

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

Monday, April 1, 2024

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, April 1, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. Present were Mayor Mike Feeken and Council members Katie Kowalski, Chuck Schmid, Bill Peters & Brian Sack. 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 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. Mayor 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.

Mayor Feeken continued the meeting by announcing that 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 Feeken, there will be a five (5) minute limit per person on speaking.

JEO Consulting Group Branch Manager Andrew Wilshusen was in attendance to provide an overview of additional fire station services related to the design of the new storm sewer and storm sewer structures. This includes manholes and area inlets to eliminate the existing drainage way running from Jay Street to Kendall Street on the southeast corner of 4th and Kendall Streets east of the proposed new fire station. Council member Schmid had several questions regarding the "Exclusions" in the contract that included 5.1; 5.10; 5.16; 5.18 and 5.19. Council member Kowalski moved to approve JEO Consulting Group's new "St. Paul Fire Station Drainage Amendment Agreement" regarding the storm sewer design services in the amount of \$9,900. Council member Peters seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Schmid, Peters & Sack voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

Electrical Commissioner James Summers was in attendance to discuss purchasing electrical under-ground materials in the amount of \$300,000 for the Middle Loup Subdivision; the Light Dept. placed \$100,000 in the 2023-2024 Budget for the material. Electrical Commissioner Summers is requesting that the remaining \$200,000 be disbursed out of the Light Dept.'s \$750,000 reserves. A lengthy discussion ensued regarding where the additional \$200,000 will be disbursed from for the electrical material. Mayor Feeken stated that the City will utilize reserves funds that were in Council minutes on March 20, 2023, and April 17, 2023. The \$1.5 million in reserve funds will be disbursed from the Light Dept. (\$750,000) and the General (\$750,000) for the Middle Loup Subdivision project. Mayor Feeken also explained that Economic Development will give up \$105,000 of the 2023-2024 operating funds for the above project. Council member Kowalski moved to approve utilizing the \$105,000 Economic Development operating funds, along with another \$100,000 coming from General reserves. Council member Schmid seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Schmid, Peters & Sack voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

Council member Schmid moved to approve purchasing a 2024 Global Dump Trailer from AKRS, St. Paul, NE in the amount of \$10,870. The dump trailer is 14 ft. long and has a bumper hitch; 7000# tandem axle; a mount cover with a roller; a spare tire and loading ramps for equipment hauling. Council member Sack seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Schmid, Peters & Sack voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0. Another bid was considered by the Council in the amount of \$11,000.

NOTICE OF HEARING TO DETERMINE EXISTENCE OF PUBLIC NUISANCE AND TO ABATE IN WHOLE OR IN PART

The Mayor and Council shall hear all evidence from the owner or any interested party pertaining to the nuisance: (1) Barbara Lyons at 1108 7th Street legally described as: Lot Eight (8), Block Four (4), Original Town, St. Paul and (2) Jannea Rudolf at 920 Indian Street legally described as: Lot Nine (9) and E 6' of Lot Eight (8), Bartlett's Add, St. Paul, NE.

Chief of Police Howard stated that Ms. Lyons (1108 7th Street) has been cleaning her property and licensing vehicles; there is still cleanup to be achieved. Ms. Lyons was in attendance to discuss her property. She stated that she has been working on it as long as the weather cooperates. Council member Sack moved to approve Resolution #2024-2, granting Ms. Lyons 45 days to abate the nuisance at 1108 7th Street. If the nuisance isn't abated within the 45 days, then the City can abate the nuisance and assess costs upon the premises. Council member Kowalski seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Schmid, Peters & Sack voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0. The item will be placed on the Council agenda on Monday, May 20, 2024. In the future, the Council may need to limit residential vehicle possession.

Next on the agenda regarding a property nuisance hearing is at 920 Indian Street; no representative was in attendance to discuss the property. Chief of Police Howard stated that there has been no progress in the cleanup of the property. Council member Schmid moved to approve Resolution #2024-3, granting Ms. Rudolf 30 days to abate the nuisance at 920 Indian Street. If the nuisance isn't abated within the 30 days, then the City can abate the nuisance and assess costs upon the premises. Council member Peters seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Schmid, Peters & Sack voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0. The item will be placed on the Council agenda on Monday, May 6, 2024.

Next on the agenda were the City of St. Paul's Department updates: (1) Water Dept. was presented by Water Commissioner Jeremy Gorecki; (2) Sewer Dept. was presented by Sewer Commissioner Trae Anderson; and the (3) Landfill Dept. was presented by Utility Superintendent Matt Helzer.

