

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

Monday, March 17, 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, March 17, 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.

Mayor Feeken opened two (2) public hearings at 6:31 p.m. to take public comments regarding: (1) The vacation of WINSON Subdivision located in the Southwest Quarter (SW1/4) of Section 35, Township 15 North, Range 10 West of the 6th P.M. in Howard County, NE; and (2) The Final Plat of WINSON ACRES Subdivision located in parts of Government Lot Four (4) and Lot Five (5) in the Southwest Quarter (SW1/4) of Section 35, Township 15 North, Range 10 West of the 6th P.M., Howard County, NE.

Gary Hinrichs, Certified Public Accountant with Dana F. Cole & Co. provided an audit presentation regarding the City of St. Paul's 2023-2024 Financial Statement for year ending September 30, 2024. Mr. Hinrichs announced that this is an unqualified audit, which represents a clean audit report; expenditures were within the approved budget limits. Mr. Hinrichs stated

that the City Clerk and her staff do an exceptional job of maintaining City records. Council member Kowalski moved to approve the City of St. Paul 2023-2024 Financial Statement. Council member Wilson seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Peters, Wilson & Woodgate voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

Mayor Feeken opened the public comment period at 6:41 p.m. regarding the vacation of WINSON Subdivision located in the Southwest Quarter (SW1/4) of Section 35, Township 15 North, Range 10 West of the 6th P.M. in Howard County, NE. Gale Larsen was in attendance to perform an overview of the vacation of WINSON Subdivision and the Final Plat regarding WINSON Acres Subdivision. There were no comments presented. Mayor Feeken closed the public comment period at 6:45 p.m. Council member Peters moved to approve the vacation of WINSON Subdivision located in the Southwest Quarter (SW1/4) of Section 35, Township 15 North, Range 10 West of the 6th P.M. in Howard County, NE. Council member Wilson seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Peters, Wilson & Woodgate voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

Council member Kowalski introduced Ordinance # 1058, to vacate the Plat of WINSON Subdivision in Howard County, NE as recorded on May 10, 2012, in Book 12, Page 2554 in records of Howard County, NE; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for the publication of this ordinance. Council member Woodgate waived the three (3) readings of Ordinance #1058 at three (3) different occasions. Council member Wilson seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Peters, Wilson & Woodgate voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0. Council member Woodgate moved for final passage of Ordinance #1058. Council member Peters seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Peters, Wilson & Woodgate voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

Mayor Feeken opened the public comment period at 6:47 p.m. regarding the Final Plat of WINSON Acres Subdivision located in parts of Government Lot Four (4) and Lot Five (5) in the Southwest Quarter (SW1/4) of Section 35, Township 15 North, Range 10 West of the 6th P.M., Howard County, NE. There were no comments presented. Mayor Feeken closed the public comment period at 6:48 p.m. Council member Woodgate moved to approve the Final Plat of WINSON Acres Subdivision located in parts of Government Lot Four (4) and Lot Five (5) in the Southwest Quarter (SW1/4) of Section 35, Township 15 North, Range 10 West of the 6th P.M., Howard County, NE. Council member Wilson seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Peters, Wilson & Woodgate voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

Council member Woodgate introduced Ordinance #1059, approving the Final Plat of WINSON Acres Subdivision in Howard County, NE; to authorize a Certificate of Approval of such subdivision to be filed with the Register of Deeds; and to provide for an effective date and the publication of this ordinance. Council member Kowalski waived the three (3) readings of Ordinance #1059 at three (3) different occasions. Council member Wilson seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Peters, Wilson & Woodgate voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0. Council member Kowalski moved for final passage of Ordinance #1059. Council member Wilson seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Peters, Wilson & Woodgate voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

Council member Woodgate moved to approve the Certificate of Approval of WINSON Acres Subdivision, which is more legally described as: A tract of land being part of the Government Lot Four (4) and Five (5) in the Southwest Quarter (SW1/4) of Section 35, Township 15 North, Range 10 West of the 6th P.M., Howard County, Nebraska. Council member Wilson seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Peters, Wilson & Woodgate voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

