

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

Monday, February 7, 2022

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 7, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. Present were Mayor Joel M. Bergman and Council members Katie Kowalski, Chuck Schmid and Mike Feeken. Absent: Council member Thompson. 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 §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.

Todd Padrno's nuisance at 108 Howard Avenue was the first item up for discussion; the City had concerns with the structural integrity of the steel staircases, decking and support beams. Per the agreement from the City Council members on Monday, December 20, 2021, Mr. Padrnos had until Monday, February 7, 2022 to repair the key structure of the apartments. Chief of Police Howard and Utilities Superintendent Helzer will give Mr. Padrnos a courtesy call to inspect the project. Mayor Bergman stated that the City is willing to work with Mr. Padrnos concerning the matter.

Chief of Police Dan Howard stated that there were no changes to the structure from the last City Council discussion on December 20, 2021; Mr. Padrnos stated that he repaired two (2) supporting posts. Mr. Padrnos questioned the City Codes and how he should abide by them; Utility Superintendent Helzer stated that these are zoning codes and not building codes. Chief of Police Howard also stated that in 2019, Michael Spilinek, Olsson's Lead Structural Engineer drew up the apartment's foundation, front and back elevation and stair landing plans. This covered the inspection and the structural condition of the stairs. Per Olsson's, the existing stairs were in disrepair and unsafe at that time; this was reported to the previous owners. At this time Mayor Bergman read the City Municipal Code 9-401 - Unsafe Buildings Definition. Per City Attorney White, the Chief of Police has the authority to deem a structure unsafe. The Mayor and City Council is in agreement not to move forward with the next step of the nuisance, but have Chief of Police Howard and Todd Padrnos meet to go over all the structural issues to be repaired. Mr. Feeken stated that he wants both parties to be very clear on documenting ALL the issues for the Council meeting on Tuesday, February 22, 2022. Mr. Padrnos had questions regarding the breaking and entering of the apartment; this will be resolved when the two (2) parties get together.

Next on the agenda were two (2) nuisances for discussion to proceed with a second "Notice to Abate". The nuisances included: Dave Eiberger at 304 8th Street (partial tree broken on garage

and vehicle not licensed) and Todd Padrnos at 1220 Farnum Street (pile of wood by garage and five (5) vehicles not licensed).

Mr. Eiberger is in the process of finding a lien release regarding the unlicensed vehicle; he stated that this matter should be taken care of next week. Mr. Eiberger also stated that the tree has been stabilized and that he will get it removed as soon as he has time.

Mr. Padrnos stated that he licensed the five (5) vehicles; he also needs to clean-up a tree pile by his building. The City Council members have set a deadline date of sixty (60) days (April 11, 2022) to remedy the above nuisances.

Council member Schmid moved to approve Bootlegger Inc. (Tiffany Fousek) Special Designated Liquor (SDL) application (1108 2nd Street) #CK124534 on Saturday, March 26, 2022 from 3:00 p.m. to 11:59 p.m. The event will be held at the St. Paul Civic Center (423 Howard Avenue) regarding a St. Paul Chamber of Commerce awards banquet. Council member Kowalski seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Schmid & Feeken voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 3/0.

Council member Kowalski moved to approve the Consent Agenda Items: (1) January 18, 2022 Council minutes; (2) January 31, 2022 zoning permits; and (3) February 7, 2022 disbursements. Council member Feeken seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Schmid & Feeken voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 3/0.

February 7, 2022 Disbursements

Gross Wages - January	89680.42
Ace Hardware (repair)	11.83
Action Flag (supplies)	127.97
Amazon Capital Services (books)	1952.04
Bomgaars (supplies)	1815.50
Border States (supplies)	289.19
Cardmember Svcs (meals, supplies, education)	3186.25
Cengage Learning (books)	32.97
Charter/Spectrum (service)	229.96
City Health Deductible Savings (insurance)	6534.00
City of St. Paul 125 Plan (insurance)	150.00
Clearly (telephone)	193.14
Consolidated Mgmt (meals)	165.06
Consumer Deposit: Residential Deposit	100.00
COR Management (agreement)	800.00
COR Managed Svcs (service)	399.98
Core & Main (supplies)	2551.89
Crescent Electric (supplies)	184.82
Custer County Recycling (Service)	58.90
Eakes Office Solutions (contract)	63.52
Entech Pest Mgmt (service)	85.00
Galls Inc (supplies, uniforms)	1202.36
Hansen Int'l Truck (supplies)	81.53
Heartland Disposal (service)	119.25
Heritage Bank: UB ACH Fee (fee)	25.00
Homestead Bank: Bond Ref Series 2017 Wire Fee	4.00
Hometown Market (supplies)	13.98
Howard Co. Register of Deeds (fee)	17.50
Howard Co. Treasurer (Dispatch Fee)	3122.42
Hydro Optimization (service)	426.00
Jarecke Motors (repair)	1559.22
Killinger Electric (repair)	911.88
LCL Truck Equipment (service)	1093.88
Loup Valley Supply (supplies)	17.30
Madison Nat'l Life (insurance)	193.32

