

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PAWNEE CITY, HELD ON MONDAY, MARCH 8, 2021 AT 7:00 P.M. AT CITY LIBRARY MEETING ROOM, 735 8TH STREET, ALL IN PAWNEE CITY, PAWNEE COUNTY, NEBRASKA.**

Notice of this meeting was given in advance thereof by posting said notice in four prominent places, a designated method for giving notice as shown by the Affidavit of Posting on file in the office of the City Clerk. Notice of this meeting was given to the Mayor and City Council and a copy of their acknowledgment of receipt of the notice and the Agenda are on file in the office of the City Clerk. Availability of the agenda was communicated in the advance notice and in the notice to the Mayor and Council of this meeting. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

**Present:** Mayor Charlie Hatfield; Council Members: Donnie Fisher, Bruce Haughton, Ric Helms and Susan Eisenhauer; Tamela S. Curtis, City Clerk/Treasurer, Kellie Wiers, Deputy City Clerk and Spencer Cumley, City Foreman. **Absent:** None.

Mayor Hatfield called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. informing all those present of the Posters stating the Open Meeting Law Changes on the West meeting room wall accessible to the public. At this time all those present stood to recite the Pledge of Allegiance. Council Member Helms made a motion to accept the February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2021 regular meeting minutes. Council Member Haughton seconded the motion. Roll Call vote indicated all present voting in favor of the motion, whereupon motion carried.

The Treasurer submitted the following claims for consideration: **3/2/21 Payroll:** 9561.57 **Union Bank & Trust**, FWH 2787.91; **NE Dept. of Rev**, SWH 412.44/Sales-Use Tax 3179.66; **NW Mutual**, retirement 1188.26; **Blue Rivers Area Agency on Aging**, donation 425.00; **Corey Hatfield**, propane heater 20.00; **NE Public Health Env. Lab**, wtr samp 150.00; **NPPD**, elec 3464.54; **Pawnee Co Rural Water**, pond hydrants 34.62; **OPPD**, elec-wells 238.73; **NMC**, mirror/arm-loader 349.03; US Cellular monthly tablet service 52.97; **Verizon Wireless**, emerg cellphone/fire jetpack 96.62; **Windstream**, swr phone 60.42; **Capital Business Sys**, IT Contract 676.38/City copier 55.86/Libr copier 135.50; **Emily Sisco**, atty fee retainer 1000.00; **Alan/Joyce Strong**, demo reimb 4000.00; **H&H Auto**, rep parts/supplies 1334.46; **League of Muni**, snowball conf 110.00; **Liberty Repair & Truck Parts**, speedometer 220.00; **Matt Kuhlmann**, zoning-Mar. 800.00; **OneCall Concepts**, digger locates 9.22; **Municipal Supply**, water parts/frt 1189.57; **PC Thriftway**, ice 9.98; **Pawnee Republican**, publ 209.88; **Quill**, office sup 212.38; **Scott Hanna Const**, demo reimb 4000.00. Council Member Eisenhauer made a motion to approve the claims as submitted. Council Member Fisher seconded the motion. Roll Call vote indicated all present voting in favor of the motion, whereupon motion carried.

**Review February Treasurer's Report:** Council reviewed the Treasurer's Report as of February 28, 2021.

**Austin Partridge, First Nat'l Capital Markets re: USDA Sewer Bonds & G.O. Water Bond Refinancing; Review Emailed Timeline of Events:** Austin Partridge gave a little background on himself, originally from Grand Island and was previously a Bank Examiner with the FDIC traveling around Nebraska examining smaller local community banks. Mr. Partridge stated that he had really enjoyed that experience learning the impact that a lot of these banks had on the smaller local communities but didn't feel like he was able to be a part of that on the regulatory side. That is when he had the opportunity to join the public finance team at First National Capital Markets to help communities throughout Nebraska.

