

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

Monday, March 21, 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, March 21, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. Present were Mayor Joel M. Bergman and Council members Katie Kowalski, Jerry Thompson and Chuck Schmid. Absent: Council member Mike Feeken. 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 7:02 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; per Mayor Bergman, there will be a five (5) minute limit per person on speaking.

Dirk Dietz, Howard Greeley Rural Public Power District (HGRPPD) General Manager gave a brief summary of a joint solar project with the City of St. Paul; cost savings were also reported. The project may be located in the northwest portion of the City sewer lagoon property; Howard Greeley Rural Public Power District (HGRPPD) is requesting approximately ten (10) acres. The contract will be for 25 years and will have an option for two (2) additional - five (5) year terms. The City will not be responsible for maintaining the solar ground or the operational equipment. Council member Thompson moved to approve moving forward on the solar project, along with forwarding the Solar Lease & Easement Agreement to City Attorney White for his review. Council member Schmid seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Thompson and Schmid voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 3/0.

NUISANCE HEARING: Mayor Bergman opened the nuisance hearing at 7:20 p.m. with Chief of Police Howard going through a list of ten (10) nuisance properties that need to be abated in whole or in part. After going through the list, all the nuisances have either made a slight or considerable improvement. Mayor Bergman closed the nuisance hearing at 7:29 p.m., with no nuisance letters to be mailed from the list.

Todd Padrnos was in attendance to discuss the improvements to the 108 Howard Avenue apartments. Mr. Padrnos stated that he is in a bid letting process on construction material and having discussions with the St. Paul Development Corp. (SPDC) regarding the financing of the material.

Council member Schmid moved to approve the 2022 Grover Cleveland Alexander (GCA) Day "operating funds" of \$3,000 to be absorbed by the Keno funds. Council member Kowalski seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Thompson and Schmid voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 3/0.

Council member Thompson moved to approve the 2022 Grover Cleveland Alexander (GCA) Day fireworks funding in the amount of \$4,000 to be absorbed by the Keno funds, along with the closures of streets: 4th Street between Howard Avenue & Jay Street and Indian Street between 4th and 5th Streets. The fireworks will be on Sunday, July 10, 2022; rain dates will be Friday, July 8, 2022 or Saturday, July 9, 2022. Fireworks will be located at 4th Street and Indian Street. Council member Schmid seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Thompson and Schmid voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 3/0.

The City of St. Paul received five (5) bids regarding the bid letting for the Water Well-field pasture lease on the following described property: The East Half of Section Six (6), Township Fourteen (14) North, Range Nine (9), West of the 6th P.M., Howard County, St. Paul, NE; except that portion maintained by the City for its municipal water supply. The lease shall be for three (3) pasture seasons beginning on May 15, 2022 and continuing until October 15 of each year. The successful bidder shall pasture no more than 28 cow/calf pairs or 45 head of cattle and two (2) bulls on the property at any time. Council member Kowalski moved to approve Robert and Linda Kanter's bid in the amount of \$11,260 for the City's Water Well-field pasture lease bid. Council member Schmid seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Thompson and Schmid voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 3/0.

Council member Schmid moved to approve Resolution 2022-3, whereas the City Council directs the sale of City surplus personal property more described as the City Water Well-field building (shed) located at 12th Avenue and Eagle Road, St. Paul, Howard County, NE. The sale shall be by sealed bids for cash to be approved at the Council meeting in the City Council Chambers commencing at 7:00 p.m. on April 4, 2022; bids are to be submitted by 1:00 p.m. on Friday, April 1, 2022. The City reserves the right to reject all bids for said property. The building must be dismantled in six (6) months to the signing of the resolution. Council member Thompson seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Thompson and Schmid voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 3/0. A "City Hold Harmless" agreement will be signed prior to the dismantling of the building. Mr. Glen Hansen mailed a letter stating that he forfeits his rights to the well-field building that he purchased from the City years past.

Council member Kowalski moved to approve the Consent Agenda Items: (1) Treasurer's Report for February 2022; (2) March 7, 2022 Council minutes (regular); and (3) March 21, 2022 disbursements. Council member Schmid seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Thompson and Schmid voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 3/0.