Council member Peters moved to approve Olsson's "Letter Agreement Amendment #2" for Professional Services dated January 12, 2023, between the St. Paul Economic Development Corporation (Client) and Olsson, Inc. (Olsson) regarding the Middle Loup Subdivision. The project description is for the Construction Phase Services, including construction administration, staking, observation, and material testing. Olsson's scope of services will be provided on a time-and-expense basis not to exceed \$190,900. Council member Sack seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Schmid, Peters & Sack voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

Council member Schmid moved to approve the Consent Agenda Items: (1) Council Minutes regarding March 18, 2024 (regular) and March 21, 2024 (special); (2) Disbursements April 1, 2024; and (3) renewing the City of St. Paul's Clearly service in the amount of \$174.70 (monthly) for the next two (2) years; this does not include the \$19 (monthly) for the remote support from BTS. Council member Kowalski seconded the motion. Council member Kowalski, Schmid, Peters & Sack voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

April 1, 2024 Disbursements

Gross Wages - March	143905.17
Action Flag (supplies)	664.78
American Legal Publishing (publish)	7.50
Becker, Mike (fuel)	67.31
Berthelsen, Laura (mileage)	91.12

Blue Cross Blue Shield of NE (insurance)	18420.28
Bomgaars (supplies)	2014.57
Brehm's (supplies)	178.91
Charter/Spectrum (service)	249.96
City Health Deductible Savings (insurance)	5445.00
City of St. Paul 125 Plan (insurance)	100.00
Custer County Recycling (Service)	28.00
Danko Emergency Equip (service)	1075.00
Dick's Repair (repair)	327.99
Dutton Lainson (supplies)	535.36
Eakes Office Solutions (contract)	56.14
Elan Financial Svcs (meals, supplies, education, postage, hotel, car wash)	2108.68
Elmwood Cemetery 22-23 Financial Statement Excess Funds to Cemetery ICS (transfer)	37339.00
Elmwood Cemetery (service)	300.00
Fairfield Hotel (lodging)	2124.15
Filter Care (service)	129.60
GB Auto Service (repair)	722.46
Hawkins (chemicals)	4914.94
Heartland Disposal (service)	131.76
Hometown Market (supplies)	145.79
Howard Co. Register of Deeds (fee)	10.00
Howard Co. Treasurer (Dispatch Fee)	3158.54
Inland Truck Parts (service)	3215.11
Kelly Supply (supplies)	122.51
LCL Truck Equipment (supplies)	342.23
Levanders Auto (repair)	2826.00
Madison Nat'l Life (insurance)	209.38
Menards (supplies)	50.00
Meyer, Nathan (mileage, meals)	194.65
Mid American Research (supplies)	143.73
Mutual of Omaha (insurance)	136.80
NE Dept of Transportation (service)	3391.50
Olsson (engineering)	20607.94
PSSI Pest Management (service)	207.00
Pulse Finders (supplies)	770.00
Quick Med Claims (service)	665.51
Servi-Tech (lab)	832.00
Smith Welding (service)	509.20
State of NE Central Svcs (telephone)	38.34
St Paul Library 22-23 Financial Statement Excess Funds to Library ICS (transfer)	11462.00
St. Paul Swimming Pool (22-23 Financial Statement Excess Funds to Swimming Pool ICS (transfer)	19857.00
Trausch Dynamics (supplies)	76.30
Vogel Auto Repair (service)	2479.23
Wesco Distribution (supplies)	140.81
Wroblewski, Liana (uniforms)	400.00
Non-General Disbursements	
TIF: St. Paul Development Corp (March 2024) Proceeds	5903.25
TIF: S. Squared Enterprises (March 2024) Proceeds	1001.57
TIF: City of St. Paul 1/2 Share MAD Dev. Proceeds (March 2024)	490.55
TIF: MAD Dev. 1/2 Share (March 2024) Proceeds	490.54
Sales Tax: Street: Mtr Veh Tax: Jan. 2024 Proceeds (Mtr Veh Tax)	4164.78
Sales Tax: Fire Station: Jan. 2024 Proceeds (Fire Station)	14712.17

Sales Tax: 25% Infrastructure: Jan. 2024 Proceeds (25% Infrast)	7356.09
Sales Tax: Tri-City Signs: North Welcome Sign Partial Pymt (sign)	12500.00
Sales Tax: St. Paul Development Corp: Reimb for Olsson Engineer	5610.58
Fees Middle Loup Subd Replat and Design: Invoice 489807 (Eng Fees)	
ARPA: Elan Financial Svcs - WWTF supplies	187.23
ARPA: Bomgaars - WWTF supplies	17.79
Fire Station Construction: JEO Consulting Group (Engineering Fees)	25275.00
(Final Design & Bidding)	
Sales Tax: Shannon Bergman: Business Signage Property Improvement	1580.23
(Property Improvement)	
Sales Tax: Homestead Bank: Civic Center Loan Pymt (Loan Pymt)	70000.00