Partridge stated that it has been quite a unique year this past year just in terms of the interest rate environment that we are in as it's really historically low with the majority of that due to Covid and the impact on the economy. When events like that happen, investors will start to look for safer investments such as Treasury Bonds and Municipal Bonds, which that type of demand really drives rates down quite a bit. Austin stated that they had seen a little bit of volatility creep back into the market over these past two to three weeks. The two main causes of that are the Bond Market is not liking the new stimulus package that the new administration is putting forward, as they fear that that amount of spending is going to cause inflation to increase significantly at some point in the future. That has caused rates to bounce around a little. The Tenure Treasury was around 90 basis points at the end of December, and it jumped up to 1.5/1.6 leading into March so the Market is telling us we don't need that amount of spending to come in. Those are just some things that relate to how the Market is right now. At this time Austin handed out Refunding Summary Sheets on the Series 2021 Refunding 2012 USDA Sewer Bonds to go over with the City Council. With looking through the 2012 USDA Sewer Bond Ordinances that Clerk Curtis had sent to Mr. Partridge he discovered that the City could do these as General Obligation Bonds, which means a lower interest rate for the City because you can levy for that using your taxing authority, even though you don't have to. The good thing is that interest rates did come down. Mr. Partridge went over the summary sheet explaining that the prior average coupon was at 2.125% and the new Average Coupon is at 1.10%, which would provide an overall savings of \$44,782.74 in interest as of today. Austin explained that typically USDA likes for communities to be able to pay off their bond debts early, as it frees up cash for them to loan out for new projects that are in need that they may not have the financing for at that time, so there is no penalty on paying this off early. It is really the same kind of debt with a lower interest rate. Council Member Eisenhauer inquired if the Water Bond would produce a higher savings? Mr. Partridge then handed out the Preliminary Refunding Summary sheet on the 2016 GO Water Bond. There is a little bit more far outstanding on the water bonds. The current interest rate that the City is paying is at 3.06% with the new average coupon on the market as of today is at 1.37% mark. The difference between this and the Sewer Bond refunding is that the water bond goes out to 2036 which in turn makes it a little higher interest rate but the savings are quite a bit higher as well at \$231,670 in interest. ***Approval and adoption of a resolution #6 authorizing the early redemption of the City's outstanding General Obligation Water Refunding Bonds, Series 2016:*** Council Member Eisenhauer made a motion for the approval and adoption of Resolution #6 authorizing the early redemption of the City's outstanding General Obligation Water Refunding Bonds, Series 2016. Council Member Helms seconded the motion. Roll Call vote indicated all present voting in favor of the motion, whereupon motion carried. ***Approval and adoption of an ordinance 995 authorizing the issuance by the City of its General Obligation Water Refunding Bonds, Series 2021, in a principal amount not to exceed \$1,970,000, for the purpose of refunding the City's outstanding General Obligation Water Refunding Bonds, Series 2016:*** (which includes the wording to suspend the three readings) Council Member Eisenhauer made a motion for the approval and adoption of Ordinance 995 authorizing the issuance by the City of its General Obligation Water Refunding Bonds, Series 2021, in a principal amount not to exceed \$1,970,000, for the purpose of refunding the City's outstanding General Obligation Water Refunding Bonds, Series 2016. Council Member Haughton seconded the motion. Roll Call vote indicated all present voting in favor of the motion, whereupon motion carried. ***Suspend the three readings of Ord. #995:*** Council Member Helms made a motion to suspend the three readings of Ordinance #995. Council Member Eisenhauer seconded the motion. Roll Call vote indicated all present voting in

favor of the motion, whereupon motion carried. ***Approval and adoption of an ordinance 996 authorizing (i) the early redemption of both of the City's outstanding General Obligation Sewer Bonds, Series 2012, and (ii) the issuance by the City of its General Obligation Sewer Refunding Bonds, Series 2021, in a principal amount not to exceed \$995,000 for the purpose of refunding both of the City's General Obligation Sewer Bonds, Series 2012:*** (which includes the wording to suspend the three readings) Council Member Eisenhower made a motion for the approval and adoption of an ordinance 996 authorizing (i) the early redemption of both of the City's outstanding General Obligation Sewer Bonds, Series 2012, and (ii) the issuance by the City of its General Obligation Sewer Refunding Bonds, Series 2021, in a principal amount not to exceed \$995,000 for the purpose of refunding both of the City's General Obligation Sewer Bonds, Series 2012. Council Member Fisher seconded the motion. Roll Call vote indicated all present voting in favor of the motion, whereupon motion carried. ***Suspend the three readings of Ord. #996:*** Council Member Eisenhower made a motion to suspend the three readings of Ordinance #996. Council Member Fisher seconded the motion. Roll Call vote indicated all present voting in favor of the motion, whereupon motion carried.

