

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

Monday, August 7, 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, August 7, 2023, at 6:30 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 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. 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 Joel M. Bergman opened the public hearing at 6:32 p.m. regarding the Final Plat of PAUL'S North Subdivision (Troy and Delcie Lukaszewicz) located in a part of the Southwest Quarter (SW1/4) of Section 34, Township 15 North, Range 10 West of the 6th P.M. in Howard County, Nebraska.

The first item on the agenda was to discuss whether the City of St. Paul wants to move forward in signing an "Agreement" with Fiber Nebraska to bring Fiber Optic to St. Paul. This is the second (2nd) time the item has been brought before the City Council. Utilities Superintendent Matt Helzer had contacted Wood River, NE regarding Fiber Nebraska; Wood River had a positive response, along with receiving good service and a quick response time. A couple of weeks ago there was a brief meeting with Fiber Nebraska (Stuart Gilbertsen), Utilities Superintendent Helzer, Mayor Bergman and Electrical Commissioner Summers regarding the City's expectation regarding placing fiber underground and pole attachments in St. Paul; the less pole attachments the better. Electrical Commissioner Summers is cleaning up St. Paul's power poles. Council member Kowalski moved to approve Fiber Nebraska (Stuart Gilbertsen) to design the "Agreement"; this will be brought back to the City Council for review. Council member Schmid seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Schmid, Feeken & Peters voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0. City Clerk Connie Jo Beck will have City Attorney White review the documents. Utilities Superintendent Helzer will contact Charter Spectrum regarding Fiber Nebraska coming into St. Paul, NE in the near future.

A discussion ensued on building a new City of St. Paul Fire Station east of the Parkside Plaza on City Property Parcel ID #47-1002220. It was stated that JEO Consulting Group is ready for the Fire Station build. St. Paul Fire Chief Mike Becker was in attendance to explain the \$2 million building size, bay structure and the ballot question that was passed in November 2022. Howard County Commissioner Kathy Hirschman stated that Gavilon LLC. is currently on hold; Mrs.

Hirschman stated that she understands why the City needs to move forward with another location. Utilities Superintendent Helzer stated that the City doesn't need to perform an environmental review due to the land being government owned. Council member Feeken did have a concern regarding the utilization of City green space. Council member Schmid moved to approve the new City Fire Station location at 4th Street and Kendall Street more legally described as Part of Lots 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12, Block 8, Original Town of St. Paul, NE. Council member Kowalski seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Schmid, Feeken & Peters voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

Mayor Bergman opened the public comment period at 6:52 p.m. pertaining to the Final Plat of PAUL'S North Subdivision (Troy and Delcie Lukasiewicz) located in a part of the Southwest Quarter (SW1/4) of Section 34, Township 15 North, Range 10 West of the 6th P.M. in Howard County, Nebraska.

After hearing no public comment or testimony from the public, Mayor Bergman closed the public comment period at 6:52 p.m.

Council member Schmid moved to approve the Final Plat of the PAUL'S North Subdivision (Troy and Delcie Lukasiewicz) located in a part of the Southwest Quarter (SW1/4) of Section 34, Township 15 North, Range 10 West of the 6th P.M. in Howard County, Nebraska. Council member Peters seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Schmid, Feeken & Peters voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

Council member Feeken moved to approve Mayor Bergman appointing Tracey Dietz to the Elmwood Cemetery Board effective immediately. Mrs. Dietz will be taking the vacant position formerly held by Connie Thompson. Council member Peters seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Schmid, Feeken & Peters voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

