

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

Monday, June 20, 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, June 20, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. Present were Mayor Joel M. Bergman and Council members Jerry Thompson, Mike Feeken and Chuck Schmid. Absent: Council member Kowalski. 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; per Mayor Bergman, there will be a five (5) minute limit per person on speaking.

Allen Wilshusen, Howard County Emergency Management Director was present to briefly introduce himself. Mr. Wilshusen lived in Hebron, NE for 35 years; worked for the NE State Patrol for 30 years, then retired in 2018. He is looking forward to working with the City of St. Paul.

Dirk Dietz, General Manager of the Howard Greeley Rural Public Power District (HGRPPD) was present to seek approval regarding the Solar Lease and Easement Agreement, along with answering any questions from the Mayor and City Council. Council member Schmid moved to approve the Solar Lease and Easement Agreement, along with the Memorandum of Solar Lease and Easement Agreement. Council member Thompson seconded the motion. Council members Thompson, Schmid & Feeken voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 3/0. Mr. Dietz also stated that there is another power supplier in Nebraska that wants to be involved in the project; this supplier would piggy back off of the Howard Greeley Rural Public Power District (HGRPPD) agreement; this would be a larger cost savings to the City and HGRPPD if this occurs. The solar project should commence approximately October or November 2022.

Council member Thompson moved to approve Rutjens Construction Inc. Pay Request #4 regarding the St. Paul Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) Project #020-2586 in the amount of \$385,527.32. The pay request consists of: Mobilization; Control/Blower building; SBR Tank/Equipment: Electrical; and Earthwork. Council member Schmid seconded the motion. Council members Thompson, Schmid & Feeken voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 3/0.

Council member Schmid moved to approve the Consent Agenda Items: (1) May 2022 Treasurer's Report; (2) June 6, 2022 Council minutes (regular); (3) June 20, 2022 disbursements; and (4) June 13, 2022 zoning permits. Council member Feeken seconded the motion. Council members Thompson, Schmid & Feeken voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 3/0.

Disbursements June 20, 2022

Aurora Cooperative (fuel)	1570.19
Barco Municipal Products (supplies)	788.13
Black Hills Energy (natural gas)	1782.02
Chesterman (concessions)	131.44
Christensen Insurance (insurance)	5832.00
City Lights (utilities)	9494.17
Consumer Deposit (Reichart) (Rental Deposit)	250.00
Consumer Deposit (Stethem) (Rental Deposit)	250.00
Consumer Deposit (J. Murphy) (Rental Deposit)	250.00
Consumer Deposit (Ashley Holbrook) (Rental Deposit)	250.00
Custer County Recycling (service)	22.40
Dick's Repair (repair)	89.51
Dutton Lainson (supplies)	860.78
Elmwood Cemetery (service)	900.00
Filter Care (service)	176.25
Heartland Disposal (service)	6944.40
Homestead Bank (ACH fees)	21.80
Hometown Market (supplies)	313.57
Howard County Register of Deeds (fees)	10.00
Howard County Medical Center (service)	245.00
Howard Greeley RPPD (utilities)	118369.43
Hydro Optimization (repair)	471.00
Interstate All Battery Cntr (supplies)	14.40
Jarecke Motors (repair)	174.90
Jim's Champlin (fuel)	2933.66
LARM (insurance)	700.00
Mid-Nebraska Disposal (service)	3595.08
NE Generator Service (repairs)	960.28
One Call Concepts (service)	19.42
Phonograph Herald (publish)	503.12
Pioneer Door (repair)	125.00
Platte Valley Communications (repair, supplies)	527.45
Quick Med Claims (service)	1224.68
S E Smith & Sons (supplies)	19.16
Sandry Fire Supply (supplies)	60.00
Smith, Kristy (supplies)	46.10
St. Paul Rural Fire (service)	13668.50
State of NE Dept Revenue Form 10 (sales & use tax)	11252.55
US Post Office (postage)	460.00
Wells Plumbing (service)	90.00
WinSupply (supplies)	220.31

Non-General Disbursements

Keno: Smith Welding (repair at swimming pool)	3748.04
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Council member Thompson moved to approve Resolution 2022-6; whereas, the City of St. Paul, NE desires to enter into the League Insurance Government Health Team (LIGHT) Interlocal Agreement, and that the Municipality authorizes and directs the City Clerk to execute such documents. This is to obtain LIGHT membership coverage for Municipal employees. Council member Schmid seconded the motion. Council members Thompson, Schmid & Feeken voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 3/0.

