

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

Monday, June 3, 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, June 3, 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

John A. Krajewski, P.E., JK Energy Consulting, LLC was in attendance to provide a presentation regarding the City of St. Paul's Electrical Rate Study. The purpose of the study was for the review of the financial performance of the electric utility, which included (1) rates that provide sufficient revenues to cover projected operating expenses; (2) rates that reflect the cost of service for each rate class; and (3) rates that are competitive with neighboring utilities. The presentation consisted of the: (1) Introduction; (2) Projected Financial Results; (3) Cost of Service; (4) Rate Design; (5) Comparison to Neighboring Utilities; and (6) Recommendations. Other topics discussed were net metering (solar), production cost adjustment, residential energy rate blocks and descriptions on rate classes. The Mayor and City Council will hold a study session to form an ordinance prior to the 2024-2025 Budget Workshop regarding the electrical rate changes.

Next on the agenda for discussion was opening and paving vacated 3rd Street north of "O" Street; the property is owned by Mr. and Mrs. Troy Lukasiewicz. Mayor Feeken gave a history of dialogue from the previous Council meeting on May 20, 2024. Blake Schwartz owner of St. Paul Grocery was in attendance in seeking City financial options in paving 3rd Street that abuts his property. Per the Community Development Law, it is an eligible use for Tax Increment Financing (TIF) if the City owns the street. City TIF Attorney Andrew Willis stated that the valuation of the St. Paul Grocery Store is not sufficient enough to utilize TIF for both the infrastructure and 3rd Street. Paving 3rd Street will cost approximately \$100,000. Currently, the City has obligated \$1.5 million to the Middle Loup Subdivision and is utilizing infrastructure funds for the new St. Paul Fire Station. The City currently doesn't have the funds to do the paving project. In conclusion, Blake Schwartz will contact Mr. and Mrs. Troy Lukasiewicz regarding the selling and placing gravel/rock on 3rd Street to get the project started.

Laura Berthelsen (Deputy Clerk) was in attendance to discuss the City applying for the NE Dept. of Economic Development (DED); Rural Community Recovery Program (RCRP) that utilizes

funding provided through the COVID-19 State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) of 2021. The 2023 RCRP Administrative Manual defines eligible activities as an installation of public features and/or site development for affordable housing. Currently, the grant is no longer centered on the housing, but more on public feature improvements. The City is seeking \$1.3 million regarding: (1) new sidewalks in the City Park; (2) remove the deteriorated skate park and utilize it for a picnic shelter and a musical instrument feature; and (3) remove the City tennis court and replace it with three (3) tennis courts. The funds are not guaranteed for the projects listed. Council member Kowalski moved to approve the City utilizing \$2,000 from Keno funds so that the South Central Economic Development District, Inc. (SCEDD) can assist with the Rural Community Recovery Program application process. Council member Schmid seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Schmid, Peters & Sack voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

Marcus Paczosa (Royal Coachmen Car Club) was in attendance to discuss the location of parking cars for the Grover Cleveland Alexander (GCA) Days Royal Coachman Car Club "Show and Shine". A vehicle parking and rain plan diagrams were presented to the City Council. Council member Kowalski moved to approve St. Paul Royal Coachmen Car Club utilizing: (1) Jay Street between 4th and 6th Streets and (2) 4th Street between Jay and Indian Streets. This comes with the stipulation that the Royal Coachman does not utilize the antique tractor area. The rain plan was also approved. Council member Sack seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Schmid, Peters & Sack voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0. The event will be on Saturday, July 13, 2024, from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. A Certificate of Insurance will be on file at the City Office prior to the event.

Jordan Robinson from the St. Paul Chamber of Commerce was present to discuss the Culpepper Merriweather Circus coming to St. Paul, NE on Saturday, July 20, 2024, with shows beginning at 2:00 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. Utilities Superintendent Helzer will contact Diggers Hotline to locate utilities, gas and cable, so the tent can be erected. The circus will also have water available to them from a water hydrant. Generators will be provided by the circus. All trash will be taken care of by the Chamber of Commerce and porta potties will be provided by the circus. A current Certificate of Insurance on file at the City Office. The circus will be located north of the tennis courts and south of the football practice field. Council member Sack moved to approve the St. Paul Chamber of Commerce hosting the Culpepper MerriWeather Circus in St. Paul. Council member Kowalski seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Schmid, Peters & Sack voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

Council member Sack moved to approve Elsbury Construction, LLC Pay Request #3 (Middle Loup Subdivision Project #023-00398) for the amount of \$129,713.65; the work consisted of final tree removal and beginning on earthwork. 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 the Consent Agenda Items: (1) Council Minutes for May 20, 2024 (regular) and May 23, 2024 (special); (2) Disbursements for June 3, 2024; and (3) Bootlegger Inc. (Tiffany Fousek) Special Designated Liquor #124534 (SDL) application regarding Saturday, July 13, 2024, from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. This is regarding the Grover Cleveland Alexander (GCA) Days event in the City Park on Indian Street. Wristbands will be utilized for underage drinking; a Certificate of Insurance is current at the City Office for General and Liquor Liability. Council member Sack seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Schmid, Peters & Sack voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

