

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

Monday, May 15, 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 Monday, May 15, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. Present were Council President Mike Feeken and Council members Katie Kowalski, Chuck Schmid and Bill Peters. Absent: Mayor Joel M. Bergman. 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.

Council President Mike Feeken opened the meeting at 6:30 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. Council President Feeken 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 Council President Feeken, there will be a five (5) minute limit per person on speaking.

Council President Mike Feeken opened a public hearing at 6:32 p.m. regarding the spring 2023 LB840 Citizens Advisory Review Committee (CARC) report from Wednesday, May 3, 2023.

City Deputy Clerk Laura Berthelsen was present to give a presentation on the process to obtain Property, Liability, Work Comp insurance quotes for the City of St. Paul. This is due to the City expressing interest in getting proposals for the City insurance to compare it to the League Association of Risk Management (LARM) renewal quote. Travelers Insurance and EMC (Employers Mutual) Insurance are the only two (2) carriers that specialize in covering municipalities. Each insurance carrier will only submit one (1) quote for the City insurance. Two (2) agencies have expressed an interest in providing a quote for the City's insurance business, but since the insurance carrier will only submit one (1) quote for the City insurance, whichever agency gets the application submitted first will "block" the other insurance agency from being able to get a quote. An alternate method that was brought to the City's attention is what the City of Columbus has utilized, which is highly recommended. The City of Columbus sends a letter to each agency, requesting them to submit information about their agency: (1) Qualifications; (2) References; (3) Experience with municipal accounts/coverages, etc.; (4) Information on what the agency can do for the City; and (5) needs to be a maximum of 15 pages. A committee is then set up to review the information, and to interview each agency. The committee will then select one (1) agency to submit an application with the insurance carriers.

Council member Schmid moved to approve the interview process that is described above, along with the interview committee consisting of: City Deputy Clerk Laura Berthelsen, Utilities Superintendent Matt Helzer, Council member Katie Kowalski and Council member Mike Feeken. Council member Feeken seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Schmid, Feeken & Peters voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

Council President Mike Feeken stated that there is a presentation that we don't see very often; the City of St. Paul is able to celebrate 45 years of service regarding Electrical Commissioner Edward Thompson's retirement.

Council member Chuck Schmid gave a work history of Mr. Thompson, along with thanking him for his many years of service to the community of St. Paul.

Utilities Superintendent Matt Helzer presented an "Appreciation" plaque to Electrical Commissioner Edward Thompson for his dedicated service to the City of St. Paul for 45 years. This is Mr. Thompson's last day of employment at the City. Utilities Superintendent Helzer also thanked Mr. Thompson for his dedicated service to the City of St. Paul.

Mr. Thompson stated that he feels fortunate to have worked with many excellent Mayors', Council members and bosses; he considered his bosses more of a friend and a co-worker. Mr. Thompson thanked everyone for the kind words.

Council member Kowalski moved to approve Rutjens Construction Inc. Pay Request #10 regarding the St. Paul Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) Project #020-2586 in the amount of \$550,330.25. The pay request is for completing the installation of equipment and electrical items at the lift station, completing the interior work in the control building, installation of equipment in the SBR basins, and the beginning stage regarding the clean-out of the lagoons. The percentage of loan expended to date is 84%. Council member Peters seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Schmid, Feeken & Peters voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

Council member Schmid moved to approve Olsson's Change Order #3 regarding the Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) Improvements - Project No. 020-2586; the Change Order will increase \$34,812.37 in cost. The Change Order includes: (1) Toshiba Magnetic Flow Meter; (2) air pipe from 4" to 6"; this is due to not getting the 4" pipe; (3) additional exit light per Fire Marshall review; (4) additional Lean-to items due to increased size of electrical equipment; (5) additional framing in restroom; (6) a deduct to change from Kawneer doors to hollow metal doors; (7) change from Natural Gas to Electric; and (8) a concrete stair retaining stem wall. The Change Order will also include extending the substantial completion date from May 1, 2023, to December 1, 2023, due to the valves being delayed. Also, the final completion date for the north lagoon cleanout will be from September 11, 2023 to September 9, 2024. Council member Peters seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Schmid, Feeken & Peters voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0. The City of St. Paul is still waiting on valves.