Council member Thompson moved to approve the "League Insurance Government Health Team" (LIGHT) Interlocal Agreement. The Interlocal Cooperation Act (ICA), Neb. Rev. Stat. 13-801 permits two (2) or more public agencies to make and execute an agreement providing for joint and cooperative actions. And the Intergovernmental Risk Management Act (IRMA), Neb.

Rev. Stat 44-301 permits two (2) or more public agencies to make and execute an agreement providing to members risk management services and insurance coverages in the form of group self-insurance or standard insurance, including any combination of group self-insurance and standard insurance, to provide health, dental, accident, and life insurance member's employees and officers. Council member Schmid seconded the motion. Council members Thompson, Schmid & Feeken voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 3/0.

Council member Schmid moved to approve the "League Insurance Government Health Team" (LIGHT) Membership Agreement. The agreement is entered into by and between the "League Insurance Government Health Team" (LIGHT) and the City of St. Paul, NE, a Nebraska employer, for participation in LIGHT and the LIGHT Member Health Plan, for coverage effective July 1, 2022. Membership in LIGHT shall make health insurance coverage available for the Member's eligible employees and dependents who participate under the Plan. Council member Thompson seconded the motion. Council members Thompson, Schmid & Feeken voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 3/0.

Council member Thompson moved to approve Resolution 2022-7; designating Mayor Joel M. Bergman to serve on the League Insurance Government Health Team (LIGHT) Board of Directors effective as to this date. Council member Feeken seconded the motion. Council members Thompson, Schmid & Feeken voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 3/0.

Council member Schmid moved to approve advertising for a full-time employee for the Electrical Department; this is due to a vacancy. Council member Feeken seconded the motion. Council members Thompson, Schmid & Feeken voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 3/0. The City of St. Paul will post in-house to comply with the IBEW 1597 Union contract, along with advertising in the Phonograph Herald; NE Municipal Review; NE Municipal Power Pool (NMPP) Essent; at Northeast Community College, Norfolk, NE; and at Western NE Community College in Alliance, NE. The City will advertise approximately three (3) weeks and will extend the advertising if needed.

The City Council members postponed the approval of the hourly wage regarding the 2022-2023 City Employees (Management); the St. Paul Police Department; Bryan Friedrichsen (Landfill); and Janice Derner's (Housekeeping). This is due to having all City Council members in attendance for this topic. The item will be on the Tuesday, July 5, 2022 Council meeting.

After a brief discussion regarding the selling of City bricks to Howard County residents, Council member Schmid move to approve selling the bricks to the Howard County residents in the amount of twenty cents (.20¢) per brick. The item died for a lack of a second.

Council member Schmid moved to approve the City of St. Paul's 2022-2024 International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) 1597 Union contract, with the stipulation that all City Council members will have a chance to review the contract for changes, deletions or additions once Mayor Bergman forwards the contract to the Council members. Council member Feeken seconded the motion. Motion carried 2/0. Council member Jerry Thompson abstained, due to him representing the City Union employees.

Nuisance at 108 Howard Avenue regarding an Unsafe Building Structure:

On Monday, June 6, 2022 the City Council approved Resolution 2022-5 determining that 108 Howard Avenue constitutes a public nuisance on property more legally described as: (SP VII) Tract A in Lot 7; 3-174-10 St. Paul, Howard County, Nebraska. The City Council members denied Mr. & Mrs. Padrnos's appeal. Mr. & Mrs. Padrnos were granted five (5) days from the date of the "Notice" to abate said nuisance (midnight on Monday, June 13, 2022). Failure to abate nuisance shall result in nuisance being abated by the City of St. Paul and the cost of abatement shall be assessed upon the premises and constitutes a lien upon the premises until paid.