**Sheriff Braden Lang, hiring a new deputy:** Sheriff Braden Lang met with the Council to report that the County had hired a new Deputy Elliot Boldt that will be starting on March 12<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Boldt is originally from Douglas, NE and is an Eagle Scout and former manager at Menards. Sheriff Lang reported that his new patrol pickup had come in and that they are still needing to hire another Deputy, so to let him know of any possible candidates for the job. Sheriff Lang stated he was in hopes that they had the parking problems taken care of downtown from the tenants above the Pharmacy, but every once in awhile they forget and get towed. Sheriff Lang stated they had towed a total of four vehicles for parking downtown illegally.

***Pat Hatfield, NPPD, meet new City Council Members and discuss Street Lights at 6<sup>th</sup> & G Street:*** Pat Hatfield from Nebraska Public Power District met to introduce himself to new Council Members Fisher and Haughton. Mr. Hatfield went on to state that the City has two streetlights located at the corner of 6<sup>th</sup> & G Streets that he wanted to discuss the possibility of eliminating one of them if the Council agreed with this recommendation. Clerk Curtis stated she had taken a picture of the streetlights located on that corner and it was in the Council's agenda packets so they would know exactly where he was talking about. The light that Mr. Hatfield would recommend the City have removed is the one located just east of that intersection on 6<sup>th</sup> Street. Mayor Hatfield stated that as bright as the LED lights are he could see no reason why the City needed two lights that close together. Pat stated that if they kept them both they would both be changed to LED lighting right there next to each other. Council Members all stated they did not have a problem removing that streetlight to the East of the intersection of 6<sup>th</sup> & G Streets. Patrick Hatfield stated that right now the City is paying \$24.76/month for that light. Mr. Hatfield discussed if any of the Council Members had driven down the highway past Casey's recently towards CJ Foods as they have been replacing the streetlights along the highway with 150W LED lights. There will be a savings with these switch-outs as they were paying \$21.03/month per light and now will be paying \$9.70/month per light. Other than that, the rest of the lights around the square downtown up to J Street on 7<sup>th</sup> Street will be 150-Watt LED lights and beyond that they will be 50-Watt LED Lights. Discussion was had on the difference in prices on if a 150W LED light is on a wood pole it is \$16.16 and if it is on a steel pole then it's \$21.05. Mr. Hatfield then asked if the Council had any questions for him. Council Member Helms inquired about the light that was in the South Park and if it could be

replaced. Mr. Hatfield stated that if the City orders the light, he will change it out with his bucket truck. Foreman Cumley inquired if they were going to move forward with the City Pond Electrical and move the transformer to the next pole. Pat stated that they have worked up the plans to make the changes. Foreman Cumley stated that everyone that uses a surge protector, it trips them out. Pat stated that he hadn't seen the work order yet, but he knows that they worked on it. More discussion followed with Pat stating he would touch base with his team on this. Foreman Cumley asked Clerk Curtis to research where former Foreman Johnson had ordered that light for down at the Sewer Plant.

***Jeff McClintock, Discuss Demolition Permit Application @ 6<sup>th</sup> & D Street:*** Jeff McClintock stated he was here to discuss his Demolition Permit Application for the old elevator at 6<sup>th</sup> & D Street as he had a stipulation on his application that he wanted something in writing signed by Charlie and Bruce that once it is down he is guaranteed to get the money (demolition reimbursement), otherwise it's just a historical site and will stay that way. McClintock stated that it is going to take a very substantial amount of money to take it down, as you all know. Council Member Eisenhauer stated that if Mr. McClintock had bills to turn into the City for demolition reimbursement and had followed the steps laid out in the demolition application packet, then the City would only pay up to \$4000, then there shouldn't be a problem. Jeff stated that he wasn't asking for anything at this point, but it was the elevator that he was concerned about. Council Member Helms inquired if the elevator demo was all he was inquiring about? Mr. McClintock stated yes. Helms continued that just like Council Member Eisenhauer had said as long as you have receipts showing you followed the process. Mayor Hatfield stated that Jeff needed to remember that the City only goes up to \$4000, if you want anything over that amount, that request goes to the Pawnee City Development Corporation (PCDC) and then they pay the difference, up to another \$4000. Mayor Hatfield gave the example that if Jeff had an \$8000 total bill, the City would pay \$4000 and then it would be up to PCDC if they feel that everything meets their criteria, they could pay up to an additional \$4000, so \$8000 is the maximum you could get. Mr. McClintock stated that was all he was asking for, but he just wanted to make sure the City was going to follow through with it. Council Member Helms stated he could speak for PCDC that if the City okays it then PCDC is going to okay it. Mayor Hatfield stated he could not see a problem with the reimbursement as the City has been trying to get that down for decades. Council Member Eisenhauer inquired to Council Member Helms if he was on the PCDC Board? Helms stated that yes, he was. Mayor Hatfield stated that Ric represented the City. Eisenhauer inquired if Ric was a voting member of PCDC? Council Member Helms stated he absolutely was. Council Member Helms stated that what he just said to Jeff McClintock about PCDC is gospel. Mayor Hatfield stated to Mr. McClintock to bring in his paperwork when it was finished, making sure he had a printout of what the dollar amount was that he spent on the whole demolition process. Jeff McClintock stated that Gyhra Construction was going to do the demolition work, so they should know what needs to be turned in. Mayor Hatfield stated again to just bring in all of his billing paperwork when it gets all done to Clerk Curtis and she would put it on the agenda for Council to take action on it. Mayor Hatfield stated that then the Council will vote on it and he will pretty much guarantee they will approve it and pretty much sure PCDC will do the same and then you're done. Mr. McClintock stated he didn't care for the "pretty much sure" part of it. Mayor Hatfield stated that he does not get to vote so he can't say that he will vote because that is not how it works, it is up to these four Council Members. McClintock stated he understood that, but he just didn't want to get it taken down and then all of a sudden well that project didn't work for our guidelines. Mayor Hatfield stated he could not see that ever happening. Council Member Helms

