

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

Monday, August 16, 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, August 16, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. Present were Mayor Joel M. Bergman and Council members Katie Kowalski, Jerry Thompson & Mike Feeken. Absent: Council member Schmid. 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 7:01 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 §84-1407 through §84-1414. Mayor Bergman also stated that the City Council may vote to go into Closed Session on any agenda item as allowed by NE State Law §84-1410.

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 have "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.

There was a brief discussion regarding the Christensen Insurance \$30,000 EMC National Life Insurance proposal that is specifically designed to insure the NE Volunteer Fire Departments and Rescue Squads; the insurance also includes Accidental Death and Dismemberment Benefits; the St. Paul Fire and Rescue members currently don't have this additional coverage. With this coverage those members over 70 years of age, the benefit reduces 50%; the death benefit for the current plan reduces 50% or a maximum of \$7,500 when the insured turns 65 years of age. The cost of the plan is an additional \$903, which is based on 47 members, with all members at full benefits. Council member Thompson moved to approve the change in coverage to EMC National Life Insurance from United Life Insurance to insure the St. Paul Fire and Rescue volunteers in the amount of \$30,000. Council member Kowalski seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Thompson & Feeken voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 3/0. St. Paul Development Corp. Executive Director Mike Coghlan spoke on behalf of the Bootlegger's Inc. prospective owners regarding the request of funds in the amount of \$130,000 from the Sales Tax LB840 and the Rural Economic Development Loan Grant (REDLG) funds. The funds are intended for operating cost and inventory. The topic of discussion consisted of: (1) Bootlegger's great track record; (2) the new and existing owners will sign the two (2) loans; (3) there is a personal guarantee, with no collateral regarding the funding; and (4) Mrs. Lukasiewicz provided financial information regarding the business. Council member Kowalski moved to approve \$80,000 from the REDLG fund and \$50,000 from the Sales Tax LB840 fund to finance the prospective owners. The loans will be for a five (5) year term, along with an interest rate of 2.75%. Council member Feeken seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Thompson & Feeken voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 3/0.

Council member Thompson moved to approve Mayor Bergman's appointment of Cindi Mendyk to the Housing Authority Board effective September 1, 2021; this is due to the current Board member LaDonna Wolinski moving from the facility at the end of August 2021; she will no

longer be eligible as a Board member. Council member Feeken seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Thompson & Feeken voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 3/0.

Council member Kowalski moved to approve placing dimmer switches in the "Roemich" room at the St. Paul Civic Center. New cable will be installed throughout the building by Rice Electric LLC. The St. Paul Economic Development will absorb the cost of the project in the amount of \$3,492. Council member Feeken seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Thompson & Feeken voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 3/0.

City Auditor, Dana F. Cole & Co. (Gary Hinrichs) gave approval to City Clerk Beck on Wednesday, August 11, 2021 regarding the St. Paul Development Corp. (SPDC) managing the day to day operations of the St. Paul Civic Center. Mr. Hinrichs stated that if the City is not funding the Civic Center in any way, then SPDC can manage the facility. The Summer Recreation program will continually have a budget through the City, due to the \$8,000 in property tax to fund the program. Council member Kowalski moved to approve the St. Paul Development Corp. (SPDC) managing the operations of the St. Paul Civic Center, with the stipulation that the LARM Insurance remains in place on the Civic Center building. The St. Paul Development Corp. (SPDC) will open a new Civic Center bank account without the signatures of the City officials to handle the finances; Dana F. Cole & Co. will audit the Civic Center accounts annually. Council member Thompson seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Thompson & Feeken voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 3/0. The transition will take place October 1, 2021; this definitely will be a cost savings to the City, due to not maintaining two (2) sets of records for the Civic Center. St. Paul Development Corp. Executive Director submitted a St. Paul Area Civic & Recreational Center Roles and Responsibilities plan to the City.

Council member Thompson moved to approve the Consent Agenda Items:

(1) August 2, 2021 Council minutes (regular) and August 9, 2021 Council minutes (special); and (2) August 16, 2021 disbursements. Council member Feeken seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Thompson & Feeken voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 3/0.

Disbursements August 16, 2021

Clearfly (phone)	192.74
COR Managed Svcs (service)	800.00
NE Dept Revenue (Form 10 Sales Tax)	18427.53
Quick Med Claims (service)	55.66
Aurora Coop (fuel)	1110.77
Black Hills Energy (natural gas)	715.26
Bound Tree (supplies)	381.78
City Lights (utilities)	11906.29
Core & Main (supplies)	2525.37
Crescent Electric Supply (supplies)	7.32
Custer County Recycling (service)	34.60
Dick's Repair (repair)	77.87
Entech Pest Management (service)	135.00
Heartland Clerk's Association (dues)	20.00
Heartland Disposal (service)	5534.17
Heartland Disposal (service)	530.75
Homestead Bank (ACH fees)	31.20
Hometown Market (supplies)	199.77
Howard, Dan (supplies)	50.00
Howard County Reg of Deeds (fees)	16.00
Itron (maintenance)	158.76
Jack's Uniform & Equip (supplies)	136.84
J P Cooke Co (supplies)	79.80
Jerry's Sheet Metal (repair)	617.50
Jim's Champlin (fuel)	2268.66
LARM (insurance)	93.42
Loup Valley Supply (repair, supplies)	188.30
Mid-Nebraska Disposal (service)	3558.88
Municipal Supply (supplies)	1153.64

