

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PAWNEE CITY, HELD ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2022, AT 7:00 P.M. AT THE PAWNEE CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY, 735 8TH STREET, ALL IN PAWNEE CITY, PAWNEE COUNTY, NEBRASKA.

Notice of this meeting was given in advance thereof by advertising in the Pawnee Republican, a designated method for giving notice as shown by the Affidavit of Publishing 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, Susan Eisenhauer, Vickie Zelenka and Ric Helms; Kellie Wiers, Deputy City Clerk, Tammy Curtis, City Clerk/Treasurer and Foreman Spencer Cumley. **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 Eisenhauer moved to accept the November 14, 2022, regular meeting minutes. Council Member Fisher 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: **11/22/22 Payroll:** 10,480.19; **Union Bank & Trust**, FWH 2894.57; **NE Dept. of Rev**, SWH 400.89; **John Hancock**, retirement 1352.04; **Allstate**, cancer/accid 218.06; **Ameritas**, vision insurance 104.50; **Madison National Life**, life insurance 48.70; **United Health Care**, health insurance 6885.97; **Windstream**, internet @ office 126.15; **Amazon Capital Services**, replacement light bulbs 19.25; **Capital Business Systems**, Elevate Phone System 111.94; **Nebr. Public Health Environ Lab**, wtr sample test 15.00; **PCDC**, September 2022 sales tax 7045.46; **Seneca Sanitation**, Oct 2022 garbage service 6895.82; **Binder Bros.** bags of cement 239.40; **Dollar General**, office supplies 18.90; **Findlay HVAC** repair furnace @ shop 55.00; **Kay Park Rec**, lids for new trash cans 2648.00; **Kyle Gottula**, tires 524.00; **Midwest Alarm Services**, library monitoring 407.21; **Municipal Supply of Omaha**, wtr meter 1128.16; **SYNC/ Amazon**, library materials 72.37; **Travelers CL**, ½ firemen's WC insurance 634.00; **Spectrum**, internet & phone @ 445 6th street 174.97. Council Member Eisenhauer moved 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.

Approve Paying Council/Mayor in December (Payroll Date 12/6/2022): Council Member Helms moved to approve paying the Council Members and Mayor in December. Council Member Zelenka seconded the motion. Roll Call vote indicated all present voting in favor of the motion, whereupon motion carried.

Review/Discuss request for donation of ARPA Funds to the Pawnee County 4-H

Foundation: Mary Moser, Extension Educator, explained to the Council that the Pawnee County 4-H Foundation oversees the 4-H program which is part of the Pawnee County Extension, and they are fundraising to continue current projects while working with the Pawnee Ag Society to buy pens for the new building. The sheep, goats and swine will be housed in the new building by

the arena and the old swine barn will be torn down. The 4-H kids are working with Plymouth Industries to purchase materials for the new pens. They would be used for the Fair, but they would also be used to partner with the Pawnee City School FFA to hold an Ag Literacy Festival annually or biannually in order to learn about Nebraska commodities such as grains, soybeans, etc. which other 4-H organizations already have in place. This year twenty Clover Kids showed bucket calves at the Fair. Another goal is to hold a “process show” for 4-H kids to educate them about the process of showing animals at the Fair. These activities would help promote retail sales in town for sponsors and people who would be patronizing local businesses. Mrs. Moser clarified the donation would be used to help build the facility for educational programs and the University of Nebraska has a “fistulated steer” that they could bring down to show the kids. Council Member Eisenhauer explained that at the last meeting \$100,000 of the ARPA funds were designated for Streets. Eisenhauer stated she felt the Council needed to stay consistent with our community organizations. Council Member Eisenhauer moved to amend the motion at the last meeting to state to pull \$5000 from the \$100,000 designated for the street project and replace that \$5000 with funds from the Street Reserve Account. Council Member Zelenka seconded the motion. Roll Call vote indicated all present voting in favor of the motion, whereupon motion carried.

Open Sealed Bids on Cornerstone Building—Community Meeting Room Project: No bids were received. **Review Correspondence between SENDD & DED re: *confirmation that the City of Pawnee City is able to proceed with this project by purchasing all necessary construction supplies & hiring a contractor at an hourly rate:*** Mayor Hatfield explained he had talked with Nate Streit and Daniel Palmer about the project and they both seemed interested in working on the project if it is going to be contracted out. He also recommended a council person or Bob Miller be appointed as project manager to oversee the project. Bob Miller did oversee the city office remodel. Clerk Curtis explained it would be best to hire someone to oversee the project who has actual construction experience otherwise it will be “dumped” on her desk. Council Member Helms explained he had already spoken to Bob Miller about the Cornerstone Building project and Bob Miller is willing to be the project manager. He already has two people lined up to complete the work. Council Member Helms continued that Bob Miller told him that if the City ran out of money, Bob Miller, himself, would supply the rest of the money. Council Member Helms moved to appoint Bob Miller as the general contractor for the Cornerstone Building project with the hourly rate to be determined at a later date. Council Member Zelenka seconded the motion. Roll Call vote indicated all present voting in favor of the motion, whereupon motion carried.