Council member Woodgate provided his opinion pertaining to the City's Rural Community Recovery Program grant (RCRP) where the majority of the funds should have been utilized for the City Park and not on the Tennis and Pickleball Courts. Council member Kowalski moved to approve Olsson's "Letter Agreement for Professional Services" as amended with compliance by the City of St. Paul's Rural Community Recovery Program (RCRP) Procurement policy. This is regarding the Tennis/Pickleball Court Improvements (the "Project") on the north side of Elm Street at Nelson Street (existing tennis court location). Olsson's Scope of Services will be provided on a time-and-expense basis not to exceed \$51,900. The anticipated start date is March 24, 2025, and the anticipated completion date is June 1, 2025 (completion of design and preparing for bidding). Council member Peters seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Peters, Wilson & Woodgate voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

Council member Peters moved to approve rejecting the bid received in response to the Musical Instrument Playground "Request for Proposals" due to the project designs not meeting City expectations as per the Rural Community Recovery Program (RCRP) committee recommendation. The Committee seeks to proceed with round two (2) requesting a minimum of three (3) or four (4) companies to provide costs for selected playground features. Council member Wilson seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Peters, Wilson & Woodgate voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

Council member Wilson moved to approve the revised "Request for Proposal" bid form as presented for Musical Instrument Playground features. Bids will be accepted from March 28, 2025, through April 23, 2025. A "Request for Proposal" will be advertised in the Phonograph Herald and the Grand Island Independent. A recommendation from the committee will be made for Council approval at its Monday, May 5, 2025, Council meeting. Council member Kowalski seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Peters, Wilson & Woodgate voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0. Mayor Feeken thanked Council members Kowalski and Peters for attending the Rural Community Recovery Program (RCRP) meeting.

Council member Peters moved to approve the Rural Community Recovery Program (RCRP) Committee recommendation of bid from Mathew McCarty Construction for the picnic shelter and sidewalk project in the amount of \$66,700. This is with the stipulation that Mr. McCarty will register and receive his business State of NE Dept. of Revenue Federal identification number. Council member Kowalski seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Peters, Wilson & Woodgate voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

Chief of Police Dan Howard was in attendance to discuss four (4) nuisances pertaining to Municipal Code 4-314: Notice of Hearing to be Determined Existence of Public Nuisance and to

Abate in whole or in Part. If the nuisances are not abated within the period given, the Council may determine whether to proceed with a second (2nd) notice. The second (2nd) notice shall establish a date, time and place for all interested parties to appear (Monday, April 7, 2025) before the Council to present evidence to determine whether the premises constitute a public nuisance, and if determined to constitute a public nuisance, to be abated. Council member Peters moved to approve mailing the second (2nd) notice to the below addresses: **(1)** 1117 Elm Street; **(2)** 726 Howard Avenue; **(3)** 1120 Custer Street; and **(4)** 810 Elm Street. Council member Wilson seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Peters, and Wilson voted aye, Council member Woodgate voted nay. Motion carried 3/1.

Chief of Police Howard also discussed that a first (1st) notice was sent on a property, but the property owner could not remedy; this is due to a situation that occurred with a family member. This first (1st) notice will go out again on March 24, 2025.

Council member Kowalski moved to approve the Consent Agenda Items: (1) Treasurer's Report February 2025; (2) Minutes of March 3, 2025 (regular), Minutes of March 6, 2025 (special), and Minutes of March 11, 2025 (special); (3) Planning Commission minutes of March 3, 2025; and (4) Disbursements of March 17, 2025. Council member Woodgate seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Peters, Wilson & Woodgate voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

Disbursements March 17, 2025

Amazon Capital Services (books)	670.07
AT&T Mobility (service)	443.60
Aurora Coop (fuel)	1278.72
Automated Systems (service)	1013.75
Black Hills Energy (natural gas)	2850.96
Blue Cross Blue Shield of NE (insurance)	19105.79
BOK Financial (bond interest)	3853.75
Brennick, Cody (fee reimb)	31.00
Cengage Learning (books)	65.58
Charter/Spectrum (service)	215.00
City Lights (utilities)	9789.16
Clearly (service)	198.27
Consumer Deposit Rental Deposit Urbanski (rental deposit)	250.00
Core & Main (supplies)	3962.72
Custer County Recycling (service)	16.40
Dana Cole & Company (audit)	4060.00
Dick's Repair (service)	157.45
Dutton Lanson (supplies)	497.96
Ecolab (service)	145.81
First Concord Benefits (fees)	112.00
Hamilton Information Systems (service)	1568.50
Heartland Disposal (service)	5841.00
Heritage Bank: Utility Billing February 2025 ACH Fee (fee)	25.00