inquired to Mr. McClintock if he had read the application packet on what all has to be done? Jeff stated yes. Council Member Eisenhower inquired that Jeff planned to follow all of those guidelines because if he does that, then the Council will do their part as that is the only guarantee they are going to give. Council Member Helms stated to take it down! Council Member Fisher stated that what Mr. McClintock had done so far looked really nice and it's been a very good improvement to that area. Council Member Helms stated that every little bit helps.

**A Report and update from Mayor Hatfield: Review/Discuss emails on City purchasing RR Property West of City Shop:** Jeff McClintock clarified that the City was sending in their money to the Railroad at the end of the month, correct? Clerk Curtis stated that the City has not received their agreement from the BNSF Railroad yet, so there was nothing to send into them at this point. Curtis continued that according to the emailed correspondence they had received from Jack Britten, they were supposed to have that agreement to us by the end of last week, but the City has not received anything from them yet. Clerk Curtis inquired if Mr. McClintock had gotten his agreement and payment sent back into the RR? He stated yes he had. Curtis continued that possibly they were waiting to receive Mr. McClintock's agreement before they emailed the City's agreement out, as she was not sure why they had not received it yet. Mr. McClintock inquired if they had asked the City to remove the tracks yet. Clerk Curtis stated they had not gotten anything stating the City needed to remove the tracks. Foreman Cumley stated that when he called Mr. Britten he said they didn't care about the tracks on our little corner lot because ours were industrial and not owned by BNSF. Clerk Curtis stated that was kind of crazy since there is a BNSF RR crossing sign that is standing right beside those tracks. Cumley stated that when he got done talking with Council Member Helms and Mr. McClintock the other morning that is when he called Mr. Britten and he stated he didn't care about our tracks. Council Member Helms inquired to Jeff if he had sent his checks in already? McClintock again answered yes he had sent everything back to them. Foreman Cumley stated he had wondered if they could take them out of the road yet? Mr. McClintock stated that was why he offered when he asked and called you guys about working together to take them all out as he knew the City would want them out. McClintock stated he wasn't asking for help as he could get his own out he was asking if they wanted to do it all together at one time and get them out of the streets and everything. He just didn't want to be liable for taking them out of the streets and damaging the road. Council Member Helms stated that the City will take care of the streets and get them (tracks) removed. Mayor Hatfield stated if there was nothing more, he would say get it torn down. **Discuss City Crew Members Sewer Testing Results:** Mayor Hatfield stated that City Crew Members Gary Droge Jr and Sean McAhon had both taken the Sewer Certification Test, unfortunately neither one of them passed, but they both scored higher than anyone else that had taken it so far in 2021. The others that have taken the Sewer Certification Test this year have scored in the 40's with Jr scoring a 65 and Sean scoring a 64. Hatfield stated that he knew the Council had previously added a paragraph to the City Employee Handbook about the "three times and you're out" rule but he is getting to the point where he knows what it's like trying to find and hire good employees and he felt that we probably have one of the best group of City Crew Members that he can remember since his Dad was on the City in the early 70's. He felt the City has a really good crew, they are hard workers, they follow all of the rules and regulations that their boss gives them. Hatfield continued that he was going to speak a little out of school stating that Spencer had recently told him that he has all the confidence in the world in Sean McAhon as Sean has been doing all of the water sample testing and the City has had no bad tests and has taken this job under his wing as his own. Spencer had stated to the Mayor