Menards (supplies)	4.21
Meyer, Deb (mileage)	70.20
Meyer, Nicholas (mileage)	70.20
MidAmerican Books (books)	539.88
NE Dept of Envir & Energy (dues)	80.00
Nebraska Machinery (supplies)	333.29
Odeys (supplies)	1910.00
Open Caret (supplies)	200.00
Parts Bin (supplies)	752.66
Pierson, Kari (mileage)	71.96
Regional Care (insurance)	99.00
S E Smith & Sons (supplies)	44.63
Sargent Drilling (supplies)	6949.60
Servi-Tech (lab)	125.60
Smith Welding (repair)	5.47
St. Paul Rural Fire (reimb)	24277.91
State of NE Central Svcs (telephone)	159.87
Trausch Dynamics (supplies)	7.61
Verizon Wireless (service)	191.36
Wells Plumbing (repair)	17.32
Wesco (Supplies)	810.00
Wilbert Memorials (engraving)	125.00

Non-General Disbursements

S Squared Enterprise: TIF Proceeds from #8663	5256.52
Keno: NE Dept Revenue: 2% Gross: Oct-Dec 2021	7647.00
Sales Tax: St Paul Dev Corp: 21-22 Oper Budget	35000.00
Sales Tax: Civic Center Loan Payment (loan)	64087.00
Sales Tax: SCEDD membership	5000.00
Sales Tax: Street Motor Vehicle Tax (tax)	3108.31
Sales Tax: 25% Infrastructure (infrast)	7753.65

Council member Kowalski moved to approve the Howard County Medical Center placing a portable "Clinic in a Can" on the west side of the hospital's north parking lot. The clinic would be utilized for Covid testing and medical assessments relating to possible Covid exposures; this would only be for a period of six (6) months and then be revisited. The Planning Commission approved the "Clinic in a Can" on Monday, January 31, 2022. Council member Schmid seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Schmid & Feeken voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 3/0. Per Utilities Superintendent Helzer the "Clinic in the Can" is in the public right-of-way, but not an issue. The Howard County Medical Center will run temporary power from the medical facility.

After a brief discussion regarding the City Covid-19 employee sick leave, Council member Feeken moved to approve allowing only the City employee's that did not previously utilize the Covid-19 leave, to utilize up to forty (40) hours (5 days) at the City's expense. Council member Kowalski seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Schmid & Feeken voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 3/0. This will be revisited in six (6) months.

There was a brief discussion whether the City had to bid out the City's welcome signs that are to be constructed on US Hwy 281 proceeding north and south to the corporate limits. Per City Attorney White, the City signs do not need a bid letting per NE State Statute 17-568.01. The item was tabled until St. Paul Development Corp. Executive Director Mike Coghlan could get final cost for the project.

Council member Schmid moved to approve accepting St. Paul Police Officer Matt Costello's employment resignation, with regret. Council member Feeken seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Schmid & Feeken voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 3/0. Mayor Bergman thanked Officer Costello for his dedicated service to the City of St. Paul. Mr. Costello accepted a position as a Conservation Officer for the Nebraska Game and Parks.

Council member Schmid moved to approve Chief of Police Howard advertising for a City of St. Paul Police Officer to fill the vacancy of Officer Costello's position. The City will advertise in the (1) Phonograph Herald; (2) Law Enforcement Training Center; (3) City Website; and the (4) City / Police Dept. Facebook page. Council member Kowalski seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Schmid & Feeken voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 3/0. Chief of Police Howard will advertise a minimum of two (2) weeks. The hiring committee will include Council members Katie Kowalski and Chuck Schmid, along with Sheriff Tom Busch.

