

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

Monday, February 3, 2025

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, February 3, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. Present were Mayor Mike Feeken and Council members Katie Kowalski, Bill Peters, Mark Wilson & Jerry Woodgate. 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 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.

Katie Mathews was in attendance to discuss and seek approval pertaining to the Bike Ride across Nebraska (BRAN). There will be 300 riders and 100 volunteers. Council member Wilson moved to approve the St Paul Chamber of Commerce requests: (1) for BRAN to utilize a St. Paul Swimming Pool free coupon on Wednesday, June 4, 2025; (2) City staff will mark the BRAN bike path; and (3) to allow a shower trailer to be placed at Farnum and Jackson Streets to hook up to a city water hydrant. Council member Kowalski seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Peters, Wilson & Woodgate voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0. The St. Paul Rotary will be the main host regarding the event. The St. Paul Police Dept. will provide traffic control.

Council member Wilson moved to approve the Olsson "Letter Agreement for Professional Services" regarding the St. Paul Drainage Survey (the "Project"). A topographic survey, wetland delineation, and design of a drainage ditch / swale will be from the Middle Loup River Subdivision discharge point to the Loup River. Olsson's Scope of Services will be provided on a time-and-expense basis not to exceed \$7,900. Council member Peters seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Peters, Wilson & Woodgate voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0. City Engineer Brian Friedrichsen was in attendance to answer questions. This project is to keep the Middle Loup River Subdivision water off the Cory Schmidt property. The Mayor and Council members were all in agreement to utilize City Infrastructure funds regarding the scope of services.

Council member Kowalski moved to approve the Consent Agenda Items: (1) Council Minutes January 21, 2025 (regular); (2) Disbursements February 3, 2025; and (3) St. Paul Electrical Lineman Jarod Greenough attending the 2025 NE Meter Conference in Kearney, NE on Tuesday, February 18, 2025, and Wednesday, February 19, 2025, at the Holiday Inn. Council member Wilson seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Peters, Wilson & Woodgate voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

February 3, 2025 Disbursements

Gross Wages - January	155501.21
Ace Hardware (supplies)	19.58
Aqua-Aerobic Systems (supplies)	480.07
Blue Cross Blue Shield of NE (insurance)	17738.97
Bomgaars (supplies)	1007.98
Central District Health Dept (lab)	156.00
Charter/Spectrum (service)	239.96
City Health Deductible Savings (insurance)	5082.00
City of St. Paul 125 Plan (insurance)	90.00
Core & Main (supplies)	749.79
Custer County Recycling (Service)	27.40
Dutton Lainson (supplies)	510.28
Eakes Office Solutions (contract)	446.95
Ecolab (service)	145.81
Elan Financial Services (fees, postage, supplies, education, car wash)	5614.22
Hawkins Inc (chemicals)	427.03
Heartland Disposal (service)	163.35
Howard Co. Register of Deeds (fee)	66.00
Howard Co. Treasurer (Dispatch Fee)	3334.89
Hydro Optimization (service)	532.50
JK Energy Consulting (service)	462.50
LARM (insurance)	2647.67
LCL Truck Equipment (supplies)	354.43
League of NE Municipalities (education)	1580.00
Madison Nat'l Life (insurance)	198.36

Menards (supplies)	270.56
Merchant Job Training (education)	550.00
Municipal Supply (supplies)	582.30
Mutual of Omaha (insurance)	127.08
NE Public Health Environment (lab)	148.00
Parts Bin (supplies)	93.65
Petty Cash (car wash, meal)	36.05
S E Smith & Sons (supplies)	15.48
State of NE Central Svcs (telephone)	4.10
Utilities Section of LONM (education)	250.00
Vogel Auto Repair (repair)	1695.88
Wesco (supplies)	633.89

Non-General Disbursements

Sales Tax: St. Paul Dev Corp - Middle Loup River (eng fees)	3959.40
City of St. Paul: Transfer Out of Dept M. Mkt (transfer)	3046.20
(Light/Water/Sewer) RE Utility Bill Drop Box	
Fire Station Construction: Bierman Contracting (improve)	242875.10
Pay Request #7	
Npait: Fire Station Construction Transfer of Funds (transfer)	242875.10
to Pay Bierman Contracting Pay Request #7	
Sales Tax: Street: Mtr Veh Tax: November 2024 Proceeds (Mtr Veh Tax)	4935.97
Sales Tax: Fire Station: November 2024 Proceeds (Fire Station)	18631.04
Sales Tax: 25% Infrastructure: November 2024 Proceeds (25% Infrast)	9315.52
Fire Station Construction: JEO Consulting: Engineer Fee (Eng Fee)	2354.25
Sales Tax: 25% Infrastructure: RVW - GIS mapping	800.00

The next topic for discussion on the agenda pertained to the "Nebraska Choice Gas" program. Mayor Feeken stated that there will be eight (8) different suppliers in 2025. The selection period will be from April 3 - 23, 2025. The choice gas program is administered by Black Hills Energy, which gives the customer the freedom to pick their supplier and the price the customer will pay effective June 1, 2025. The City of St. Paul utilizes "Public Alliance for Community Energy (ACE) supplier; this is due to ACE contributing kickback dollars for community betterment to enhance the quality of life in Nebraska cities. The City has received approximately \$21,363 from ACE the last five (5) years. Utilities Superintendent Helzer stated that the City utilizes the ACE supplier on seven (7) different City accounts. Promoting the ACE supplier was all discussed.

Chief of Police Dan Howard stated that the 1st of the month nuisance committee was not available to discuss nuisances tonight. Therefore, Chief of Police Dan Howard provided a list of nuisances that consisted of: (1) 1120 Custer Street: owner to be sent the 2nd notice; (2) 726 Howard Avenue: owner has received the 1st and 2nd notice; this will go to the next step; (3) 1321 Sheridan Street: owner to be sent the 2nd notice; (4) 1117 Elm Street: owner has received

the 1st and 2nd notice; this will go to the next step. The nuisance properties listed provide below will be sent the 1st nuisance notice: (1) 1319 9th Street; (2) 810 Elm Street; (3) 703 8th Street; (4) 519 7th Street; (5) 521 7th Street; and (6) 522 8th Street. Council member Woodgate moved to approve Chief of Police Howard sending the next nuisance letter and/or moving forward in the next step of the above nuisances. Council member Peters seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Peters, Wilson & Woodgate voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

Chief of Police Howard updates: (1) the 2019 Police Charger is in the shop regarding head lights; the Charger also needs new tires and (2) Jonathan Lawrence (part-time) has completed the Police One (1) Academy training.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF HOLIDAY: The second (2nd) City Council meeting in February 2025 will be held on Tuesday, February 18, 2025, due to the President's Day holiday.

Mayor Feeken updates: (1) Special Fire Station Construction progress meeting on Thursday, February 6, 2025, at 11:00 a.m. in the City Council Chambers; (2) the December 2024 Revenue and Expenditure Guideline can be reviewed at the City Office; (3) Electrical Lineman John Lech will be a new employee for the City. Mr. Lech has 18 year years of electrical experience; he will be a great asset to the City; and (4) the retirement of the City Attorney and the hiring process of the new City Attorney.

Mayor Feeken adjourned the City Council meeting at 7:23 p.m.

February 18, 2025
Date

[Signature]
Mike Feeken, Mayor

[Signature]
Connie Jo Beck, City Clerk/Deputy Treasurer