Discuss and consider reimbursement for sidewalk construction to Faith Baptist Church. Review City Code 8-206 Sidewalks; Reimbursement for Costs of Concrete; Keith Groeling submitted a copy of a receipt from Ben Walters for replacement of the sidewalk in front of the Faith Baptist Church. It required 789 sq. ft. to replace the sidewalk at 15% reimbursement totaled \$680.51. Discussion was had on the actual cost per cubic yard of concrete since it was not stated on the receipt. Council Member Eisenhauer moved to approve paying Faith Baptist Church \$680.51 as a 15% reimbursement for the concrete used to replace their sidewalk on the North side of the church. Council Member Helms seconded the motion. Roll Call vote indicated all present voting in favor of the motion, whereupon motion carried.

Report and update from Foreman Cumley: Items for discussion are: Review/Discuss Letter from JEO re: WWTF (Sewer Plant) Improvements: Foreman Cumley explained Aaron Beauclair from JEO sent a letter of recommendation with three options that could be used to address the concerns regarding buildup of grit and plugging of the jet aeration nozzles at the oxidation ditch and the corrosion of supporting rods in the final clarifier. The first option would cost \$750,000 to \$1,000,000 so Foreman Cumley feels that isn't even an option. He is still contemplating the third option but has a few more questions for Aaron about it. So, they will try option two again and backwash the nozzles because some of the nozzles in the outer rim are starting to plug again. The recommendations mainly address grit, but the problem is trash and debris, such as hair and towelettes plugging the nozzles. Clerk Curtis and Foreman Cumley explained that it cost around \$5,000 to vacuum out the grit which is a lot cheaper than building a grit basin and this is the first time this has been completed since the sewer plant was built twelve years ago. Foreman Cumley is still waiting on the vertical screen from WesTech. **Discuss updates to projects i.e.: Sewer Plant Generator:** It has been serviced and there were no issues with the transfer switch. The generator wasn't switching over when it was supposed to so apparently, the transfer switch wasn't working but all it needed was a bolt tightened. **New Water Tap:** A new water tap was installed north of town, and it went well with no issues. **Decorative Lights:** The City Crew replaced lightbulbs in the decorative lights downtown so that they will all be the same color instead of some glowing yellow and some glowing white. Damaged globes were also replaced so the light poles should all be ready for people/organizations to decorate for Christmas.

Review PCAL Minutes: Council reviewed the October 20, 2022, meeting minutes from the Pawnee City Assisted Living. Deputy Clerk Wiers explained Caralyn has met with Julie Bauman concerning the discrepancies Caralyn discovered and to assist with preparing a Treasurer's Report. Ms. Bauman had stated to DC Wiers that she is pretty sure what the entries concern and she reviewed PCAL documents while she conducted the City audit last week.

Correspondence: The League of Municipalities 2023 Annual Utilities/Public Works Conference is scheduled for January 11-13 in Lincoln. Pre-registration fees are due by 12/20/2022 if anyone would like to attend. Clerk Curtis explained she has received notice The Nebraska Clerks Institute & Academy is scheduled March 13 – 17, 2023 in Kearney and the early registration cost is \$393.00. She would like to attend and earn continuing education credits. Council Member Zelenka moved to approve paying \$393.00 tuition for Clerk Curtis to attend the Nebraska Clerks Institute & Academy scheduled for March 13 – 17, 2023 in Kearney. Council Member Eisenhower seconded the motion. Roll Call vote indicated all present voting in favor of the motion, whereupon motion carried. Clerk Curtis shared "Tips to Prevent Vandalism" with the Council. Discussion was had about lighting on the pickle ball court at the Van Horne Park and possibly changing the light to LED with a timer on it. The City Council reviewed correspondence from September 2022 total Sales Tax of \$22,948.96 with ½% Street Repairs Sales Tax totaling \$4696.97 and \$4,161.08 being Motor Vehicle Sales Tax.

Council Member Helm moved to adjourn the meeting. Council Member Zelenka seconded the motion. Roll Call vote indicated all in favor of the motion and meeting adjourned at 7:53 pm.

ATTEST: Kellie A. Wiers, Deputy City Clerk

Charlie Hatfield, Mayor