

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

Tuesday, September 7, 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 Tuesday, September 7, 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.

The City of St. Paul Council held two (2) meetings on Tuesday, September 7, 2021; the 1st Council meeting began at 7:00 p.m. regarding: (1) the City of St. Paul's public hearing for the 2021-2022 Budget Statement and the 2021-2022 City Budget; and (2) the 2nd Council meeting commenced immediately upon adjournment of the budget hearing.

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 §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.

Per Nebraska State Statute 13-506(1), as amended by LB148 (2020): Each governing body shall each year conduct a public hearing on its proposed budget statement. Such hearing shall be held separately from any regular scheduled meeting of the governing body and shall not be limited by time. After such hearing, the proposed budget statement shall be adopted, or amended and adopted as amended at a separate and distinct meeting, and a written record shall be kept of such hearing.

Mayor Bergman opened the public comment period at 7:02 p.m. regarding the City of St. Paul's 2021-2022 Budget Statement and the City's 2021-2022 Budget. Gary Hinrichs with Dana F. Cole & Co. gave an overview of the City's 2021-2022 Budget Comparison Schedule regarding the (1) Property Tax request; (2) the Valuation; and (3) the Levy. Mr. Hinrichs was also present to answer questions from the audience.

After hearing no comments from the audience, Mayor Bergman closed the public comment period at 7:06 p.m.

Mayor Bergman adjourned the public hearing at 7:06 p.m. regarding the proposed 2021-2022 Budget Statement and Budget.

Mayor Bergman called the 2nd City Council meeting to order at 7:07 p.m., with the "Open Meeting Statement" as required by NE State Statutes 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 Statute 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 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.

Council member Schmid moved to approve the 2021 Municipal Annual Certification of Program Compliance to the Nebraska Board of Public Roads Classifications and Standard (NBCS), along with Resolution #2021-07, whereas the governing body authorizes the signing of the certification by Mayor Joel M. Bergman. Council member Thompson seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Thompson, Schmid & Feeken voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

Brian Friedrichsen (Olsson) was present to discuss the \$300,000 loan increase regarding the new Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF); the new loan amount will be \$5,820,000. The increase is due to upgrading the Scada (control) system, adding the Jet and Vac trailer and the Sewer Department truck. The City will not have a guarantee through the NE Dept. of Environment & Energy (NDEE) regarding the zero percent (0%) administration fee or interest rate if the \$300,000 isn't added to the loan amount.

Council member Thompson introduced Ordinance #1024; authorizing the execution and delivery of a loan contract between the Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy (NDEE) and the City of St. Paul, and issuance, pursuant to said contract, of a promissory note of the City of St. Paul, NE, in the principal amount of up to five million, eight hundred, twenty thousand and 00/100 dollars (\$5,820,000.00) for the purpose of constructing additions and improvements to the Wastewater Treatment System of the City as a Clean Water project; pledging and hypothecating the revenues and earnings of the Combined Utilities owned by the City for the payment of said note; and ordering the Ordinance published in pamphlet form. Council member Kowalski moved to waive the three (3) readings of Ordinance #1024 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 Schmid moved for final passage of Ordinance #1024. 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 the Loan Agreement between the Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy (NDEE) and the City of St. Paul, Project No: C318049 in the amount of \$5,820,000; the interest rate and administration fee will draw zero percent (0.0%) interest. The loan will finance construction of wastewater treatment facility improvements for ammonia and nutrient removal; included in the loan are engineering and inspection fees, scada upgrade, and sewer maintenance equipment, jet trailer, vac trailer and a sewer utility pickup. Installments of principal and interest shall be paid semiannually on December 15 and June 15 of each year in accordance with the Loan Repayment Schedule. Council member Kowalski seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Thompson, Schmid & Feeken voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0. There was a brief discussion on the City possibly utilizing the sewer main lift station generator for backup power.

Council member Schmid moved to approve the 2020-2021 Fiscal Year Transfers in the amount of \$499,585.00: Light to Police \$140,000 (operating); Light to Park \$66,800 (operating); Light to General \$18,335 (US Wage); Water to General \$18,335 (US Wage); Sewer to General \$18,335 (US Wage); Landfill to Park \$10,000 (operating); Street to General \$18,335 (US Wage); Street to General \$11,500 (seasonal tractor); and Street to VP Bond \$197,945 (assessments). Council member Thompson seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Thompson, Schmid & Feeken voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

Council member Kowalski moved to approve the proposed 2021-2022 Budget and Budget Statement. Council member Schmid seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Thompson, Schmid & Feeken voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

Council member Schmid moved to approve the **ADDITIONAL** one percent (1%) increase regarding the total allowable restricted fund authority. Council member Feeken seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Thompson, Schmid & Feeken voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

Council member Kowalski moved to approve Resolution #2021-8, whereas the 2021-2022 property tax requests be set at \$670,236.00 for the General Fund and \$176,750.00 for the Bond