June 3, 2024 Disbursements

Gross Wages - May	98670.71
911 Custom (uniform)	1454.90
Amazon Capital Services (books)	442.18
Blue Cross Blue Shield (insurance)	18420.28
BOK Financial (bonds)	7148.75
Bomgaars (supplies)	1945.89
Bound to Stay Bound (books)	149.07
Cengage Learning (books)	65.58
Charter/Spectrum (service)	239.96
Chesterman Company (concessions)	540.81

City Health Deductible Savings (insurance)	5445.00
City of St. Paul 125 Plan (insurance)	100.00
Collaborative Summer Reading Program (supplies)	161.23
Construction Rental (supplies)	775.00
Core & Main (supplies)	3.81
Custer County Recycling (Service)	39.80
Dick's Repair (repair)	1973.57
Eakes (service)	77.56
Elan Financial Services (supplies, fuel, meals, postage, fees)	1222.35
Elmwood Cemetery (service)	400.00
Elsbury Construction (contract)	129713.65
Filter Care (service)	75.05
Goettsche, Roger (service)	421.62
Hawkins Inc (chemicals)	5867.94
HD Arms (supplies)	1035.50
Heartland Disposal (service)	166.99
Homestead Bank: Wire Fee: Fire Station & Series 2020 Bond Pymt (wire fee)	8.00
Homestead Bank: Wire Fee: Middle Loup Subdivision Bond Anticipation Notes (BAN's) (wire fee)	4.00
Homestead Bank: Bad Check Fee: J. Ayres (bad check fee)	3.00
Hometown Market (supplies)	184.70
Howard Co. Treasurer (Dispatch Fee)	3158.54
Howard Greeley RPPD (standby)	308.83
Jacobs Ford (service)	382.26
Jarecke Motors (service)	237.89
John Deere Financial (supplies)	644.14
Kelly Supply Company (supplies)	181.73
Koperski, LaDonna (mileage)	124.62
LARM (insurance)	927.10
Loup Valley Supply (repair)	168.00
Madison Nat'l Life (insurance)	209.38
Menards (supplies)	190.61
Merchant JT&S (book)	550.00
Mutual of Omaha (insurance)	136.80
NDEE Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) Fiscal Services (loan)	99853.58
Penworthy Company (books)	976.26
Petty Cash (fees)	34.00
Prov Enroll Fee Medicare: EMS Medicare Revalidation (Fee)	709.00
PSSI Pest Management (service)	185.00
S E Smith & Sons (supplies)	146.30
State of NE Central Svcs (telephone)	38.34
Wesco (supplies)	954.44

Non-General Disbursements

Sales Tax: St. Paul Development Corp: Engineer Fees Reimb. (Eng Fees) (Middle Loup Subdivision)	8174.93
Keno: Homestead Bank: Keno Check Order (check order)	24.59
Sales Tax Fire Station Proceeds #103667: Transfer of Funds to VP Bond RE: to Pay Fire Station Bond Interest	41952.50
Fire Station Construction: Engineer Fees (engineer fees)	35453.97
Sales Tax M. Mmkt transfer to Sales Tax Checking (transfer of funds)	75000.00
NPAIT (#23251-201) Fire Station Construction transfer to Fire Station Construction Checking #103683 to Pay Engineer/Construction (transfer)	150000.00
Sales Tax: Street: Mtr Veh Tax: March 2024 Proceeds (Mtr Veh Tax)	6195.65
Sales Tax: Fire Station: March 2024 Proceeds (Fire Station)	13513.36

The Mayor and City Council was in agreement to set two (2) 2024-2025 Budget Workshop dates scheduled for Tuesday, July 2, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. and Tuesday, July 30, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.

Utilities Superintendent Helzer updates:

(1) Water break at Parkside South Housing facility on 5th Street between Farnum and Elm Streets; (2) No power was lost in St. Paul regarding the wind storm on Sunday, June 2, 2024; The City's priority was to open the streets from tree debris; and (3) There is an electrical underground fault from the St. Paul Public School bus barn west on Elm Street; the Electrical Dept. is working on resolving the problem.

Per Chief of Police Howard, there were no nuisances to report for the 1st of the Month nuisances.

Chief of Police Howard updated the Mayor and Council on nuisance abatements that consisted of: (1) Todd Padrnos at 1220 Farnum Street; (2) Jannea Rudolf at 920 Indian Street; and (3) Barbara Lyons at 1108 7th Street. The lawn at 304 8th Street will be mowed by a lawn service then paid by the property owner.

Chief of Police Howard reported patrol car brake problems; the Police Dept. will be over the repair budget line item.

Mayor Feeken updates: (1) Middle Loup Subdivision progress meeting to be held on Thursday, June 20, 2024 at 1:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers; and (2) NTV News contacted the Mayor regarding tree debris from the June 2, 2024 wind storm.

Mayor Feeken adjourned the City Council meeting at 7:59 p.m.

June 17, 2024

Date

Mike Feeken, Mayor

Connie Jo Beck, City Clerk/Deputy Treasurer