

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

Monday, February 1, 2021

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, February 1, 2021 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 the meeting was also posted in four (4) 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. with the "Pledge of Allegiance" and 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.

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. Also, any City patrons that are requesting "Public Records" or has "Questions or Concerns" in regards to the City, they need to be submitted in writing to the City of St. Paul, so that it can be addressed appropriately. These forms are available online, on the back wall of the Council Chambers or in the City Office.

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.

Brian Friedrichsen from Olsson was present to discuss the Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) 30% Design Memorandum. The design allows for twenty (20) years of future growth, and the decommissioning of the north lagoon cell. The final design should be complete by early August 2021. The Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy (NDEE) will need to approve the final design. Upon approval, the construction could start in early 2022. Gene Killinger volunteered that there may be new electrical requirements to factor into the construction based on legislative bills being considered by the Nebraska legislature. Council member Schmid moved to approve the Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) 30% Design Memorandum. Council member Thompson seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Thompson, Schmid & Feeken voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

Brenda Klanecky presented information on the proposed logos for the City of St. Paul's 150th year celebration. Proposed branding and logos were designed by Ron Sack and Jim Buhrman Jr. Council member Thompson moved to approve the "platinum & white" logo for marketing purposes of the City of St. Paul's 150th year celebration. Council member Kowalski seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Thompson, Schmid & Feeken voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0. Ms. Klanecky wanted to express appreciation to Ron Sack and Jim Buhrman Jr. for volunteering their time to design the logo – which was a value to the City of approximately \$3,500. Ms. Klanecky will work with the GCA Days Committee on implementing the approved logo.

Council member Thompson moved to approve the sales tax payment (Wroblewski & Gawrych Trust) for the purchase of land in which the Civic Center was built; the amount is \$16,726.16. Council member Schmid seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Thompson, Schmid & Feeken voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0. This is payment seven (7) out of ten (10)

payments; the remaining balance will be \$45,451 from the original amount of \$135,000. The payment was due in early January 2021. However the St. Paul Development Corporation (SPDC) did not receive an invoice requesting payment, and the new leadership at the SPDC was not aware of the required payment. In an effort to make the payment by the end of January, 2021, the SPDC paid the amount from their operating funds. The SPDC is seeking reimbursement of the amount paid.

Council member Feeken moved to remove the disbursement for the Nebraska Secretary of State in the amount of \$20.00 from the consent agenda. Council member Thompson seconded the motion. Roll call vote with Council members Kowalski, Thompson, Schmid & Feeken voting aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

Council member Schmid moved to approve (1) Council Minutes - Tuesday, January 19, 2021; and (2) Disbursements - Monday, February 1, 2021 (with the exception of the disbursement to the NE Secretary of State in the amount of \$20.00). Council member Kowalski seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Thompson, Schmid & Feeken voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

February 1, 2021 Disbursements

City: Heritage Bank Trfr to Citizens Bank Light,	100000.00
Water & Sewer Insured Cash Sweep (ICS)	
Blue 360 Media (Book)	244.13
Bomgaars (Supplies)	538.11
Bryan Jensen Clothing (Uniforms)	1444.76
Charter/Spectrum (Service)	209.96
City Health Deductible Savings (Insurance)	6171.00
City of St. Paul 125 Plan (Insurance)	160.00
Custer County Recycling (Service)	18.60
Dick's Repair (Service)	52.24
Digital-Ally (Supplies)	205.00
Dinsdale, Tom Chevrolet (Supplies)	119.77
Dugan Business Forms (Supplies)	817.91
Hansen Int'l Truck (Supplies)	93.22
HireRight LLC (Service)	107.10
Howard Co. Treasurer (Dispatch Fee)	2782.05
Hydro Optimization (Service)	175.50
Jacobs Ford (Supplies)	163.95
Madison Nat'l Life (Insurance)	171.84
Municipal Chemical Supply (Chemicals)	78.00
OfficeNet (Supplies)	209.39
Parts Bin (Supplies)	610.01
Petty Cash (Postage, Supplies)	44.41
Regional Care (Insurance)	88.00
S E Smith & Sons (Supplies)	439.40
State of Nebraska Central (Telephone)	159.78
Thompson, Ed (Supplies)	111.72
Verizon Wireless (Telephone)	134.95
Wesco (Supplies)	43.50
Gross Wages - January	82188.07

Non-General Disbursements

Sales Tax M. Mkt to Sales Tax Checking (Transfer)	50000.00
Heritage Bank City Checking Transfer to Citizens Bank City's ICS Light, Water, Sewer	100000.00