Fund. The total assessed value of property differs from last year's total assessed value by 11.34 percent. The tax rate which would levy the same amount of property taxes as last year, when multiplied by the new total assessed value of property would be 0.589924 per \$100 of assessed value. The City of St. Paul proposes to adopt a property tax request that will cause its tax rate to be 0.590521 per \$100 of assessed value. Based on the proposed property tax request and changes in other revenue, the total operating budget of the City will increase last year's budget by 24.93 percent. A copy of the resolution will be certified and forwarded to the Howard County Clerk on or before Wednesday, October 13, 2021. Council member Feeken seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Thompson, Schmid & Feeken voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

Council member Feeken moved to introduce the "Annual Appropriation Bill" Ordinance #1023 for the operation of the General and Utility funds of the City of St. Paul, in Howard County, NE, appropriating the sums of money deemed necessary to defray all expenses and liabilities for the fiscal year commencing on the first day of October, 2021 and ending the last day of September, 2022. Council member Thompson waived the three (3) readings of Ordinance #1023 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 #1023. Council member Schmid seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Thompson, Schmid & Feeken voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

Council member Thompson moved to approve the Consent Agenda Items: (1) July 2021 Treasurer's Report; (2) August 16, 2021 Council minutes; (3) August 30, 2021 Zoning Permits; (4) September 7, 2021 disbursements; (5) Mike Coghlan as a St. Paul Emergency Medical Technician (EMT); and (6) Andrew Wilshusen as a St. Paul Firefighter; Chief of Police Howard approved background checks on both EMT and Firefighter. Council member Schmid seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Thompson, Schmid & Feeken voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

September 7, 2021 Disbursements

Gross Payroll - August 2021	100100.45
911 Custom (supplies)	1930.00
Aitec Industries (supplies)	8.55
Amazon Capital Services (books)	1678.33
Banyon Data Systems (software)	390.00
Barco Municipal Products (supplies)	793.66
Beck, Connie Jo (mileage)	26.88
Biblionix (data system)	3150.00
Birkby, Rylan (education)	100.00
Bomgaars (supplies)	586.57
Border States (supplies)	106.96
Bound to Stay Bound Books (books)	2222.23
Bound Tree (supplies)	250.62
Busse, Nicklaus (education)	100.00
Cardmember Svc (supplies, postage, meals, education)	1025.20
Cengage Learning (books)	34.20
Charter Spectrum (service)	229.96
Christensen Concrete (supplies)	319.05
Health Ded. Savings (insurance)	6534.00
St. Paul 125 Plan (insurance)	150.00
COR Managed Services (computers)	4708.00
Crescent Electric (supplies)	42.85
Custer County Recycling (service)	31.40
Dana Cole & Company (service)	8900.00
Danko Emergency Equip (supplies)	15.00
Dick's Repair (repair)	719.61
Elmwood Cemetery (service)	500.00
Entech Pest Management (service)	85.00

Ferebee, Adriana (education)	50.00
Grand Island Independent (subscription)	344.94
Hawkins (chemicals)	1488.27
Heartland Disposal (service)	512.22
Heritage Bank UB ACH Fee (Fee)	25.00
Hometown Market (supplies)	5.99
Howard Co. Treasurer (dispatch fee)	2782.05
Howard Co. Reg of Deeds (recording fees)	10.00
Howard Greeley RPPD (utilities)	170679.77
Jack's Uniform & Equipment (supplies)	53.94
John Deere Financial (supplies)	27.48
Johnsen Corrision Eng (service)	1029.00
Jon's Plumbing (repair)	4175.39
Koperski, Olivia (education)	50.00
Kraken Books Ltd (books, program)	315.00
Logan Contractors Supply (supplies)	786.18
Loup Valley Supply (supplies)	23.50
Madison National Life (insurance)	193.32
Menards (supplies)	92.24
Midland Telecom (supplies)	64.15
Midwest Hydraulic Service (supplies)	12.19
Midwest Service & Sales (suppliss)	1508.00
Municipal Supply (supplies)	65.49
NE Generator Service (service)	2382.08
NE Library Assn (supplies)	25.50
OfficeNet (supplies)	359.03
Olsson (engineering)	24546.65
Omaha World Herald (subscription)	500.99
Overland Ready Mixed (concrete)	5041.33
Parts Bin (supplies)	224.48
Paulsen, Jonah (education)	50.00
Petty Cash (supplies, license, inspection)	32.55
POAN (education, dues)	430.00
Regional Care (insurance)	99.00
Rembolt Ludtke (service)	2440.00
SE Smith & Sons (supplies)	557.55
Servi-Tech (lab)	144.25
Smith Welding (service)	282.99
State of NE Central Svcs (telephone)	160.24
Thiel Tire & Auto (repair, supplies)	250.82
TO Haas Tire (supplies, repair)	1080.20
T & R Electric Supply (repair)	100.00
United Healthcare (insurance)	25228.84
Van Diest Supply (chemicals)	812.16
Verizon Wireless (phones)	184.48
Wells Plumbing (repair)	111.63
Wesco Distribution (supplies)	276.08
Light Fund to Police Fund (operating)	140000.00
Light Fund to Park Fund (operating)	66800.00
Light Fund to General Fund (US Wage)	18335.00
Water Fund to General Fund (US Wage)	18335.00
Sewer Fund to General Fund (US Wage)	18335.00
Landfill Fund to Park Fund (operating)	10000.00
Street Fund to General Fund (US Wage)	18335.00
Street Fund to General Fund (seasonal tractor)	11500.00
Street Fund to VP Bond Fund (street assess)	197945.00

