

City of St. Paul Regular Meeting  
704 6<sup>th</sup> Street  
St. Paul, NE 68873

**Tuesday, February 21, 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, February 21, 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.

Mayor Bergman opened the public hearing at 7:03 p.m. regarding the consideration of the Final Plat of the JET Subdivision located in a part of the SW1/4 of Section 33, Township 15 North, Range 10 West of the 6th P.M. in Howard County, NE (along Paul Street between Nelson Street and the Highway 92 intersection).

The first item on the agenda began with a request from Glen and Michele Killion for a Conditional Use permit regarding a "Dog Boarding" facility at 1311 Jansen Road. In attendance from the audience were Todd Wojtalewicz and Russ Kasson that had questions regarding the State Fire Marshall possessing a blueprint of the facility, along with concerns on the sound proof barrier. Council member Feeken wanted to know if there was a timeline on the Conditional Use permit; Zoning Administrator Matt Helzer stated that there were no timelines.

Council member Kowalski moved to approve Glen and Michele Killion's Dog Boarding Facility "Conditional Use" permit as presented to the City Council. Council member Feeken seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Schmid, Feeken & Peters voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

Council member Schmid moved to approve the Consent Agenda Items: (1) January 2023 Treasurer's Report; (2) February 6, 2023 (regular) Council minutes; (3) February 13, 2023 zoning permits; and (4) February 21, 2023 disbursements. Council member Peters seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Schmid, Feeken and Peters voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

**Disbursements February 21, 2023**

Amazon Capital Svcs (books, supplies)	882.87
Anderson, Trae (meals)	86.03
AT&T Mobility (service)	210.52

Aurora Coop (fuel)	1492.92
Black Hills Energy (natural gas)	2684.10
Bound Tree (supplies)	261.08
Brehm's Drug (supplies)	12.93
Charter/Spectrum (service)	25.73
City Lights (utilities)	9480.75
City of St. Paul State of NE Northyard Rent (rent) to Light Mmkt Account	250.00
Clearly (service)	194.47
Construction Rental (equip)	232.50
Consumer Deposit Account (Rent Deposit Garcia & Nilson)	500.00
Crescent Electric (supplies)	1028.84
Custer County Recycling (service)	22.60
Dick's Repair (repair)	517.57
Eakes Office Solutions (service)	51.04
Elmwood Cemetery (cemetery)	500.00
Filter Care (service)	10.80
Frederick, Michael (books)	48.00
Greenwalt, Scott (supplies)	100.00
Hach Company (service)	499.49
Heartland Disposal (service)	6359.14
Hesselgesser Electric Motors (repair)	579.10
Hilder Implement (supplies)	131.62
Holiday Inn (education)	359.85
Homestead Bank (fees)	22.40
Hometown Market (supplies)	84.98
Howard County Register of Deeds (fees)	10.00
Howard Greeley RPPD (utilities)	146531.65
Hydro Optimization (repair)	215.82
Hydro Tech (service)	445.00
Interstate Batteries (repair)	112.88
Jim's Champlin (fuel)	4585.13
John Deere Financial (supplies)	268.72
Killinger Electric (service)	664.97
Kowalski, Trevor (meals)	78.35
Menards (supplies)	11.36
Meyer, Nathan (meals, mileage)	218.86
Midland Telecom (supplies)	204.00
Mid-Nebraska Disposal (service)	4252.21
NE Dept of Envir & Energy (permit)	640.00
Olsson (fees)	14138.03
One Call Concepts (service)	8.76
Overland Ready Mixed (concrete)	287.57
Paczosa, Dillon (meals)	65.95
Petty Cash (reimb, fee)	44.00
Phonograph Herald (publish)	239.65
Platte Valley Communications (service, supplies)	1290.68
Quick Med Claims (service)	753.78
Regional Care (insurance)	165.00
Rembolt Ludtke (service)	4110.00
Robinson, Grady (fuel)	38.00
Schaper & White (service)	58.33
Smith Welding (repair)	21.25
St Paul Vet Clinic (service)	105.00
State Dept of Revenue: Sales & Use Tax Form 10 (tax)	13908.71
Thiel Tire (service)	20.00
US Post Office (postage)	525.00

United States Post Office (fee)	78.00
Wells Plumbing (service)	480.49

**Non-General Disbursements**

TIF: St. Paul Development Corp: BedHead Coffee (proceeds)	4153.35
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Mayor Bergman opened the public comment period at 7:11 p.m. regarding the JET Subdivision.