Sales Tax Checking to Homestead Bank	2414.01
Checking Acct for Street - Mtr Veh Tax	
Sales Tax Checking to Citizens Bank City	7328.11
25% Infrastructure Account	
Sales Tax Mmkt to South Central Eco. Dev.	
District Membership	5000.00
TIF: City of St. Paul (Solko #8654)	1129.29
TIF: MAD Dev (Solko #8654)	1129.30
Civic Center: Howard Co Med (refund)	75.00
Civic Center: Natalie Bank (refund)	300.00
Civic Center: Verizon (phone)	30.36
Civic Center: Heartland Disposal (service)	80.00

Council member Feeken moved to approve the disbursement to the Nebraska Secretary of State in the amount of \$20.00 for the Cemetery Foundation biennial report to be paid by the Cemetery Foundation, and not paid through the Cemetery budget. Council member Schmid seconded the motion. Roll call vote with Council members Kowalski, Thompson, Schmid & Feeken voting aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

At the City Council meeting on Tuesday, January 19, 2021, it was voted unanimously by the Council to implement a City sewer rate increase regarding the Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) for a three (3) year phase period based on a 25 year note; the sewer rate ordinance will become effective March 1, 2021. Council member Schmid introduced Ordinance No. 1018, amending Article 245 to Chapter 3 of the Municipal Code of the City of St. Paul, NE; identifying the new sewer rates to be charged to customers of the Municipal Sewer System beginning March 1, 2021. The Ordinance further provides additional increases in the sewer rates effective March 1, 2022 and March 1, 2023.

Council member Kowalski made a motion to waive the three (3) readings of Ordinance No. 1018 at three (3) different occasions. Council member Thompson seconded the motion. Roll call vote with Council members Kowalski, Thompson, & Schmid voting aye, and Council member Feeken voting nay. Motion carried 3/0. Council member Schmid moved for final passage of Ordinance No. 1018. Council member Thompson seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Thompson, Schmid & Feeken voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

Council member Thompson discussed the possibility of designating a time to clean-up property within the City. Mr. Thompson stated that people have mattresses and other items in their yard that needs to be removed. He suggested designating an area that could be used to haul items for disposal during a 10-day time frame. The City could use dump trucks to haul the items to the landfill, and use keno funds to pay the landfill fees. No tires, hazardous waste, televisions, etc. would be allowed. It was mentioned that a person would need to be present to ensure that inappropriate items were not disposed. No action was taken.

Council member Thompson discussed the City snow emergency routes, along with penalties for not adhering to a declared snow emergency. Vehicles left on snow emergency routes create problems for City crews trying to remove snow. Police Sergeant Greenwalt indicated that the Police Department has dealt with violations on a case by case basis, but has not had to tow vehicles in the past. Towing vehicles is an option which they are willing to pursue if necessary. The Mayor's declaration of a snow emergency prior to the last snowstorm allowed people to plan ahead to avoid parking on snow emergency routes. It was suggested that the start time of an emergency declaration begin earlier in the day to allow for any necessary enforcement. The snow emergency routes are available on the City's website. No action was taken.

Mayor Bergman indicated that due to the President's Day holiday, the next City Council meeting will be on Tuesday, February 16, 2021.

Utility Superintendent Helzer indicated that one of the Civic Center heating system wellheads was damaged as a result of recent snow removal efforts. City Attorney White suggested that the City file a claim with the insurance company for the damages.

City of St. Paul Police Sergeant Greenwalt reported on police business. The issues with the police phone lines have been resolved. Sergeant Greenwalt expressed concerns about the state of the current police force, and requested better communication between the Police Department, the Sheriff's Department and the Mayor in order to improve their working relationship.

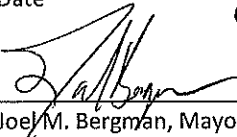
Updates from Council member Feeken included: (1) The City's disconnect policy must be listed on the City's website if it isn't already available; (2) No policy was violated by the City Council as alleged by Mr. Killinger when the City Council cancelled its November 16, 2020 meeting due to a lack of quorum. A letter was forwarded to Mr. Killinger in response to his allegation; (3) The City needs to listen to concerns from police officers as a result of Sergeant Greenwalt's comments.

Council member Schmid expressed appreciation for the excellent job the City employees did in removing snow as a result of the latest snowstorm.

Mayor Bergman updates: (1) "Notice" of Nuisance Enforcement was placed in the Phonograph Herald; (2) Police Chief applications have been received; and (3) He will meet with Police Sergeant Greenwalt in the morning regarding concerns expressed by Sergeant Greenwalt.

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

February 16, 2021
Date


Joe M. Bergman, Mayor


Laura Berthelsen, Deputy City Clerk