlin) signed the "Release and Waiver of all Claims" form regarding Block 47, Original Town property.

Brian Friedrichsen with Olsson's provided a narrative of the equipment bid letting that was held on Tuesday, December 15, 2020 at 2:00 p.m. regarding the Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF). The City received one (1) equipment bid by Aqua-Aerobic Systems Inc. on Friday, December 11, 2020; two other bids came in on Tuesday, December 15, 2020 at 3:06 p.m.; these were late deliveries by Fed-Ex and were not opened due to Council discussion on Monday, December 21, 2020. Mr. Friedrichsen discussed the two (2) bids with City Attorney White concerning the late deliveries; Attorney White stated that the City has two (2) options: (1) reject the late bids or (2) reject all bids and rebid the project. Council member Kowalski wanted to know if there would be a project hold up if the Council wanted to rebid the WWTF equipment. Mr. Friedrichsen stated that this would be a minimal delay and that there could be a chance that bids could go up. Council member Schmid moved to approve awarding the equipment bid to Aqua-Aerobic Systems Inc. regarding the St. Paul Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) in the amount of \$361,935; the engineer cost estimate was \$350,000 to \$400,000. Council member Thompson seconded the motion. Council members Thompson, Schmid & Feeken voted aye, Council member Kowalski voted nay. Motion carried 3/1. The 30% WWTF design memorandum will be completed the middle of January 2021; Olsson will meet with Mayor and Council in February 2021.

Council member Schmid moved to approve the "Consent Agenda" items that consist of: (1) Treasurer's Report regarding November 2020; (2) Minutes December 7, 2020; (3) Disbursement December 21, 2020; (4) Mayor Bergman's Planning Commission 2020-2021 appointment of Tyler Solko; Wilber Medberry submitted his resignation to the Planning Commission effective December 31, 2020. Mayor Bergman extended a thank you to Mr. Medberry for his dedicated service to the City and thanked Mr. Solko for taking a seat on the Planning Commission Board; (5) St. Paul Planning Commission zoning permits; (6) Updating the Certificate of Corporate Limits map; this map updates the corporate limits as a result of the annexation of the Middle Loup Subdivision. The Planning Commission approved it on Monday, December 14, 2020; and (7) STS Construction (Tyler Solko) Property Improvement application in the amount of \$2,305 regarding business signage at 103 Grand Street; funds will be disbursed from the City sales tax fund. Council member Thompson seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Thompson, Schmid & Feeken voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0. Cargo containers east on Grand Street and US Hwy 281 were also discussed; Utility Superintendent Helzer will place this item on the agenda for the Planning Commission on Monday, December 28, 2020.

December 21, 2020 Disbursements

Aurora Co-Op (Fuel)	836.50
Black Hills Energy (Utilities)	1304.96
Bluetarp Financial (Supplies)	15.49
Border States Industries (Supplies)	88.56
City of St. Paul Lights (Utilities)	9382.92
Consumer Deposit to 102415 Ck#67062	250.00
COR Managed Services (Service)	800.00
Custer County Recycling (Service)	30.30
Dana F Cole & Co (Audit)	10206.00

Dept of HHS (License)	115.00
Dept of Revenue (Tax)	13141.12
Filter Care (Repair)	63.70
Graham Tire (Repair)	139.49
Hach Company (Service)	565.52
Heartland Disposal (Service)	5397.83
Homestead Bank (ACH fees)	22.60
Homestead Bank (BOKF Wire Fee)	8.00
Hometown Market (Supplies)	6.93
Howard County Medical Center (Lab)	93.00
Howard Greeley RPPD (Utilities)	132795.84
Itron (Computer)	264.60
Jim's Champlin (Fuel)	693.98
Johnny's Lock & Key (Supplies)	22.50
Jorgensen Electric (Service)	150.00
Mid Nebraska Disposal (Service)	3627.26
OfficeNet (Supplies & Service)	212.90
Olsson (Engineering)	13496.82
Poland Construction (Rental)	1145.50
Qisoft (Computer)	72.00
Rembolt Ludtke (Service)	2000.00
Servi-Tech (Service)	125.60
Smith Welding (Service)	33.95
Tommy Rene Printing (Supplies)	36.95
United Healthcare (Insurance)	25666.23
US Postal Service (Permit)	240.00
US Postal Service (Postage)	460.00
Heritage Bank UB ACH (Fee)	25.00
Advanced Climate Control - Ck# 67065 Voided; Ck#66877 Reissued for \$1660.00	1660.00
City of St. Paul Transfer from Heritage checking to City Homestead Bank Checking	145000.00