that this took a lot off of his shoulders because he knows that he can handle it. As the Mayor, he knows that we have to have guys get certified, but these guys have worked hard trying to get certified but 40% was an average score. Foreman Cumley stated that from 1988 to 2018 they averaged only 46% of the persons who took it actually passed. They hadn't figured in 2019 and 2020 because the results were even worse. The average test score is a 68%, which is failing. In 2019, the State moved everything over to the Computer Based Testing and the lady that gives out the State Testing reported to him that nobody has passed the Sewer Certification Test since that time. So, in two years nobody has passed that testing since they changed over to the computer testing. Mayor Hatfield stated with that being said he wanted to share that they are looking for help at his workplace in Seneca and it's like a needle in a haystack, plus you get people that have been working for the City, County or State and they have a stumble, and there is a clause in their handbooks that says they have to pass this sewer test within three times of taking it or they are fired. Mayor Hatfield's question is that the City knows what they have, they know what they can do and if they hired others there is no guarantees that they would be good employees. As the Mayor he would like to see the Council pull that paragraph out of the City Employee Handbook and somehow word it that they are required to get the sewer certification and after two times, the employee is responsible for paying the costs of the sewer certification testing from that point on. Mayor Hatfield then inquired if they thought this needed to be done within a certain time period, as what do you call a time period? When you have from 1988-2018 and only 48% of the people passed, that's not a very good percentage. He felt that is was either the testing that they are running is bad or the questions are to the point where you don't understand them. Mayor Hatfield gave an example of a teacher he had in high school that out of 56 kids in his class, he flunked 54 of them. In his opinion, it wasn't the student's fault, it was the teacher's fault. So, the State is going to have to figure out something different for their program because it's not working for people to understand how exactly these questions need to be answered. City Crew Member Sean McAhon stated he and Foreman Cumley had talked with Mike McBride, which is their State Wastewater Representative, after Jr. Droge and himself had taken the test to see if he had found anything yet to assist them in finding other online courses to study from, etc. Mr. McBride had stated that he hadn't found anything yet, but that the State was going to be going back to the pre-2019 computer testing which is "California Standard Sewer Testing". You have to know everything about every grade of sewer testing there is. McBride stated that they are going to go back to a standardized test of things that you will more commonly see in Nebraska. That doesn't mean that the test is going to be easier, but the test is probably going to be a little bit easier to focus on being that it has things that they are more familiar with. McAhon had brought up the question to Mr. McBride on why the State can't make up this test more area specific, so that the license could run a certain kind of sewer plant and he could not answer that question. Mayor Hatfield stated he felt that a lot of that testing when they do that is kind of like with the Sheriff's Dept. in that they have everything in general for the fact that a small place like Pawnee County, where we spend the money to get them trained and certified, then they go off and find a job that pays better somewhere else. Foreman Cumley stated that's exactly why the State makes them a standardized test so you can get a job anywhere and not just where you are at when you take the test. Council Member Helms inquired where this puts the City of Pawnee City if nobody can ever pass this sewer certification test? Mayor Hatfield stated that put the City out of compliance and they can fine us. Helms inquired then if nobody has ever passed these sewer certification tests since the computer testing took over, then we're not the only community out there that is in trouble. Foreman Cumley stated that Mr. McBride had told him that he has been hearing the same things from other communities all over the State.