Disbursements March 21, 2022

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Black Hills Energy (natural gas) | 1867.60 |
| BOK Financial (interest) | 6098.31 |
| Bound Tree (supplies) | 1081.39 |
| Brehm's Drug (supplies) | 19.12 |
| City Lights (utilities) | 9828.45 |
| Consolidated Mgmt (meals) | 60.68 |
| Consumer Deposit: Johnston & Ford (Consumer Deposit) | 500.00 |
| Cornhusker Marriott Hotel (conference) | 880.00 |
| Custer County Recycling (service) | 18.20 |
| Eakes Office Solutions (supplies) | 20.76 |
| Heartland Disposal (service) | 6831.64 |
| Heritage Bank (February 2022) UB ACH Fee (fee) | 25.00 |
| Homestead Bank (ACH fees) | 22.20 |
| Ho Co Register of Deeds (fees) | 26.00 |
| Howard Greeley RPPD (utilities) | 148021.44 |
| Jarecke Motors (repair) | 950.06 |
| Jim's Champlin (fuel) | 1178.23 |
| John Deere Financial (supplies) | 267.55 |
| Koziol Upholstery (repair) | 125.00 |
| Light ICS: PCA for December, January & February (PCA) | 44699.81 |
| Loup Valley Supply (supplies) | 34.80 |
| MARC (supplies) | 400.00 |
| Mid-Nebraska Disposal (service) | 3517.09 |

| | |
|--|----------|
| Municipal Supply (supplies) | 350.82 |
| NE Dept of Revenue (sales & use tax) | 12506.02 |
| NE Law Enforce Training Center (education) | 75.00 |
| NE Truck Center (supplies) | 607.15 |
| Phonograph Herald (publish) | 244.68 |
| PIP Marketing, Signs (supplies) | 950.35 |
| Platte Valley Communications (repair, supplies) | 107.50 |
| Quick Med Claims (service) | 1036.52 |
| Wesco Distribution (supplies) | 457.95 |
| Region 26 Council (education) | 70.00 |
| S E Smith & Sons (supplies) | 270.77 |
| Schmid, Chuck (meals, parking) | 72.70 |
| Servi-Tech (lab) | 125.60 |
| SiteOne Landscaping (supplies) | 4065.47 |
| United Healthcare (insurance) | 23886.82 |
| US Post Office (postage) | 460.00 |
| USA Blue Book (testing) | 231.15 |
| <u>Non-General Disbursements</u> | |
| Keno: NE Dept. Revenue: City Annual Renewal 50 G Form (fee) | 100.00 |

St. Paul Development Corp. (SPDC) Executive Director Mike Coghlan was in attendance to provide Civic Center updates consisting of: (1) hiring a Community Programs Coordinator; in the process of interviews; (2) scheduling of events; (3) repairs to flag pole, along with a door between the foyer and the banquet hall; (4) hiring of a custodian; and (5) managing the Summer Recreation program; Mrs. Sarah Townsend will assist with the program.

Council member Schmid moved to approve the City Fire Department billing rates for Year 2022. Council member Kowalski seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Thompson and Schmid voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 3/0.

Council member Thompson moved to approve a City "Spring Clean-Up" day on Monday, April 25, 2022; this will be an all-day event. Residents are requested to set items at curb side on Saturday, April 23, 2022 and Sunday, April 24, 2022. The City will provide, at no cost, trucks and trailers to collect items at the perspective locations. Residents are requested to call the City of St. Paul Office at (308)754-4483 to be placed on a collection list; the City will request your name, address, contact number, and the items to be picked up. The City will not accept the listed items: pesticides, herbicides, tires, paint, hazardous material or chemicals, or propane tanks. The "Spring Clean-up" advertisement will be placed in the Phonograph Herald two (2) consecutive times, with City keno funds absorbing the cost of advertisement. Council member Schmid seconded the motion. Council member Kowalski, Thompson and Schmid voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 3/0. All metal will go to the St. Paul Rotary pile, along with trees and limbs to the City Recycling Center.