There was a brief discussion regarding the Olsson "Letter Agreement Amendment #1" pertaining to the civil design for Phase II of the Middle Loup Subdivision in the amount of \$44,500. St. Paul Development Corp. (SPDC) Executive Director Parker Klinginsmith will be signing the "Letter Agreement Amendment #1", due to St. Paul Development Corp. (SPDC) owning the Middle Loup Subdivision property. Council member Schmid moved to approve utilizing LB 840 Sales Tax funds to pay for the Engineering Fees of the Middle Loup Subdivision. St. Paul Development Corp. (SPDC) Executive Director Parker Klinginsmith will be invoicing the City the amount of the Olsson engineering bill; the City will then reimburse the St. Paul Development Corp. (SPDC) for the invoice. Council member Kowalski seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Schmid, Feeken & Peters voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

Council member Kowalski moved to approve the Addendum to the Wholesale Power Contract between Howard Greeley Rural Public Power District (HGRPPD) and the City of St. Paul. HGRPPD has contracted for the generated output of a one (1) megawatt solar facility located on property owned by the City of St. Paul and leased to HGRPPD ("Solar Facility"). The City of St. Paul shall purchase twenty percent (20%) of the generated output of the Solar Facility ("St. Paul Allocation"), so long as, the Contract, and any amendment thereto, remains in full force and effect. Council member Schmid seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Schmid, Feeken & Peters voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0. The HGRPPD Wholesale Power Contract will be revisited in the next five (5) to six (6) years to review the solar facility numbers.

St. Paul Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Katie Mathews was present to request "marketing" funds from the City's 2022-2023 Budget. Mrs. Mathews stated that the funds will

LARM (insurance)	2460.52
League of NE Municipalities (education)	1185.00
Menards (supplies)	45.09
Mid-Nebraska Disposal (service)	4334.01
Municipal Supply (supplies)	88.10
Mutual of Omaha (insurance)	117.36
One Call Concepts (service)	43.26
Open Caret (service)	200.00
Parts Bin (supplies)	181.29
Phonograph Herald (publish)	1154.63
Platte Valley Communications (supplies)	227.95
Rutjens Construction (WWTF - Pay Request #10)	550330.25
S E Smith & Sons (supplies)	44.27
Schaper & White (legal)	335.42
Servi-Tech (lab)	165.00
Sherwin Williams (supplies)	375.75
Smith Welding (service)	14.45
Triple T Disposal (service)	97.00
US Post Office (postage)	525.00
Van Diest Supply (supplies)	998.95

Non-General Disbursements

Sales Tax: Civic Center Loan Addendum (loan payment)	65000.00
Sales Tax: Civic Center Loan Addendum (loan payment)	5000.00
Keno: Fireplace Stone & Patio (south Welcome sign)	4958.99
Keno: Jim's Champlin (fuel for Spring clean-up)	362.43
Sales Tax: Cline Williams: Middle Loup Subdivision Legal Services (legal)	1685.00

Council President Mike Feeken opened the public comment period at 7:08 p.m. regarding the spring 2023 LB 840 Citizens Advisory Review Committee (CARC) report from Wednesday, May 3, 2023. St. Paul Development Corp. (SPDC) Executive Director Parker Klinginsmith stated that the CARC Committee is requesting to see more consistency in the required documents, such as the Profit & Loss Statements, the Balance Statements, etc. After hearing no public comments, Council President Feeken closed the public comment period at 7:10 p.m. Council member Schmid moved to approve the spring 2023 LB 840 Citizens Advisory Review Committee (CARC) report. Council member Feeken seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Schmid, Feeken & Peters voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0. Council President Feeken requested that the Citizens Advisory Review Committee (CARC) minutes be dated and signed.

Council member Kowalski moved to approve Council President Feeken appointing St. Paul Development Corp. (SPDC) Executive Director Parker Klinginsmith as an alternate to the South Central Economic Development District (SCEDD) Board of Directors. Council member Schmid seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Schmid, Feeken & Peters voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

Council member Feeken moved to approve the American Legion Carl Mogensen Post #119 Special Designated License (SDL) #008455 (1222 2nd Street) regarding the Grover Cleveland Alexander (GCA) Day event that is scheduled for July 7, 2023, and July 8, 2023, from 5:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. Fencing panels are a necessity. A Certificate of Insurance has been provided to the City for the event. Council member Peters seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Feeken & Peters voted aye, Council member Schmid abstained. Motion carried 3/0.