Council member Kowalski moved to approve the Consent Agenda Items: 1) July 17, 2023 (regular) Council minutes; July 19, 2023 (Special - Wastewater Treatment Facility Construction); July 19, 2023 (Special - 2023-2024 Budget Workshop); and July 27, 2023 (Special - second (2nd) 2023-2024 Budget Workshop); and (2) July 31, 2023, zoning permits; 3) August 7, 2023, disbursements; (4) St. Paul Firefighter Marcus A. Paczosa (924 Wallace Street); (5) Special Designated Liquor (SDL) application regarding MJR, Inc. dba Bandits (1016 N. Diers Ave., Ste. 118 Grand Island, NE #CK - 094736) on Saturday, September 16, 2023, from 5:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m. for a wedding reception at the St. Paul Civic Center (423 Howard Avenue). This comes with the stipulation that the City acquires a Certificate of Insurance prior to the event; and (6) Well Permit regarding Mark Starkey at 1514-1516 5th Street (Block 8, Prairie Falls Subdivision). Council member Feeken seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Schmid, Feeken & Peters voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0. Council member Peters had questions regarding invoicing for the vandalism in the City Park; Utility Superintendent Helzer stated that the cost is still in progress.

August 7, 2023 Disbursements

Gross Wages - July	115008.19
911 Custom (uniform)	43.00
Amazon Capital Services (books, supplies)	1352.53
AT&T Mobility (service)	345.24
Aurora Cooperative (fuel)	1349.18
Berl's Commercial Supply (supplies)	229.00
BJ's Garage (repair)	200.00
Black Hills Energy (natural gas)	2362.42
Blue Cross Blue Shield of NE (insurance)	39513.36
Bomgaars (supplies)	1011.14
Border States (supplies)	333.78
Bound to Stay Bound (books)	153.86
Cengage Learning (books)	139.15
Charter/Spectrum (service)	239.96
Chesterman Company (concessions)	151.60
City Health Deductible Savings (insurance)	5445.00
City of St. Paul 125 Plan (insurance)	100.00
Clearfly (service)	193.45

Consumer Deposit (Rental for Washington) (rental fee)	250.00
COR Managed Services (service)	1526.00
Core & Main (supplies)	11129.03
Crescent Electric Supply (supplies)	235.87
Custer County Recycling (Service)	54.30
Demco (supplies)	759.57
Deterdings (supplies)	27.96
Dick's Repair (repair)	1340.28
Dutton-Lainson (supplies)	11967.76
Eakes Office Supply (service, supplies)	918.40
Einspahr, Sally (mileage)	151.96
Elan Financial Services (supplies, education, postage, fuel, car wash, meals, lodging, parking)	5262.07
Elmwood Cemetery (perpetual care)	400.00
Entech Pest Mgmt (service)	141.80
First Concord Benefits Group (service)	120.00
Gails (uniform)	242.13
GB Auto (service)	72.98
Hastings Fiber Glass (equipment)	1734.22
Heartland Disposal (service)	605.50
Heritage Bank (City) Utility Bill ACH Fee (fee)	25.00
Hometown Market (supplies)	1051.48
Howard County Medical Cntr (employment testing)	219.00
Howard Co. Treasurer (Dispatch Fee)	3122.42
Hydro Optimization & Automation (service)	361.12
Island Glass (supplies)	205.00
Jim's Truck Stop (fuel)	2405.23
John Deere Financial (supplies)	106.19
Kowalski, Trevor (registration, meal)	107.24
Liquid Engineering (service)	2815.00
Loup Valley Supply (supplies, repair)	627.34
Madison Nat'l Life (insurance)	209.38
Mutual of Omaha (insurance)	134.28
NE Dept of Revenue: Sales Tax Submittal (Form 13) (sales tax)	15735.33
NE Public Health Environ (lab)	16.00
NE Salt & Grain (supplies)	4021.63
Olsson (engineering)	9197.98
Open Caret (service)	400.00
Parts Bin (supplies)	94.11
Petty Cash (car wash, registration, meal)	38.99
Phonograph Herald (publish)	436.47
Robinson, Grady (car wash, meal)	21.96
Sample, Matt (uniform)	46.02
Schaper & White (legal)	175.00
Servi-Tech (lab)	200.00
SOS Portable Toilets (service)	1395.00
St. Paul Public School (supplies, custodian)	2821.72
St. Paul Senior Center (rebate)	318.00
State of NE Dept of Rev (fee)	25.00
State of NE Central Svcs (telephone)	38.34
Thiel's Tire & Auto (service)	615.98
US Treasury (PCORI fee)	44.64
Non-General Disbursements	
Citizens Bank & Trust: Check Order: Sales Tax Fire Station Proceeds (check order)	25.70
Sales Tax: Cline Williams: Middle Loup Subd & MAD Development	4351.00