Council member Feeken questioned whether there were any easements in the subdivision; Zoning Administrator Matt Helzer stated that there weren't any easements. Ed Thompson was present to answer the question; he stated that if there is future growth, there could be easements established at that time.

After hearing no further comments, Mayor Bergman closed the public hearing at 7:14 p.m.

Council member Kowalski moved to approve the Final Plat of JET Subdivision located in a part of the SW1/4 of Section 33, Township 15 North, Range 10 West of the 6th P.M. in Howard County, NE (along Paul Street between Nelson Street and the Highway 92 intersection). Council member Feeken seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Feeken and Peters voted aye, Council member Schmid abstained, due to conflict of interest. Motion carried 3/0.

Council member Feeken moved to approve the "Certificate of Approval of JET Subdivision" with the subject property described as: Parts of the Southwest Quarter (SW1/4) of Section Thirty three (33), Township Fifteen (15) North, Range Ten (10) West of the 6th P.M., Howard County, Nebraska. Council member Peters seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Feeken & Peters voted aye, Council member Schmid abstained, due to conflict of interest. Motion carried 3/0.

Council member Feeken moved to approve Resolution 2023-03; authorizing the participation in the "Nebraska CLASS" - "Nebraska Cooperative Liquid Asset Security System" - this is a new investment pool that allows Nebraska entities to invest their idle cash together as a community and utilize economics of scale, while also ensuring the safety and liquidity of taxpayer dollars. Under Neb. Rev. Stat. 13-804, it authorizes public agencies to enter into Interlocal Agreements in order for such agencies to take joint or cooperative action. Also approved were the authorized contact persons (1) Joel M. Bergman, Mayor; (2) Connie Jo Beck, City Clerk/Deputy Treasurer; (3) Sally Einspahr, City Treasurer; (4) Laura Berthelsen, Deputy Clerk; and (5) Mike Feeken, Council President. Council member Schmid seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Schmid, Feeken & Peters voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

After a brief discussion ensued regarding the City of St. Paul taking penalty on City Time Certificates, Council member Schmid moved to approve taking the penalty and reinvesting it in a higher interest account. Once the Time CD's have been cashed the funds will be placed in the City's "Insured Cash Sweep" (ICS) account until further notice by the Mayor and Council members. Council member Feeken seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Schmid, Feeken & Peters voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

Council member Schmid moved to approve City Clerk Beck opening an Investment Checking account at Citizens Bank & Trust regarding the incoming Sales Tax (Fire Station) funds to begin on April 1, 2023. The funds will be utilized only to pay on the Fire Station bond. Currently, the interest rate on the account is 2.55%; once the account accumulates enough funds, then the Mayor and Council can decide to place the funds in another investment account to draw more interest. Also for approval were the authorized signature card names consisting of: Mayor Joel M. Bergman; City Clerk/Deputy Treasurer Connie Jo Beck; City Treasurer Sally Einspahr; Deputy Clerk Laura Berthelsen; and Council member Mike Feeken. Council member Kowalski seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Schmid, Feeken and Peters voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

City Swimming Pool Manager Kristy Smith was present to discuss the pool hourly wages regarding the Lifeguard's and Assistant Lifeguard's. Council member Kowalski moved to approve (1) Lifeguard hourly wages will begin at \$10.50 plus an additional .25¢ per year(s) of

service, along with an extra .25¢ if the lifeguard teaches group swimming lessons; (2) Assistant Managers will begin at \$12.50, plus an additional .25¢ per year(s) of service, along with an extra .25¢ if the lifeguard teaches group swimming lessons; and (3) the swimming pool manager will receive an hourly wage of \$17.25. Council member Feeken seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Schmid, Feeken & Peters voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