September 7, 2021 Non-General

S Squared Enterp. (TIF Allocation M. Sok)	685.71
City of St Paul (1/2 TIF B Robinson to Assess)	1526.70
MAD Dev. (1/2 TIF B Robinson)	1526.70
Sales Tax: Street Motor Veh Tax (To: 100027)	6984.39
Sales Tax: 25% Infrastructure (To: 102342)	8965.42
TIF: Check Order (checks)	12.42
Civic: Charter/Spectrum (service)	192.95
Civic: Sarah Townsend (janitor)	300.00
Civic: Entech Pest Mgmt (service)	85.00
Civic: Wells Plumbing & Heating (repair)	92.00
Civic: Verizon Wireless (service)	41.12

Council member Schmid moved to approve Kinsey A. Bosselman as the new manager for Bosselman Pump & Pantry Inc. (License #D-113932); Chief of Police Howard performed a background check and granted his approval. Council member Thompson seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Thompson, Schmid & Feeken voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

Council member Feeken moved to approve transferring \$40,000 from the Sales Tax Money Market account to the Sales Tax Checking account. This is for the purpose of paying disbursements regarding the Street: Motor Vehicle Tax and the 25% Infrastructure out of the Sales Tax, along with any other authorized disbursements from the City Council. Council member Schmid seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Thompson, Schmid & Feeken voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

Council member Feeken moved to approve transferring \$450,000 from the City Heritage checking account; this is due to paying disbursements and receiving a beneficial interest rate on the City funds. The Heritage Bank transfer will be placed in the City's Homestead checking account in the amount of \$200,000 and Citizens Bank & Trust in the amount of \$250,000, with the 1/3 of the funds divided evenly between the Light, Water and Sewer ICS accounts. Council member Schmid seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Thompson, Schmid & Feeken voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

Council member Schmid moved to approve the bid in the amount of \$20,501 regarding the City Police 2010 Chevrolet / Tahoe K1500 LTZ - White Sport Utility Vehicle (SUV). Council member Kowalski seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Thompson, Schmid & Feeken voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0. Insurance on the vehicle will be removed once the City receives payment.

Utility Superintendent Helzer updates consisted of: (1) St. Paul Swimming Pool slide deck will be repaired by a local individual; a certificate of insurance will be provided prior to repairs and (2) the City is utilizing a chemical to eliminate the coon-tail weed at the sewer lagoon.

Chief of Police Dan Howard updates includes: (1) an "Incident & Nuisance" report was submitted to the Mayor and Council members; (2) City nuisances; 15 nuisance letters will be placed in the mail this week; (3) an incident at the St. Paul Public School football game concerning parents behavior; extra law enforcement will be present at the football games. Drug/Alcohol Free signs will be placed at the ballfield/practice field grounds; (4) Sergeant Greenwalt had a speeding pursuit Saturday night (September 4, 2021) and (5) the St. Paul Police Department submitted 811 incident reports to the State of Nebraska "National Incident-Based Reporting System" (NIBRS) from March 2020 to current.

Council member Kowalski thanked the St. Paul Police Department for their presence in the morning concerning school traffic; Council member Schmid also thanked the Police Department.

Council member Schmid extended an invitation to the Mayor, Council and audience for an event scheduled for Saturday, September 11, 2021 at the St. Paul Country Club (SPCC) beginning at 11:00 a.m. regarding a tribute to 9-11. At 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, September 11,

2021 there will be an open house for the new American Legion Post #119 located at US Hwy 281; hamburgers and brats will be served for a free-will offering.

Mayor Bergman updates consisted of: (1) The NE League of Municipalities will mail new Nebraska "Open Meetings Law" posters once changes have been completed (8-17-21); (2) the St. Paul Development Corp. (SPDC) will carry insurance coverage on the Civic Center beginning October 1, 2021; this is due to the management of the day-to-day operations of the Civic Center by SPDC; LARM stated that SPDC should be an additional insured party on the City's policy (SPDC's address was emailed to LARM on 8-17-2021) AND SPDC will carry their own liability and work comp insurance and make the City an additional insured on their policy for this location; (3) update on Firefighter Anthony Dush Life insurance; and (4) City Clerk Beck provided a Community Development TIF Value spreadsheet to the Mayor and Council.

Mayor Bergman adjourned the City Council meeting at 8:02 p.m.

September 20, 2021
Date

Joel M. Bergman
Joel M. Bergman, Mayor

Connie Jo Beck
Connie Jo Beck, City Clerk/Deputy Treasurer