

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

Tuesday, January 17, 2023

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, January 17, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. Present were Mayor Joel M. Bergman and Council members Katie Kowalski, Chuck Schmid, Mike Feeken and Bill Peters. 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.

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 regard 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.

A lengthy discussion ensued regarding the clarification of volunteers on the roster regarding the St. Paul Firefighters, Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT's) and additional drivers. Council member Schmid moved to approve Resolution #2023-02, whereas the St. Paul City Code Section 3-503 indicates that the St. Paul Fire Department shall consist of so many members as may be decided by the Governing Body; and whereas, the St. Paul Fire Chief has recommended that the St. Paul Fire Department volunteer roster shall be limited to thirty (30) Firefighters, thirty (30) Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT's) and an additional fifteen (15) persons authorized to drive fire trucks and/or ambulances on behalf of the St. Paul Fire Department. Council member Feeken seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Schmid, Feeken & Peters voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

Council member Feeken moved to approve Resolution 2023-01; whereas, NE Constitution art. XV, 18(1) authorizes local government entities to exercise their powers and functions, including financing, jointly or in cooperation with other governmental entities and NE law express allows public agencies to invest surplus or excess funds; and whereas NE Rev. Stat. 13-804 authorizes public agencies to enter into Interlocal Agreements in order for such agencies to take joint or cooperative actions. The Nebraska Cooperative Liquid Assets Securities System Trust ("Nebraska CLASS Trust") has been formed pursuant to the provisions of the Interlocal Agreement Act, NE Rev. Stat. 13-801 to 13-827; and whereas, the Declaration of Trust and Interlocal Agreement and an information statement relating to the Nebraska CLASS Trust have been presented to this Governing Body; and whereas, the Declaration of Trust authorizes public agencies to adopt and enter into the Declaration of Trust and become participants of such trust. Council member Kowalski seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Schmid, Feeken & Peters voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

There was a brief discussion regarding the number of individuals submitting cost estimates to upgrade the LED lighting at the St. Paul Library. Council member Schmid moved to approve Killinger Electric's (Eugene Killinger) installation bid of \$5,895, along with Crescent Electric LED lighting bid in the amount of \$2,299.21. Council member Feeken seconded the motion. Council members Schmid, Feeken & Peters voted aye, Council member Kowalski voted nay. Motion carried 3/1. Utilities Superintendent stated that the St. Paul Library Foundation will contribute 1/3 of the total job cost, along with a \$750 rebate from the NE Public Power District (NPPD). The cost to replace the Library lighting is in the 2022-2023 Budget. A current Certificate of Insurance needs to be on file at the City Office prior to the installation.

Council member Schmid moved to approve the NE Dept. of Transportation "Certificate of Compliance" for services performed in calendar year 2022. The amount due to the State of NE for snow removal is 5.10 lane miles x \$665 per lane mile = \$3,391.50. Council member Feeken seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Schmid, Feeken & Peters voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

Council member Kowalski moved to approve Maintenance Agreement No. 47 between the NE Dept. of Transportation (NDOT) and the Municipality of St. Paul for the period of January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023 pertaining to surface maintenance and/or snow removal in the amount of \$3,391.50. The maintenance agreement consists of: (1) West City Limits to East City Limits and (2) South City Limits to North City Limits. Council member Peters seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Schmid, Feeken & Peters voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0. The NE Dept. of Transportation maintains the inside lane of US Hwy #281 and US Hwy #92 and the City of St. Paul maintains the outside lane of the two (2) US Highways.

Council member Kowalski moved to approve the Consent Agenda Items: (1) December 2022 City Treasurer's Report; (2) January 3, 2023 (regular), January 9, 2023 (special) and January 11, 2023 (special) Council minutes; (3) January 3, 2023 zoning permits; and (4) January 17, 2023 disbursements. Council member Schmid seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Schmid, Feeken & Peters voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

Disbursements January 17, 2023

911 Custom (equipment)	4899.22
Aurora Coop (fuel)	1326.94
Black Hills Energy (natural gas)	3528.16
Bryan Jensen Clothing (uniforms)	3895.04
Central District Health Dept (service)	184.50
Central NE Bobcat (supplies)	606.74
City Lights (utilities)	10057.63
Clearly (telephone)	194.47
CNCAP (refund)	69.73
Consumer Deposit: Medlock (rent deposit)	250.00
COR Management (agreement)	1376.00
Core & Main (supplies)	1572.96
Custer County Recycling (service)	31.30
Dick's Repair (service)	826.26
Eakes Office Solutions (supplies, contracts)	318.48
Entech Pest Mgmt (service)	85.00
GB Auto Service (repair)	1119.02
Heartland Disposal (service)	6397.64
City Heritage Bank ACH Utility Billing Fee (fee)	25.00
Homestead Bank (ACH fees, rent)	39.80
Ho. Co. Register of Deeds (service)	16.00
Howard County Court (fees)	17.00
Howard Greeley RPPD (utilities)	164268.73
Hydro Optimization & Auto (service)	1802.53
Interstate Batteries (supplies)	61.20
Jim's Champlin (fuel)	2266.68