Non-General Disbursements

Civic Center: Charter Spectrum (Service)	166.96	#17E
Civic Center: Midwest Alarm (Service)	69.23	#1394
Civic Center: Dana Cole & Co (Audit)	200.00	#1396
Civic Center: Lisa Wilson (Refund)	900.00	#1397
Civic Center: City of St. Paul (Utilities)	958.78	#1398
Civic Center: Sydney Roepker (Refund)	1200.00	#1399
Civic Center: Lisa Maresh (Refund)	1200.00	#1400
Civic Center: Cardmember Service (Supplies)	7.19	#1401
Sales Tax: Dana F. Cole (Annual Audit)	1850.00	#1179
Keno: Dana F. Cole (Annual Audit)	1600.00	#264
Keno: Dana F. Cole (Annual Audit)	400.00	#265

There was a brief discussion regarding nuisance abatement; parking of unlicensed vehicles and trailers; and abandoned automobiles. Council member Schmid stated that this needs to be addressed and enforced continually; Council member Feeken stated that you cannot pick and choose who's vehicle your enforcing the Municipal Code on; all persons need to be treated the same and fairly. The Mayor and Council members were all in agreement to place a notice in the paper regarding the Municipal Code on nuisances and vehicles.

Council member Feeken moved to approve disbursing a check to the St. Paul Development Corp. from the City sales tax fund in the amount of \$30,000 regarding the operating budget

allotment. Council member Thompson seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Thompson, Schmid & Feeken voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

Council member Thompson moved to approve BTS Communications "Unlimited Remote Support" Agreement regarding Wildex telephone system fee of \$19 per month for a period of one (1) year. Council member Schmid seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Thompson, Schmid & Feeken voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

Chuck Schmid has volunteered numerous years and hours in recycling aluminum cans for the City of St. Paul at the City Water Tower, along with 4th and Jay Streets; the gazebo and borders around the park equipment are park improvements that the can proceeds paid for. Mr. Schmid is requesting the City take on the project of recycling the cans. Utility Superintendent Helzer stated that he will continue to do the task until he can find an organization that will take the project on for the City of St. Paul.

Police Sergeant updates include: purchasing a vest for Police Officer Sharman; increasing street patrol and taking care of the Police Dept. telephone issues with CenturyLink.

Council member Schmid reported on the City Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) in, comparing cities that utilize the Aqua-Aerobics System.

Council member Thompson reported that the City will possibly be developing quarterly town hall meetings.

Mayor Bergman updates include: (1) St. Paul Keno Lottery Compliance Procedures Report (see City Office); (2) St. Paul Police Department overtime pay and the utilization of a part-time Police Officer will provide additional coverage; (3) Citizens Bank & Trust will be adjusting all Insured Cash Sweep (ICS) accounts from 1.40% to .85%, this is due to the current interest rate environment; the rates will be review on an annual basis to ensure that the City is receiving a competitive interest rate; (4) see City Clerk Beck in viewing the St. Paul Development Corps General Ledger from August 2020 to December 9, 2020; and (5) the Nance County Sheriff's Dept. is offering the City two (2) armor plate carrier vest in the amount of \$50 each; an invoice will be in the Monday, January 4, 2021 disbursements.

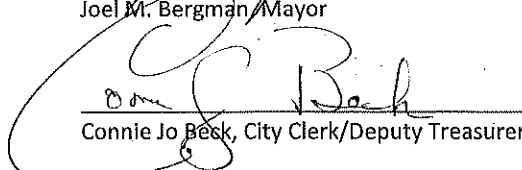
For Public Comment, John Thiel voiced "what are you going to do about the Chief". Mayor Bergman stated that the City will be looking to hire a Chief of Police.

Mayor Bergman voiced that a Closed Session was necessary for the prevention of needless injury to the reputation of an individual (Ed Thompson) at 8:04 p.m. Council member Kowalski seconded the motion. A motion has been made and seconded to go into Closed Session for the prevention of needless injury to the reputation of an individual. There was no discussion. The pending motion is to go into Closed Session for the prevention of needless injury to the reputation of an individual. Council members Kowalski, Thompson, Schmid & Feeken voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0. Mayor Bergman adjourned the close session and went into open session at 8:09 p.m. Action taken: Council member Kowalski moved to approve Electrical Commissioner Ed Thompson extending his unused vacation to the end of March 2021, due to extenuating circumstances. Council member Feeken seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Thompson & Schmid voted aye, Council member Thompson abstained from the motion due to the family relationship. Motion carried 3/0.

Mayor Bergman adjourned the City Council meeting at 8:11 p.m.

1-4-21
Date


Joel M. Bergman, Mayor


Connie Jo Beck, City Clerk/Deputy Treasurer