Council Member Helms stated that every community has workers that are retiring or dying and that has to be affecting those communities to be in compliance. Foreman Cumley stated that he and Clerk Curtis had reached out to Senator Julie Slama last year and they really just completely circle talked us with no real answers. Vickie Zelenka inquired if this was a national test or just in the state of Nebraska? Foreman Cumley stated that this test is through ABC, but it's pretty much covers every State in the United States. Zelenka stated that in 2014 the State had changed the GED Test to bring it up to standards and they had to go back and re-write the test because they had too many people not passing the test, so she was surprised that they don't change something about this sewer certification testing to make it so more are able to pass it. Cumley stated that they are talking about taking it back to, well it's still an ABC Test, but it's more of a general testing, but Mike McBride doesn't know if they are for certain going to go do that or not and if they do, they have no idea how long it will take them to get back to that standardized testing. It had previously taken them two years to get it over to the California based ABC Testing, so there's another unknown. McBride had told Foreman Cumley that they are trying to get a whole group from up at the Wastewater office together to try and convince the State to switch the testing back as Pawnee City was probably his 50<sup>th</sup> phone call about not being able to get people certified. According to their PSI contact nobody has passed it in two years. Council Member Eisenhauer stated that she felt that based on the information that nobody has passed this certification testing in the past two years and our two City Crew Members were very close to passing..... Mayor Hatfield stated he felt that a lot of that was due to Foreman Cumley because he made sure when there was down time that those two crew members were studying on the computer and getting the information that they needed. Hatfield continued that he felt it was hard to write answers down if they'd let you do it by demonstration you could probably pass the test. But when you have to sit there and try to figure out the equations, etc. sometimes your mind wanders and you don't remember everything that you should. Mayor Hatfield stated he was at the point that he just feels we have one of the best City Crews that we've maybe ever had, and he hates to see the City lose somebody that's done a good job for us, then replace them with somebody that might start off good but then become a problem. Then the circle continues, and we're back to hiring somebody else again. Council Member Helms stated that it costs the City a lot of money to train a new employee. Mayor Hatfield read what it stated in the City Handbook "City Crew Member Sewer Certification Testing Guidelines: City Crew Employees will get two tries to pass the Sewer Certification Test, paid for by the City and on the third time taking the test, the City Crew Employee will pay for it all themselves and if they do not pass it, that employee will be terminated from their job position with the City." Mayor Hatfield stated he felt that the Council needed to reword that somehow as he looks at one of our past Foreman Donnie Inglis that was never able to pass the sewer certification testing but was a very good City Employee and Foreman for many years. Right now, we are in compliance with Foreman Cumley and Matthew Kuhlmann agreeing to be the City's backup sewer operator, as both of them are Sewer Certified. Council Member Eisenhauer made a motion to formerly adjust the City Employee Handbook under Employment to read "City Crew Member Sewer Certification Testing Guidelines: City Crew Employees will get two tries to pass the Sewer Certification Test, paid for by the City and on the third time and subsequent times taking the test, the City Crew Employee will pay for it themselves." Removing the portion that says, "and if they do not pass it, that employee will be terminated from their job position with the City." Council Member Haughton seconded the motion. Council Member Helms inquired what those tests cost? Deputy Clerk Wiers and Foreman Cumley stated \$150 the first time and \$125 each time you retake the test. Cumley stated that after your third try then you have to have 10 contact hours of training before

you can take it again, which you just have to pay to go to certification training classes. Council Member Eisenhower stated that there was not any timeline on that, but that can be discussed again at a future date but for purposes right now to put our staff at ease because we do appreciate all of the hard work that they are doing and we do know that they all work very well together, that we just need to clarify and remove that one portion in the employee handbook. Ryan Boverhuis then inquired if this was a self-study test. Foreman Cumley stated that this last time they did a 6-month college course on the computer which was really good. The problem is they just don't know where to go from here because there is only one other option and he has reviewed them all and they are all based out of the same college, so he's not sure how much that is going to actually help them. Council Member Helms inquired if those two thick books besides City Crew Member McAhon were the books that they needed to study out of? Mr. McAhon stated that in the first edition there are six chapters that you have to read and memorize and then in the second edition there are four chapters that you have to read and try to memorize. Helms inquired how many hours would a person have to put in to memorize those two books? McAhon stated with a person with a learning disability, probably an eternity. Helms stated he was asking the two teachers in this room that question. Helms continued that you would just about have to memorize it because there's eight different versions of this sewer certification test. Council Member Haughton stated that one in a million people could probably memorize those books. At this time Katie McAhon stated that her husband Sean had been working his tail off to get this down, that not only has been putting in lots of hours on it at work that you guys have been kind enough to grant him to study on, but he's also been studying an ungodly amount of time at home. She knows for the past two months the amount of stress generated over the possibility of losing his job due to this has had a huge impact on our family, so she appreciates the City being willing to work with him on that one but also he's lost quite a few weekend hours with his family where he has kind of isolated himself off from the rest of us as he wanted to try and absorb as much information as he could before he took this test. Mrs. McAhon continued that if you look at his test scores this time compared to his previous test he made a pretty significant jump in his score, so putting a financial burden on our family to continue taking the test is absolutely a responsible or reasonable request for you to make of us and she appreciated them having the faith in Sean to give him more chances to try and pass this sewer certification testing. Mayor Hatfield stated that was the main reason he spoke up was Sean's score difference showed he had really been trying as he had raised it up 10 points from taking it previously. Cumley stated that 70 is passing so they literally missed 5-6 questions, as it just depends what section of the test they missed the questions on. Some of the questions are worth less than a % and some are worth more. Mrs. McAhon stated that for Sean, computer based anything is a real struggle as his brain just does not handle electronic equipment. More discussion followed with Mayor Hatfield calling for a roll call vote on the change on sewer certification testing in the employee handbook. Roll Call vote indicated all present voting in favor of the motion, whereupon motion carried.