L-Tron Corp (equipment)	1995.30
Menards (supplies)	39.00
Mid-Nebraska Disposal (service)	4220.75
NE Dept of Envir & Energy (dues)	300.00
NE Dept of Revenue (Form 10 Sales & Use Tax)	14896.78
NE Generator (service)	671.50
Odey's (supplies)	2287.93
Olsson (engineering)	9626.22
One Call Concepts (service)	12.30
Open Caret (service)	200.00
Parts Bin (supplies)	373.52
Phonograph Herald (publish)	763.71
Quick Med Claims (service)	737.06
Schaper & White (service)	1437.49
Sparq Data Solutions (service)	3500.00
State of NE HHS (refund)	490.00
Tina Treffer Signs (service)	600.00
Trausch Dynamics (supplies)	38.64
US Post Office (postage)	525.00
Vogel Auto (repair)	215.38

Non-General Disbursements

Sales Tax: Schaper & White: LB840 Loan Settlement	116.67
Sales Tax: STS Construction: Prop. Improve. (sign)	978.72
Civic Cntr: Mayhew Signs (service)	297.50

The City of St. Paul staff attending the League of NE Municipalities Midwinter Conference on Monday, February 27, 2023 and Tuesday, February 28, 2023 to be held at the Cornhusker Marriott, Lincoln, NE will be Mayor Joel M. Bergman, City Clerk/Deputy Treasurer Connie Jo Beck, Council member Katie Kowalski and Council member Chuck Schmid.

Mayor Joel M. Bergman and Council member Mike Feeken will be attending the NE Municipal Power Pool (NMPP) Annual Conference on March 21, 2023 to March 23, 2023 to be held at the Cornhusker Marriott, Lincoln, NE.

Utilities Superintendent Helzer updates: (1) Water Operator Dillon Paczosa and Sewer Operators Trae Anderson and Trevor Kowalski will be attending the NE Dept. of Environment & Energy (NDEE) Grade 4 Water Operators class in February 2023; (2) the clearing of emergency and non-emergency snow routes regarding the upcoming snow storm; (3) the City will be excavating for three (3) burials on Friday, January 20, 2023; this takes priority over snow removal; (4) there was training on the Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) air diffusers on January 17, 2023; Olsson Engineers were present; and (5) Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) construction progress meeting was held on Wednesday, January 11, 2023.

Chief of Police Howard updates: (1) Chief of Police Dan Howard had a Police Officers meeting regarding the nuisance process; the town will be split into quadrants again for reporting on nuisance properties. There will be a nuisance update at every Council meeting per the Chief of Police; (2) a US Deputy.org grant has been submitted pertaining to level 4 ballistic helmets to be utilized by the St. Paul Police Dept. regarding the Special Response Team (SRT) in the amount of \$2,000; (3) spoke with Platte Valley Communication regarding radios; they are awaiting programming; (4) MACH is online official today; it utilizes GPS coordinates; Howard County Communication Center knows where Officers are at, at all times.

Council member Peters questioned where the City is at with the 108 Howard Avenue nuisance; Chief of Police Howard stated that the City is waiting for the NE State Fire Marshall Office report. Council member Peters stated that the City has a large amount of money and time invested in the property.

There were no Council updates.

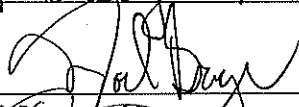
Mayor Bergman updates:

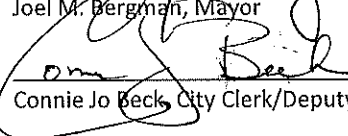
(1) City Clerk Connie Jo Beck will be attending the 2023 NEMSA (EMS) Conference on March 9 - 12, 2023 in Kearney, NE; (2) Temporary Operating Permits have been issued for a Class C and a Class Z regarding Seven County Spirits LLC dba Loup River Distilling at 503 Howard Avenue, St. Paul, NE from January 9, 2023 to April 10, 2023; a public hearing is scheduled for Monday, February 6, 2023 to consider the liquor license applications; (3) new Fire Station funds of \$2 million will be deposited in the City's fire account on Tuesday, January 24, 2023 from Piper Jaffray; the funds will be placed in a newly created NPAIT Fire Station account so that it can receive the highest interest rate possible; by NE Statute the City cannot receive a higher interest rate of return on the bond funds compared to the interest rate the City will be paying Piper Jaffray on the new Fire Station bond; this will be monitored by NPAIT; (4) Thomas Mrkvicka submitted his resignation as a St. Paul Firefighter; he has moved to Holdrege, NE; (5) the housing grant application will be submitted by the South Central Economic Development District (SCEDD) on Wednesday, January 18, 2023; (6) the Local Sales Tax will be increasing from 6.5% to 7.0% effective April 1, 2023; (7) the Electric Commissioner position will be published in the NE Municipal Review, the Essent, and the Phonograph Herald.

City Clerk/Deputy Treasurer Beck presented a brief overview to the Mayor and Council members on the outstanding LB840 (sales tax) loans, Rural Economic Development Loan Grants (REDLG) and the Tax Increment Financing (TIF) projects.

Mayor Bergman adjourned the City Council meeting at 8:04 p.m.

February 6, 2023
Date


Joel M. Bergman, Mayor


Connie Jo Beck, City Clerk/Deputy Treasurer