Council member Schmid moved to approve utilizing \$2.2 million in General Obligation Various Purpose Series 2024 Bond to absorb the Middle Loup Subdivision improvement cost. The City will also be utilizing \$1.5 million in reserve funds from the Light Dept. \$750,000 and General Dept. \$750,000. The total project cost is in the amount of \$3.7 million. Council member Kowalski seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Schmid, Peters & Sack voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0. City Clerk Beck will contact Brad Slaughter, First National of Nebraska Managing Director to begin the bonding process.

Council member Kowalski moved to approve paying Olsson's invoice in the amount of \$903.05 regarding consulting fees for the "M" Street and Nelson Street project. The funds will be disbursed from the 2023-2024 Street Budget "engineer fee" line item. Council member Peters seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Schmid, Peters & Sack voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

Council member Peters moved to approve the City of St. Paul "Social Media Code of Conduct" policy effective April 2, 2024. City Attorney White reviewed and approved the policy. Council member Sack seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Schmid, Peters & Sack voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

Chief of Police Dan Howard gave a brief update on two (2) nuisance properties that the committee evaluated tonight. The nuisance properties consist of: (1) 1120 Custer Street (Garrett Gass, Owner) and (2) 810 Elm Street (Robert Allen, Owner; Jeff Sonder, Renter). Council member Schmid moved to approve starting the nuisance process on 1120 Custer Street and continuing to Step 2 on 810 Elm Street. Council member Sack seconded the motion. Council members Schmid, Peters & Sack voted aye, Council member Kowalski voted nay, due to no photos being present regarding the properties. Motion carried 3/1.

There was a brief discussion regarding the City of St. Paul having a City Wide Clean-up day. Mayor Feeken suggested having the clean-up this fall. The item was tabled until Monday, April 15, 2024 to see what other communities are doing.

St. Paul Development Corp. (SPDC) Executive Director Park Klinginsmith was in attendance to provide the Mayor and Council an update regarding the numbers in the "Amendment to the Redevelopment Plan of the City of St. Paul." This is regarding the Tax Increment Financing (TIF) projections pertaining to the Middle Loup Subdivision. St. Paul Development Corp. (SPDC) Executive Director Parker Klinginsmith and City Clerk/Deputy Treasurer Connie Jo Beck will contact TIF Attorney Andrew Willis to fine tune the "Redevelopment Plan and Agreement" numbers.

The City of St. Paul will capture all the proceeds from the sale of the twenty (20) lots in the Middle Loup Subdivision to recoup the cost of improvements to the subdivision.

Utilities Superintendent Helzer updates: (1) City employees removed the trees at the new Fire Station location on Thursday, March 28, 2024; and the (2) Middle Loup Subdivision trees have been cut down; a chipper will come in the next couple weeks to chip the trees; Ms. Puncohar will take the cedar trees to place in the river by her home. Chief of Police Howard and Utilities Superintendent Howard will contact businesses to move vehicles off of City property.

Chief of Police Howard updates: (1) provided a first (1st) of the month Police Activity report; and (2) the City received a grant from the NE Dept. of Transportation (NDOT) for selective overtime enforcement for "U Drive; U Text; U Pay". The campaign runs from April 1 through April 8, 2024. The grant is focused on enforcement of distracted driving.

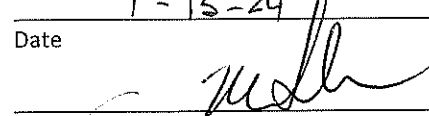
Mayor Feeken updates: Notice of Special meeting on Wednesday, April 3, 2024 at 7:30 p.m. at the St. Paul Fire Station (824 6th Street) regarding the final review of the new Fire Station plans.

Public Announcements: Chief of Police Howard stated that there will be the "Blessing of the Bikes" event again this year. A "Street Closure" application will need to be completed for the event.

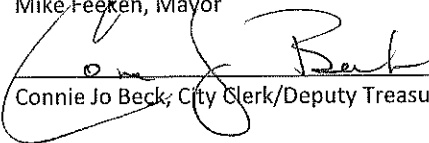
Mayor Feeken adjourned the City Council meeting at 8:09 p.m.

4-15-24

Date



Mike Feeken, Mayor



Connie Jo Beck, City Clerk/Deputy Treasurer