Council member Kowalski moved to approve Chief of Police Howard purchasing five (5) new Accredited Security Taser's in the approximate amount of \$4,995. The funds will be disbursed from the Police ICS Account. Per Chief of Police Howard, half the Police Departments taser's are not functioning. Council member Schmid seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Schmid & Feeken voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 3/0. The current Police Dept. taser's came from the Grand Island Police Dept. as a donation approximately five (5) years ago.

Council member Schmid moved to approve Utilities Superintendent Helzer purchasing a new swimming pool circulating pump (\$32,158) from Sargent Drilling Co., along with a swimming pool over-head net for the logs; funds will be disbursed from the Keno fund. Council member Feeken seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Schmid & Feeken voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 3/0. The current circulating pump has approximately 50,000 hours of run time and the over-head net cost approximately \$8,000 eight (8) years ago. Utilities Superintendent Helzer stated that he will have some difficulty finding this specialty item.

INFORMATION ONLY: The second (2nd) City Council meeting in February 2022 will be on Tuesday, February 22, 2022 at 7:00 p.m., due to the President's Day holiday.

Utility Superintendent Helzer updates: (1) John Danforth with the NE Dept. Environment & Energy (NDEE) has received all the necessary City of St. Paul Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) documents and authorizes the award of the construction contract for Rutjens Construction Inc.; REIMBURSEMENT can begin; (2) Tree trimming in the City park; a DeWalt pole saw was purchased for this purpose; and (3) Street Dept. completed the tarring of the Elmwood Cemetery road; Paul Street is half completed.

Chief of Police Howard updates: (1) Nuisance letters were mailed; (2) Police Dept. received a grant from Blackhill's Energy for Stop Sticks in the amount of \$500; (3) Advertising the Police Officer position in the Phonograph Herald.

In the Council member updates, Council member Feeken had questioned the roll-off dumpster on Howard Avenue.

Mayor Bergman updates: (1) NE League of Municipalities Midwinter Conference (February 28 to March 1, 2022) attendance: Mayor Bergman, City Clerk/Deputy Treasurer Beck, Council member Kowalski, and Council member Schmid; (2) Notice of Special meeting on Tuesday, February 8, 2022 at 1:30 p.m. regarding a Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) Pre-Construction meeting; (3) Notice of Special meeting on Monday, March 14, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. regarding an IBEW 1597 Union Negotiation workshop; (4) St. Paul Civic Center Loan #50353 balance is \$845,032.03; (5) The Housing Authority of the City of St. Paul, NE submitted their Financial Statements and Independent Auditor's Report as of June 30, 2021; visit the City to review; and (6) the League Association of Risk Management (LARM) is offering another Safety Grant in the amount of \$500; the City will utilize.

Council member Schmid moved to go into Closed Session at 8:12 p.m..for possible litigation. Council member Kowalski seconded the motion. A motion has been made and seconded to go into Closed Session for possible litigation. There was no discussion. The pending motion is to go into Closed Session for possible litigation. Council members Kowalski, Schmid & Feeken voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 3/0.

Mayor Bergman adjourned the closed session at 8:30 p.m.

ACTION TAKEN: Council member Feeken moved to approve paying the City of St. Paul Police "Holiday Pay" (banked hours) from the inception of the current Non-Union policy (2017) for Police Officers: Scott Greenwalt, Matt Costello, Trev Sharman, Mike Coghlan and Moriah Rawlings. This comes with the stipulation that the City will not perform an audit; figures to be checked by the Payroll Clerk and City Clerk, along with the "Holiday Pay" going through the payroll process. Council member Kowalski seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Schmid & Feeken voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 3/0. The payroll funds will come from the Police ICS Account. Mayor Bergman conveyed that the Council members including himself were appreciative of the "service" to the community by the St. Paul Police Department and Sheriff's Department that were in attendance tonight. Mayor Bergman was also appreciative of their patience with the process for rectifying the discrepancy.

Mayor Bergman adjourned the City Council meeting at 8:36 p.m.

February 22, 2022
Date

[Signature]
Joel M. Bergman, Mayor

[Signature]
Connie Jo Beck, City Clerk/Deputy Treasurer