

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

Monday, March 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, March 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, in a file folder on the back wall of the Council Chambers or at 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.

J.J. Green with Primark Insurance Agency and the City of St. Paul's insurance representative, presented renewal information regarding the City employees' health insurance with United Healthcare. Pharmacy will be the only modification in the renewal coverage. Prescriptions will have four (4) Tiers with a different co-pay at each level. The renewal premium increase is 5.1%. Council member Thompson moved to approve the United Healthcare renewal rates effective May 1, 2021. Council member Schmid seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Thompson, Schmid & Feeken voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

Cindy Paustian addressed the City Council about a feline issue involving 6-8 homeless cats near the Pizza Hut in St. Paul. Ms. Paustian would like the City's assistance in forming a volunteer committee to facilitate with the capturing, having them spayed or neutered and finding homes for the cats. Stan Valasek with Martinsen Vet Clinic is willing to assist the volunteer committee with the spaying and neutering of the animals. Council member Feeken stated that a timeline needs to be set to stay on top of the problem. Council member Feeken moved to approve the City placing a public announcement in the Phonograph Herald regarding the creation of a volunteer committee to follow the feline process; keno funds will absorb the cost of the advertisement. City Officials stated that they will support the committee. Council member Thompson seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Thompson, Schmid & Feeken voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

The Special Designated Liquor (SDL) application from Rotary International of St. Paul (Jordan Meyer) regarding the Ducks Unlimited Annual Banquet was tabled until an affirmative date is set.

Consent Agenda Items: Council member Schmid moved to approve the (1) January 2021 Treasurer's Report; (2) February 16, 2021 (Tuesday) minutes; and (3) March 1, 2021

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

March 1, 2021 Disbursements

NE Sec of State (Fees)	-20.00
Amazon Business Services (books, supplies)	3901.47
Beck, Connie Jo (supplies)	32.85
BJ's Garage (repair)	112.50
Bomgaars (Supplies)	621.58
Brehm's (supplies)	41.53
Cengage Learning (books)	128.31
City Health Deductible Savings (Insurance)	6171.00
City of St. Paul 125 Plan (Insurance)	160.00
Custer County Recycling (Service)	37.40
DHHS (permit)	40.00
Dutton-Lainson (supplies)	867.44
Elba Fire Dept. (service)	559.20
Filter Care (service)	3.00
Howard Co. Treasurer (Dispatch Fee)	2782.05
Howard Greeley RPPD (utilities)	159293.10
Jarecke Motors (repair)	943.55
John Deere Financial (supplies)	2949.63
Madison Nat'l Life (Insurance)	182.58
Midwest Hydraulic Service (repair)	451.10
NE Dept. of Transportation (service)	2739.80
NE Library Commission (fee)	500.00
NE Public Health Environmental (testing)	237.00
NE Sec of State (Fees)	35.00
OfficeNet (supplies)	10.64
Olsson (engineering)	47405.62
Parts Bin (Supplies)	753.73
Penworthy Company (books)	469.15
Petty Cash (Postage, Supplies)	48.86
Quick Med Claims (EMT Run 15%)	1331.63
Regional Care (Insurance)	93.50
Servi-Tech Inc (lab)	125.60
State of Nebraska Central Svcs (Telephone)	159.77
Thompson, Ed (supplies)	28.98
US Post Office (fee)	64.00
Wells Plumbing (repairs)	116.23
Yandas Pro Audio & Video (supplies)	232.00
Gross Wages - February	81489.53

Non-General Disbursements

Sales Tax M. Mkt Reimb to SPDC for Land Pmt	16726.16
Elmwood Cem Found to NE Sec of State	20.00
Street: Mtr Veh Tax from Sales Tax	3977.64
25% Infrastructure from Sales Tax	8644.18
Civic: Bomgaars (supplies)	32.16
Civic: Charter/Spectrum (service)	166.96

Council member Schmid moved to approve a City "Spring Clean-up" day beginning Friday, April 9, 2021 through Sunday, April 18, 2021, with keno funds absorbing the cost of the advertisement. Council member Thompson seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Thompson, Schmid & Feeken voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0. Council member Thompson has a volunteer crew to assist with the clean-up. It was discussed that the metal will

go to the St. Paul Rotary pile, along with trees and limbs to the City Recycling Center tree pile. No tires or hazardous waste disposal will be allowed.