NE Municipal Clerks Assn (dues)	70.00
OfficeNet (supplies & service)	511.72
One Call Concepts (service)	27.30
Open Caret (service)	200.00
Overland Ready Mixed (concrete)	6621.75
Phonograph Herald (publication)	615.21
SE Smith & Sons (supplies)	91.05
Schaper & White (service)	198.33
Sirchie (supplies)	501.90
Smith Welding (supplies)	7.36
Spilinek, Billynda (education)	120.00
St. Paul Public School (reimbursement)	1850.00
Stetson Building Products (supplies)	297.00
TO Haas Tire (service)	55.17
US Postal Service (postage)	460.00
Utilities Section of LNM (dues)	1414.00
Verizon Wireless (phone)	184.48
Wells Plumbing (repair)	307.11
Wesco Distribution (supplies)	1166.18

Disbursements Non-General

Civic: Verizon Wireless (service)	41.12
Civic: Entech Pest Mgmt (service)	85.00
Civic: Stefanie Neal (summer rec)	300.00
Civic: City of St Paul (utilities)	1042.20
Civic: Sarah Townsend (cleaning)	300.00
Civic: Jay Galvan (service)	1981.00
Civic: Heartland Disposal (service)	84.00
Civic: Cardmember Services (supplies)	52.24
Sales Tax: Schaper & White - MAD (legal)	131.25
Park Alum. Cans: Sterling West (supplies)	1406.00
Equip Sinking Fund: OfficeNet (chairs)	1260.00

Council member Thompson moved to approve the American Legion Carl Mogensen #119 (1222 2nd Street) Special Designated Liquor (SDL) application on Saturday, September 11, 2021 regarding a fundraising event from 11:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. Identification will be checked, along with wristbands being utilized for underage drinking. Chief of Police Howard approved the application. Council member Kowalski seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Thompson & Feeken voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 3/0.

A lengthy debate between Council member Kowalski and Council member Feeken was had concerning the utilization of the property tax levy surplus. This is so that the City can receive the maximum funding of the City's Municipal Equalization. The Council members did come to an agreement to utilize \$6,000 of the \$51,690 of the property tax levy surplus to fund the Elmwood Cemetery improvements; the cemetery reserves will not be needed to fund the improvements. Council member Kowalski moved to approve utilizing the \$6,000 property tax levy to fund the Elmwood Cemetery improvements. Council member Thompson seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Thompson & Feeken voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 3/0. Mikayla Findlay from the NE Department of Revenue provided information on the above topic.

Council member Thompson moved to approve the St. Paul Police Department purchasing a light bar, emergency lights, siren and a controller for the 2016 Ford Explorer Interceptor; the \$3,337 invoice will be paid in the City's Fiscal Year 2021-2022, but the equipment will be purchased in Fiscal Year 2020-2021. Council member Kowalski seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Thompson & Feeken voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 3/0.

Reminder: The first (1st) City Council meeting in September will be Tuesday, September 7, 2021, due to the Labor Day holiday.

During the Utility Superintendent's updates, Council member Feeken stated that the Street Dept. did a great job on the City parking lot west of the City office building; Mayor Bergman stated that it's a nice improvement.

Chief of Police Dan Howard updates: (1) the City Police Dept. will be working on City nuisances; Police Chief Howard has divided the City into four (4) quadrants; each Officer is responsible for a quadrant. Police Chief Howard instructed his employees to take one (1) hour of the day to be utilized for nuisances. The nuisance quadrants will be rotated in January and July of each year so that the Officers don't receive the same people each time; (2) Police Chief Howard stated that the Officers are performing a fantastic job on police warrants and drugs; and (3) Ms. Moriah Rawlings had a celebration this last Sunday, due to graduating college from the University of Nebraska - Lincoln.

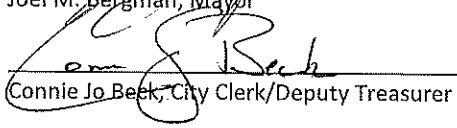
There were no Council member updates.

Mayor Bergman updates include: (1) Per the local Deputy Fire Marshall (Todd Brehm) the Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) control/blower building does not need to be ADA accessible; Mr. Brehm also stated that the exterior lighting is not needed on the building sign; (2) the St. Paul Civic Center Pershing floor has been refurbished; and (3) on Saturday August 14, 2021 there was an incident in St. Paul; all media inquiries are to be directed to the NE State Patrol.

Mayor Bergman adjourned the City Council meeting at 8:00 p.m.

9/7/2021
Date


Joel M. Bergman, Mayor


Connie Jo Beck, City Clerk/Deputy Treasurer