Utilities Superintendent Helzer updates included: (1) On Friday, February 17, 2023, Howard Greeley Rural Public Power District (HGRPP) had a ground breaking at 8:30 a.m. at the solar farm site east on Howard Avenue; when the solar construction is completed in May 2023, a "big switch" turn on will be scheduled; (2) City of St. Paul employee's Dillon Paczosa, Trae Anderson and Trevor Kowalski passed their Water Operator Grade 4 test; (3) Verizon Tower lease funds; and (4) the swimming pool main pump has not arrived yet at the City.

Chief of Police Howard updates included: (1) nuisance at 1220 Farnum; Mr. Padrnos will be hiring a crew to clean-up property; (2) St Paul Police Dept. had 35 vehicles moved, due to the abandon vehicle municipal code; (3) annual Taser training was completed last week; (4) Chief of Police Dan Howard took Police Officer Stethem off of Field Training Officer (FTO); Officer Stethem has fulfilled the FTO requirement; (5) boat parked on the street at 405 Grant; and (6) enforcement of Jake brakes on US Hwy 92 north of St. Paul.

Council member Feeken updates included: (1) requesting the St. Paul Library minutes and reports; (2) had questioned when St. Paul's "Community Needs" survey results will be in from the NE Public Power District (NPPD); currently, persons can complete the survey until March 1, 2023; (3) City Clerk Beck will present the City's Revenue and Expenditure Guideline quarterly; (4) Emergency Response protocol for ethanol traveling through St. Paul via rail; City Clerk Beck will contact St. Paul Fire Chief Mike Becker pertaining to the ethanol issue. Chief of Police Howard will have a Burlington Railroad training regarding this matter; and (5) Emergency badges; Utilities Superintendent Helzer will contact the Howard County Emergency Manager regarding emergency badges for the Council and new City employees.

Council member Schmid stated that there needs to be a meeting between the City Council members, Library Board members and the St. Paul School Board members regarding the updating the St. Paul Library Interlocal Agreement.

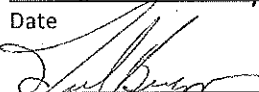
Mayor Bergman updates: (1) League Association of Risk Management (LARM) 2021-2022 Annual Report; see at City Office; (2) received letter from the NE Dept. of Revenue as a reminder that St. Paul's local sales and use tax will increase from 1% to 1.50% on April 1, 2023; the City should receive the first sales tax funds in June 2023; (3) Housing Authority of the City of St. Paul, NE submitted a Financial Statement ending June 30, 2022; see at City Office; (4) Chris Townsend will be Park Manager Randy Jerabek's seasonal hire; hourly wage is set at \$14.00; (5) St. Paul Rescue Squad is looking to purchase a new or used ambulance; and (6) the "Light" Dept. Production Cost Adjustment (PCA) from Ho. Greeley REA from February 2022 to January 2023 total's \$331,802; the funds have been placed in the "Light" Insured Cash Sweep (ICS) account to keep City electrical rates down.

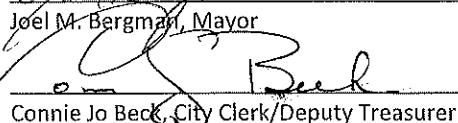
For public announcements, Chief of Police Howard stated that the Howard/Greeley County Ministerial Association will host a "Family Enrichment Series" Tech 101: How to Stay Safe Online. The event will be held on Monday, February 27, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. at the St. Paul United Methodist Church (1320 Baxter Street). The presenters will be discussing cyberbullying and online exploitation or harassment.

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

March 6, 2023

Date

  
Joel M. Bergman, Mayor

  
Connie Jo Beck, City Clerk/Deputy Treasurer