Next on the agenda was a lengthy discussion regarding the discontinuation of use of the recycling trailer for recyclables going to Broken Bow, NE even though it's a benefit to the community. Council member Thompson moved to approve ceasing the utilization of the recycling trailer after 30 days from this date until the gas prices go down. Council member Schmid seconded the motion. Council members Thompson and Schmid voted aye, Council member Kowalski voted nay. Motion carried 2/1. An ad will be placed in the Phonograph Herald regarding the discontinuation of the City recycling trailer, along with it being placed on the City Website and Facebook page.

Council member Kowalski moved to approve City Clerk Beck transferring \$150,000 from the City Heritage Bank account and depositing it into the City Homestead Bank account to pay disbursement and bonds. Council member Thompson seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Thompson and Schmid voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 3/0.

Utility Superintendent Helzer updates included: (1) Rutjens Construction Inc. is moving Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) equipment to the City sewer lagoon area; Diggers Hotline (811) will be performing locates on the property; (2) the City Recycling Center will open on Saturday, March 26, 2022 for disposal of grass, trees and metal; and (3) Elmwood Cemetery grass fire; a League Association of Risk Management (LARM) representative will be visiting the cemetery site on March 22, 2022. The fence should be completed prior to Memorial Day weekend.

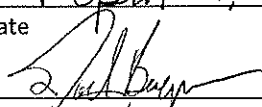
Chief of Police Howard updates included: (1) St. Paul Police Department received grant funds in the amount of \$500 regarding stop sticks for traffic enforcement; (2) the City Police Department hiring committee met today (March 21, 2022) to review two (2) Police Officer applications; (3) the Howard County Special Response Team (SRT) was activated this last weekend due to an arson and a drug related incident; and (4) Chief of Police Howard is considering the purchase of a fourth (4th) City police vehicle.

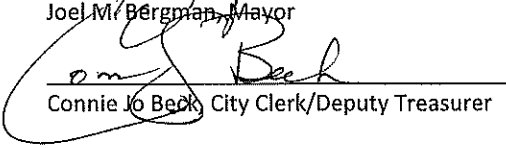
Mayor Bergman updates:

(1) Special Designated Liquor (SDL) permit: County Cage for a Bag Tournament at the St. Paul Civic Center on March 20, 2022 from 11:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.; (2) the City received the first (1st) Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) "pay request" from the NE Department of Environmental and Energy (NDEE) in the amount of \$400,150; \$370,698 will be deposited into the Sewer ICS account for reimbursement; (3) a letter was mailed to Senator Briese from Mayor Bergman regarding the EMS provisions of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding in support of the Legislative Bill #1014 – the purchase of a new City ambulance or equipment; (4) the City of St. Paul will be performing an "Advertisement for Bids" for a new or used sewer vacuum and a sewer jetter trailer; the City is to receive the bids by Thursday, March 31, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.; the bid will be approved at the Monday, April 4, 2022 Council meeting; (5) the NE Municipal Power Pool (NMPP) will hold their Members Annual meeting on Wednesday, March 23, 2022 at 4:45 p.m.; a Council member may attend if they choose; (6) Mayor Bergman and City Clerk Beck will be attending the ACE Board meeting in Lincoln, NE on Tuesday, March 22, 2022; (7) the NE Municipal Clerk's Institute and Academy was held last week in Grand Island, NE; 220 Clerk's throughout the State of NE were in attendance. City Deputy Clerk Laura Berthelsen attended the school from Sunday, March 13, 2022 to Friday, March 18, 2020 and City Clerk Beck attended from Wednesday, March 16, 2022 to Friday, March 18, 2022; and (8) City Officer Moriah Rawlings has a family member in the hospital; the Mayor, Council member's, the City Clerk and the Utilities Superintendent sends their thoughts and prayers to Moriah and her family.

Mayor Bergman adjourned the City Council meeting at 8:21 p.m.

April 4, 2022
Date


Joel M. Bergman, Mayor


Connie Jo Beck, City Clerk/Deputy Treasurer