Fourth Amendment to Redevelopment Agreement (Legal)	
Sales Tax: St Paul Dev Corp (operating funds)	35000.00
Sales Tax: St Paul Dev Corp (Middle Loup engineering fees)	9040.80
TIF: S. Squared Enterprises: #8659 & #8652 Prairie Falls (Proceeds)	1052.80
TIF: MAD Development (1/2 July 2023 Proceeds)	501.01
TIF: City of St. Paul (MAD Development 1/2 July TIF Proceeds)	501.00
Sales Tax: Street: Mtr Veh Tax: May 2023 Proceeds (Mtr Veh Tax)	6866.75
Sales Tax: Fire Station: May 2023 Proceeds (Fire Station)	18008.90
Sales Tax: 25% Infrastructure: May 2023 Proceeds (25% Infrast)	9004.45
Keno: Mayhew Signs: 1/2 Pymt Civic Center Electronic Sign Install (sign)	15514.00
Keno: Sargent Drilling: pool pump (supplies)	32158.33
Keno: NE Dept of Revenue 51C 2nd Qtr Rpt (tax)	5700.00

Mayor Bergman gave an update on the ARPA Rural Workforce Land Development grant for One million (\$1,000,000). The City received a notice 45 days ago from the Nebraska Dept. of Economic Development (NDED) where the ARPA Rural Workforce Land Development grant of \$1 million changed from a grant to a zero percent (0%) loan. Those communities that received the grant funds are not pleased with the NDED decision; there is a 30 day extension (September 15, 2023) placed on the signing of the documents. South Central Economic Development District (SCEDD) Director Sharon Hueftle, is trying to get the ARPA Rural Workforce Land Development grant back in front of NDED and the Nebraska State Legislature to reverse the decision. If the ARPA Rural Workforce Land Development remains a loan, then the City will not participate.

Council member Kowalski moved to approve Jarod Greenough (Apprentice Lineman) hourly wage according to the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) 1597 - Step 2 (\$22.25) effective immediately. On October 1, 2023, Mr. Greenough will move to \$24.25. Council member Feeken seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Schmid, Feeken & Peters voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0. Mr. Greenough performed an internship of 400 hours at Southern Public Power District (SPPD); he also served in the military.

Chief of Police Dan Howard spoke regarding the consideration of forming a "Community Committee" to assist the St. Paul Police Department with City nuisances. After a brief discussion pertaining to the issues on committee members, serving letters, committee pressure and retaliation, the subject ceased. Jerry Woodgate from the audience voiced his views on enforcement issues and following policy. Utilities Superintendent Helzer stated "when does the City get involved with structures". This is a gray area for the City that needs to be addressed.

Utilities Superintendent Helzer updates: (1) Liquid Engineering Corporation inspection of City Water Tower; the work completed was in the amount of \$2,815; there was minimal rust; the City water tower was painted in 2009; (2) City Recycling Center water test well results meets all Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) standards; (3) American Tower is responsible for the tower rental fee; catch-up payments will be forwarded to the City; and (4) a Middle Loup Subdivision special meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 15, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers.

Chief of Police Howard updates: (1) the City Police Department has met the field assessment portion of the NE Commission on Law Enforcement & Criminal Justice accreditation program; (2) Police Officer Mathew Sample has been accepted into the NE Law Enforcement Training Center (NLETC); Mr. Sample has passed all training and Physical Readiness Entrance Test (PRET); (3) the previous veterinary bill of \$300 discussed from the last Council meeting was for an abandon dog, along with cat meds; and (4) the St. Paul Police Dept. took calls for the Howard County Sheriff's Office, due to a wedding reception.