Council member Thompson moved to approve the interview hiring committee regarding the City Police Chief; the committee will consist of Mayor Bergman, Council member Kowalski, Council member Thompson and Sergeant Greenwalt as an observer. The interviews will take place on Monday, March 8, 2021 beginning in the morning. The committee will make a recommendation to the City Council on hiring the Police Chief. Council member Schmid seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Thompson, Schmid & Feeken voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0. If the Council has any interview questions, they are to forward them to the City Office staff.

Council member Schmid moved to transfer \$149,000 from the City Heritage Bank (Utility Billing) account and deposit it into the City Homestead Bank account to pay disbursements and bonds. Council member Thompson seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Thompson, Schmid & Feeken voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

Next on the Council agenda was a resolution to establish a recall election date concerning the Mayor. Mayor Bergman explained the recall election Nebraska State Statute process, along with stating that the recall election will cost approximately \$8,000 from property tax dollars; these funds were not placed in the City budget. Council member Feeken moved to approve Resolution 2021-02 setting the date for the special election on Tuesday, May 11, 2021. Council member Schmid seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Thompson, Schmid & Feeken voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0. Resolution 2021-02 will be delivered to Howard County Clerk Bev Sack on Tuesday, March 2, 2021.

Utility Superintendent Helzer reported on a storage container on property east of Howard Avenue; Sergeant Greenwalt was updated.

City of St. Paul Police updates: (1) City wellness program with D & D Gym; (2) Officer Sharman assisted in a Special Response Team (SRT) incident; and (3) Officer Sharman is also assisting in the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center (NLETC) patrol tactics to train new Police Officers.

Council member Feeken updates: (1) Unleashed dogs; (2) road work at 8th and "M" Streets; and (3) Municipal Code on City parking restrictions.

Mayor Bergman updates: (1) Legislative Report: (a) Public City Bidding \$30,000 - NE Statute 17-568.01; (b) Budget Hearing held Separately - LB148; (c) City Treasurer Education - LB781; (d) City Council; meetings; quorum - LB1003 - NE Statute 17-105; and (e) Liquor License - temporary expansion of licensed premises immediately adjacent to its location; not to exceed 15 days per calendar year - LB1056. (2) Sales Tax proceeds information (difference from 2019-2020 versus 2020-2021). (3) Electrical Commissioner Thompson gave a brief update regarding the Howard Greeley Rural Public Power "Production Cost Adjustment" (PCA). (4) Thank you note was submitted to Officer Trev Sharman from Connie Jo Beck in reference to a rescue response call and assisting at a funeral for Joani Stanczyk.


For the public comment period, Gene Killinger questioned NE State Statute 17-105 (Council; meetings; quorum). City Clerk Beck stated to Mr. Killinger that a City ordinance needs to be adopted to mirror the State Statute. The operative date of the statute was November 14, 2020.

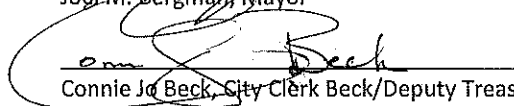
Council member Feeken moved to go into Closed Session at 8:19 p.m. for pending litigation; attending the closed session was City Attorney White, Mayor Bergman, Council members Kowalski, Thompson, Schmid & Feeken. Council member Thompson seconded the motion. A motion was made and seconded to go into Closed Session for pending litigation. There was no discussion on the pending motion to go into Closed Session for pending litigation. Council members Kowalski, Thompson, Schmid & Feeken voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

Mayor Bergman adjourned the closed session at 8:29 p.m., with no action taken.

Mayor Bergman adjourned the City Council meeting at 8:30 p.m.

March 15, 2021
Date


Joel M. Bergman, Mayor


Connie Jo Beck, City Clerk Beck/Deputy Treasurer