**Review/Act on Jeff Johnson's Demolition Reimbursement Request at 1249 B Street:** Council reviewed the demo paperwork that Jeff Johnson had submitted for consideration of reimbursement on. Council Member Helms made a motion to approve the request for demolition reimbursement on 1249 B Street to Jeff Johnson for \$4000. Council Member Fisher seconded the motion. Roll Call vote indicated all present voting in favor of the motion, whereupon motion carried.



**Open Sealed Bids for 2004 Chevy Silverado Pickup with Snowplow:** Clerk Curtis stated the City had received two bids for the 2004 Chevy Silverado Pickup with snowplow. The bids were from Nick Rogers for \$6350 and John Clark of John's Auto Sales for \$6552.00. Council inquired where John's Auto Sales was from? Clerk Curtis stated Council Bluffs, IA. At this time Council Member Helms made a motion to approve the sale of the 2004 Chevy Silverado Pickup with Snowplow to John's Auto Sales for \$6,552. Council Member Fisher seconded the motion. Roll Call vote indicated all present voting in favor of the motion, whereupon motion carried.

**A Report and update from Foreman Cumley: *City/County Street-Road Maintenance Agreement:*** Council compared the City's last proposal vs. proposed changes made to City/County Street-Road Maintenance Agreement by the County Commissioners. Council Member Helms felt that the County Commissioners had given him everything he had been asking for, so he was satisfied with this updated agreement. Foreman Cumley stated he liked the way they separated out exactly who was responsible for what on the bridges. Council Member Helms made a motion to accept the proposed changes made to the City/County Street-Road Maintenance Agreement. Council Member Haughton seconded the motion. Roll Call vote indicated all present voting in favor of the motion, whereupon motion carried. Council Member Helms stated he appreciated Council Member Haughton and Foreman Cumley coming with him to discuss this maintenance agreement at the County Commissioner's meeting last month.

**A Report and update from Council Member Eisenhauer: *Pool Updates:*** Council Member Eisenhauer stated that she had contacted Miracle Mudjacking, and they would be coming to work on Pool Issues very soon. Clerk Curtis inquired to Foreman Cumley if they had been working at the pool today as she was certain someone was there today working on the pool flooring. Foreman Cumley stated he was sure that Miracle Mudjacking was in town today working at the pool. Council Member Eisenhauer stated she would make a point of going up to the Pool on Tuesday to visit with Howard about their progress and opening the pool. Foreman Cumley stated that he needed to report that the pool decking right outside of the boy's shower room had sunk down at least an inch and it had now pulled the other pool decking down with it, so that it cracked that portion, too. This is the pool decking that Mixan Mudjacking had repaired a few years ago for the City but Clerk Curtis couldn't find any warranty statements on their billing. This had been set up by the former Foreman Johnson, so Foreman Cumley did not have any paperwork on that job. Council Member Eisenhauer stated she would take a look at that also and have Miracle Mudjacking give their opinions on what they could do to repair that, too. ***Review Lifeguard Certification Classes held at YMCA; Pool Manager/Asst. Pool Managers & Lifeguard Ads to be ran in the March 11<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> editions of the newspaper:*** Council Member Eisenhauer stated she had Clerk Curtis go ahead and start running the advertisements in the newspaper for the Pool Managers and Lifeguard positions as she was going to try her best to make sure they were able to get the swimming pool open this year. Council Member Helms made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Council Member Fisher seconded the motion. Roll call vote indicated all present voting in favor of the motion, whereupon motion carried, and meeting adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

ATTEST: Tamela S. Curtis, City Clerk

Charlie E. Hatfield, Mayor