***The next step in the Padrnos nuisance process: Per Municipal Code 4-318; Nuisances; Record of Expenses: The City shall keep an itemized account of the expenses involved in abating the nuisance. The City shall post conspicuously on the property and it shall also mail to the owner of the property a statement showing the expense of the abatement, together with a notice of the time and place when the statement will be submitted to the City Council for

approval and confirmation and at which time the City Council may consider the objections and protests to the cost of the work.

Chief of Police Dan Howard stated that Todd Padrnos and he had a conversation regarding the expectations on remedying the nuisance property at 108 Howard Avenue. Chief of Police Howard stated that Mr. Padrnos began replacing the decking and will be replacing the beams in the next couple of weeks. Chief of Police Howard is to receive a telephone call once the decking has been repaired. Chief of Police Howard stated that Mr. Padrnos is making progress on the apartments. The Item will be on the agenda Tuesday, July 5, 2022; Sergeant Greenwalt will follow-up on the project, due to Chief of Police being absent this date.

City Clerk Connie Jo Beck will be tracking Todd & Michelle Padrnos attorney fees; certified mail cost and labor hour cost in forming letters. This information will be reported at the Tuesday, July 5, 2022 Council meeting.

After St. Paul Development Corp. Executive Director Mike Coghlan gave a brief explanation regarding the history of the Property Improvement application, Council member Feeken moved to approve the St. Paul Development Corp. (SPDC) Property Improvement application regarding the demolition of JoAnn Urbanski's house at 1408 2nd Street in the amount of \$3,750. Dobesh Land Leveling (Greg Dobesh), Grand Island, NE performed the demolition. Council member Thompson seconded the motion. Council members Thompson, Schmid & Feeken voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 3/0.

INFORMATION ONLY: The first (1st) City Council meeting in July 2022 will be on Tuesday, July 5, 2022 at 7:00 p.m., due to the 4th of July, 2022 holiday.

Utilities Superintendent Helzer updates: (1) the City of St. Paul mowed grass at 304 8th Street on Thursday, June 16, 2022; the City Attorney instructed Utilities Superintendent Helzer to hold off on moving the car and removing the tree branch from the fence; and (2) the Sewer Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) Sequential Batch Reactor (SBR) is being constructed by Rutjens Construction at this time.


Chief of Police Howard updates: (1) Per NE State Statute LB51, City Police Officer Jade Stethem is receiving on-line training before he can have any public interaction. It is anticipated that by this Thursday, Mr. Stethem can be on street patrol; (2) several more nuisance letters have been sent; (3) it was reported that there are juveniles stealing lawn ornaments; this case has been resolved by Police Officer Chris Grooms; (4) Officer Chris Grooms apprehended a person who had stolen car rims; this person is now in jail.

Council member Feeken would like to see the City Municipal Code book changed regarding the nuisance process; City Attorney White will be working on a new ordinance regarding the matter. Also, the City of St. Paul Comprehensive Plan needs to be updated; this is due to the City accomplishing many of the projects in the "Plan" or the projects are already in the process of being completed. The Comprehensive Plan was approved on May 18, 2015; the plan needs to be updated every ten (10) years.

Council member Schmid stated that the American Legion Post #119 restaurant will perhaps be opening on July 1, 2022.

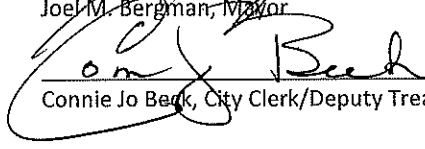
Mayor Bergman updates: (1) GCA Day Committee reimbursed the City for fireworks insurance in the amount of \$700; this is through the League Association of Risk Management (LARM); (2) reported on City swimming pool revenues; (3) read the City Fireworks Municipal Code regarding permitted dates, hours of discharge and penal provisions. Fireworks can be sold only between June 28 and July 5; (4) City Clerk Connie Jo Beck attended the West Point Emergency conference on June 4, 2022, along with the NE League of Municipalities Finance and Accounting conference on June 16 – 17, 2022.

Mayor Bergman adjourned the City Council meeting at 8:13 p.m.

 July 5, 2022
Date



Joel M. Bergman, Mayor



Connie Jo Beck, City Clerk/Deputy Treasurer