Homestead Bank (fee)	21.40
Hometown Leasing (lease)	39.12
Howard Greeley RPPD (utilities)	170465.30
Jim's Champlin (fuel)	2435.59
John Deere Financial (supplies)	89.04
Loup Valley Supply (repair)	74.19
Menards (supplies)	74.99
Meyer, Deb (mileage, meals)	440.96
Mid-Nebraska Disposal (service)	5033.56
Mork, Curtis (program)	250.00
MR Cleaning (service)	522.16
NE Dept of Revenue: Sales & Use Tax Submittal (sales & use tax)	16309.29
One Call Concepts (service)	5.70
Open Caret (service)	200.00
Penworthy (books)	390.40
Phonograph Herald (publish)	647.48
Quick Med Claims (service)	668.26
RVW (service)	222.00
Servi-Tech (lab)	336.00
Smith Welding (service)	219.40
State of NE Central Svcs (license)	203.00
Thermo King Christensen (supplies)	129.32
Triple T Disposal (service)	326.00
US Post Office (postage)	525.00
Wells Plumbing (service)	702.83
Wesco (supplies)	169.55

Non-General Disbursements

Sales Tax: Homestead Bank: St. Paul Civic Center Loan (loan payment)	70000.00
Fire Station Construction: Bierman Contracting Ck #1027 (Pay Request #8) (Check #1026 Lost in Mail: Stop Pymt Placed; Reissued Check #1027)	91674.05
Fire Station Construction: JEO Consulting Group: #1028 (engineering fees)	1398.75
Park grant: Phonograph Herald (publish RFPs)	115.10
Fire Station Construction: Bierman Contracting Ck #1029 (Pay Request #9)	292590.50
Fire Station Construction ICS: Transfer to Fire Station Construction (transfer) Checking Account #103683 to Pay Drawdown #9	292590.50

The City of St. Paul Departments provided a 6-Month update per Mayor Feeken regarding the (1) Revenue and Expenditure Guideline and Long Term Indebtedness; (2) Personnel; Training and Development; (3) Needs; Non-Budgeted Equipment and Resource needs; (4) Overall Department Challenges; (5) Achievements and Milestones; and (6) Goals and Upcoming projects. The Departments included: (1) Ambulance (LaDonna Koperski - EMT Captain); (2)

Streets (Jamie Klanecky, Street Commissioner); (3) Elmwood Cemetery (Randy Jerabek, Cemetery Supervisor); (4) Parks (Randy Jerabek, Park Supervisor); and General (Connie Jo Beck, City Clerk).

Council member Peters moved to approve Bierman Contracting, Inc. Fire Station Construction Pay Request #9 in the amount of \$292,590.50 regarding general conditions, rough carpentry, sectional doors, aluminum storefront and canopies, Gyp. Board assemblies, miscellaneous steel fabrication and site items, Div. 10 - RR accessory & misc. materials, Pre-Engineered Metal Building (PEMB) erection, fire suppression system, plumbing, HVAC, and electrical. City Clerk Beck will transfer \$292,590.50 from the Fire Station Construction Insure Cash Sweep (ICS) account and deposit it to the Fire Station Construction Checking account to absorb the pay request. Council member Woodgate seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Peters, Wilson & Woodgate voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

Council member Kowalski moved to approve the City of St. Paul's Fire Department billing rates for Year 2025; there is no change from 2024. Council member Peters seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Peters, Wilson & Woodgate voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

Utilities Superintendent Helzer reported: (1) the Electrical Dept. is installing conduit at the Middle Loup River Subdivision and (2) the north and south City "Welcome" signs are illuminated.

Chief of Police Howard updates: (1) Police Officer Matt Sample workman's compensation claim; and (2) A theft by deception occurred regarding a St. Paul business on February 7, 2025; St. Paul Police Dept. was dispatched to a local business for fraud. Within ten (10) hours the suspect was identified and arrested. All assets were also recovered in the ten (10) hour period.

Mayor Mike Feeken updates: **(1)** Special meeting on Wednesday, March 26, 2025, at 1:30 p.m. regarding the Middle Loup River Subdivision Construction and "M" Street Paving project near the Howard County Medical Center; **(2)** City Deputy Clerk Laura Berthelsen is attending Clerk School in South Sioux City from Sunday, March 16, 2025, to Friday, March 21, 2025; **(3)** attending ACE Board meeting on Tuesday, March 18, 2025 in Lincoln, NE.

Mayor Feeken adjourned the City Council meeting at 7:51 p.m.

April 7, 2025
Date

[Signature]
Mike Feeken, Mayor

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