Next on the agenda was a brief discussion regarding the placement of the City of St. Paul north "Welcome Sign" to be either placed by the St. Paul Rotary sign west on US Highway 281 or on land that is owned by Brian Lukasiewicz's located north of the City North-yards on the east side of US Hwy 281. The Council members agreed unanimously to place the north "Welcome sign" by the Rotary sign. Utilities Superintendent Helzer stated that the area has been vacated around the Rotary sign; therefore, the City will be writing a letter to the NE Dept. of

Transportation, District Engineer Wes Walhgren to obtain part of the ground around the Rotary sign. Per Council President Feeken, a vote is not necessary for the placement of the sign; this is due to the sign already being approved through minutes. Utilities Superintendent Helzer also stated that the natural gas and telephone lines will not be a problem in this area.

Again, a brief discussion ensued regarding S. Squared Enterprises, LLC (Steve Shoemaker) gifting Outlot A of Prairie Falls Subdivision property to the City of St. Paul. The property is just north and east of Matelyn Retirement Facility. The Council considered utilizing it as green space for a park area or the planting of trees to cut the noise of US Hwy 92. The discussion then turned to the up-keep and not receiving the property taxes on the property. Council member Schmid moved to approve accepting Outlot A of Prairie Falls Subdivision from S. Squared Enterprises (Steve Shoemaker). Council member Feeken seconded the motion. Council members Schmid & Feeken voted aye, Council member Kowalski & Peters voted nay. Motion died, due to a tie vote.

Council member Schmid moved to approve the City Light Department absorbing the \$150 monthly cost of the new computer regarding the unlimited support and all security services. Per Mr. Doug Cramer with COR Managed Services, the monthly invoice will be incorporated with the City of St. Paul's billing for payment. Council member Kowalski seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Schmid, Feeken & Peters voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

The Council members agreed unanimously to set Wednesday, May 31, 2023 at 12:00 p.m. (noon) for a Middle Loup Subdivision organizational meeting between the City of St. Paul Officials, City Planning & Zoning Committee and the St. Paul Development Corp. (SPDC) Board members.

Council member Kowalski moved to approve the formal resignation from City of St. Paul Police Officer Jade Stethem, with regret effective Friday, May 12, 2023. Council member Schmid seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Schmid, Feeken & Peters voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0. Council President Feeken questioned whether the invoice for Police Officer Stethem contract amount was mailed to Valley County for payment. Council member Peters is requesting a Police Department "exit interview" down the road. Council President Feeken stated that this is a valid statement.

Council member Schmid moved to approve transferring City Heritage Bank utility funds into the City Checking account at Homestead Bank in the amount of \$250,000. This is to pay for disbursements, along with the Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) Drawdown #10. Council member Feeken seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Schmid, Feeken & Peters voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

Utilities Superintendent Helzer updates: (1) Electrical Dept. purchased primary wire from Resco in the amount of \$47,322 (in stock); disbursement of funds will be taken from the Light Insured Cash Sweep (ICS) account; (2) Road Builders will be repairing the City Komatsu Wheel Loader from a defective turbo; the Loader will need bearings, rods and the turbo. The cost to repair will be \$16,116; and (3) the Swimming Pool will be filled tomorrow, Tuesday, May 16, 2023; the swimming pool pump has not arrived yet.

Council President Mike Feeken updates: (1) A St. Paul Civic Center loan payment was made on Monday, May 8, 2023; a loan schedule of payments is attached; (2) the April 2023 interest rates for the City investments consists of: Citizens Bank & Trust Insured Cash Sweep (ICS) is 3.85%; NPAIT is 4.871%; and NE CLASS is 5.022%; (3) Please come to the City Office to review the Revenue / Expenditure Guideline for April 2023; and (4) see attached draft copy of the St. Paul Library Board work session minutes regarding the April 13, 2023 meeting.

Council President Mike Feeken adjourned the City Council meeting at 7:46 p.m.

June 5, 2023
Date

Mike Feeken
Mike Feeken, Council President

Connie Jo Beck
Connie Jo Beck, City Clerk/Deputy Treasurer