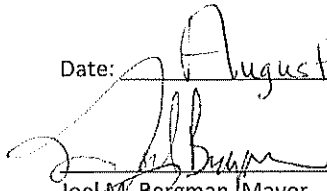
Mayor Bergman updates: (1) a Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) Construction Progress meeting will be held on Wednesday, August 16, 2023 at 1:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers; (2) a proposed 2023-2024 Budget public input special meeting will be held on Monday, August 21, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers; the Regular City Council meeting will immediately commence after the adjournment of the budget public hearing;

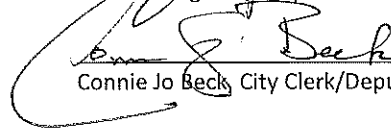
(3) the first (1st) City Council meeting in September 2023 will be on Tuesday, September 5, 2023, at 6:30 p.m.; (4) Caitlin Birdsell (MAD Development) reimbursed the City \$300 in attorney fees regarding Cline Williams forming the 4th Amendment to the Redevelopment Agreement; (5) an apology letter was sent from Autumn Doncheske regarding the City Park bathroom damage; and (6) St. Paul Keno LLC (Mike Nevrivy) recap of 2021 -2023 keno (see attached letter).

Public Announcements: Senator Deb Fischer was in St. Paul, NE last week.

Mayor Bergman adjourned the City Council meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Date: August 21, 2023


Joel M. Bergman, Mayor


Connie Jo Beck, City Clerk/Deputy Treasurer

City of St. Paul Job Titles and Salaries of Employees shall be published per NE Statute 19-1102:

Non-union: Utility Superintendent - \$37.08; City Clerk - \$35.83; Chief of Police - \$28.96; Police Sergeant - \$28.00; Police Officers - \$21.25 - \$22.54; Police Secretary - \$17.23; Library Employees - \$11.37 - \$18.58; Housekeeping - \$163.88 biweekly;

Seasonal Hourly Wages: Cemetery/Light - \$14.00 - \$15.50; Landfill - \$13.00; Pool Employees - \$10.50 - \$17.25; EMT's (transports) \$15.00;

Union Hourly: Light Commissioner- \$35.86; Lineman - \$32.43; Water Commissioner - \$27.25; Water Operator - \$20.72; Sewer Superintendent - Vacant; Sewer Operators (2) - \$20.00; Street Commissioner - \$29.37; Equipment Operator - \$24.05; Parks Manager - \$24.89; Deputy City Clerk - \$25.01; Utility Clerk - \$22.83; Payroll Clerk - \$21.71; Mayor - \$3,600; City Council - \$2,400; City Treasurer - \$2,400.

City of St. Paul Job Titles and Salaries of Employees shall be published per NE Statute 19-1102:

Non-union: Utility Superintendent - \$37.08; City Clerk - \$35.83; Chief of Police - \$28.96; Police Sergeant - \$28.00; Police Officers - \$21.25 - \$22.54; Police Secretary - \$17.23; Library Employees - \$11.37 - \$18.58; Housekeeping - \$163.88 biweekly;

Seasonal Hourly Wages: Cemetery/Light - \$14.00 - \$15.50; Landfill - \$13.00; Pool Employees - \$10.50 - \$17.25; EMT's (transports) \$15.00;

Union Hourly: Light Commissioner- \$35.86; Lineman - \$32.43; Water Commissioner - \$27.25; Water Operator - \$20.72; Sewer Superintendent - Vacant; Sewer Operators (2) - \$20.00; Street Commissioner - \$29.37; Equipment Operator - \$24.05; Parks Manager - \$24.89; Deputy City Clerk - \$25.01; Utility Clerk - \$22.83; Payroll Clerk - \$21.71; Mayor - \$3,600; City Council - \$2,400; City Treasurer - \$2,400.