

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PAWNEE CITY, HELD ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2020 AT THE CITY LIBRARY MEETING ROOM, 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: Vickie L. Zelenka, Ric Helms, Susan Eisenhauer and John Dahlgren; Tamela S. Curtis, City Clerk/Treasurer 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. Council Member Dahlgren made a motion to accept the October 26, 2020 regular meeting minutes. Council Member Helms 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: **11/10/20 Payroll:** 9,025.09; **UB&T**, FWH 1131.52; **NE Dept. of Rev**, SWH 360.86; **NW Mutual**, ret. 1131.52; **Madison Nat'l**, life ins 48.70; **Binder Bros**, concrete/drill bits-repairs 2368.39; **Capital Business Systems**, IT Plan 676.38/copier contract 611.00; **DB Environmental**, asbestos inspect 375.00; **Diversified Drug Testing**, membership dues 100.00; **Econo Signs**, Customer only parking signs/freight 298.33; **Junior Libr Build**, Libr materials 2149.35; **NPPD**, elec 6392.15; **Pc Fire Dept**, rmb 3rd qtr expenses 1048.50; **Pawnee Co Rural Water**, hydrants 48.62; **Quill**, office supplies 184.95 **OPPD**, well elec 199.17; **Emily Sisco**, Atty fees 1000.00; **Fairview Golf Club**, Donation-Oct mtgs 80.00; **HOA Solutions**, repl ORP sensor/re-calibrate 1456.00; **MidWest Labs**, swr samp 192.00; **Matt Kuhlmann**, Nov. Zoning contract 800.00; **OneCall Concepts**, digger locates 13.07 **H&H Auto**, rep parts/sup 122.63; **Pawnee City Thriftway**, supplies 42.84; **Pawnee Republican**, publications 576.97; **Seneca SA**, Sept. Garbage pickup 5688.60; **Table Rock Appliance**, rep kitchen faucet 48.00; **GoDaddy**, .org Domain Renewal 31.16; **Google**, iCloud GSuite Storage Sept/Oct 36.00; **Co Treas**, Title Polaris Ranger 10.25; **USPS**, postage-mail wtr samples/housing rehab/PayPort agrmt 17.05. Council Member Helms made a motion to approve the claims as submitted. Council Member Eisenhauer seconded the motion. Roll Call vote indicated all present voting in favor of the motion, whereupon motion carried.

Treasurer's Report as of October 31, 2020: Council reviewed the Treasurer's Report as of October 31, 2020.

Sheriff Braden Lang- Sheriff Braden Lang met with Council to discuss that he is now down to Brad Willey and himself being the only ones left who are certified as Deputy Josh Townsend had quit on Sunday. Sheriff Lang stated that Sarah is still working but is not certified yet and has not been able to pass the physical portion of the training. Jayme Reed has volunteered to keep working up to three days a week until something changes. Council Member Eisenhauer inquired if Deputy Townsend had quit effective immediately or was

he planning to give two week's notice? Sheriff Lang stated he was not sure on that yet. Sheriff Lang stated he had received the email that the "customer only parking" signs had been put up downtown. Council Member Helms stated that he felt there had been enough press on the subject that the problem has taken care of itself. Mayor Hatfield stated that part of that may have been due to it being harvest time, so many farmers were busy out in the fields and only came to town to grab some lunch or supper. Council Member Dahlgren stated that he had noticed many of the business owners are now parking on the East side of the Courthouse, which has also freed up a lot of parking in the downtown area. Sheriff Lang stated that a car had been towed outside of Casey's, but that the incident had not been the owner of the vehicle's fault as the ex-girlfriend had taken lug nuts off of the tire. The Sheriff's office was unable to reach the owner, so it was towed and is being held up at Kuhl's in Tecumseh right now.

Donna Henson, SHARE Group-Report Back with ideas on controlling feral cat population in town: Donna Henson and Nita Maddocks, Safe Haven Animal Rescue Efforts (SHARE) met with Council to discuss ideas they had researched on controlling the feral cat population in Pawnee City. Donna stated she had contacted Casey's Central Office and a form is being submitted to their contribution department. She explained to the lady about the 20+ cats that are constantly hanging around the Pawnee City Casey's store and are starting to spread diseases amongst each other! Ms. Henson plans to send some pictures of the cats that are all around the Pawnee City Casey's store to show them what we are dealing with on a daily basis. She went into detail about some cats having AIDS and feline leukemia along with a strange new parasite their vet discovered in a cat she took down there Saturday that will end up killing an entire litter of kittens if not correctly treated. Ms. Henson stated it is also common with pigs. Donna stated she had talked with Susie Just as was suggested. Susie had told her that most of their contacts they had when they were in Omaha were gone now but she had suggested contacting Carol Wheeler with Hearts United outside of Auburn. Hearts United has many funding sources and may be willing to share some of them with SHARE. Donna stated she would like to find someone in town that would like to adopt these cats because they are getting all of their shots done and fixed so when they take them to Beatrice Humane Society, they are making money off of them. Donna stated that right now she has a very nice cat that is up for adoption and is still fostering a very nice dog Daisy Mae that is being treated for heartworm right now, but should be ready to adopt out in the next couple of months. Donna stated that SHARE has also visited with Laura Poskochil about setting up a "donation button" on the SHARE website. Nita Maddocks stated that in visiting with the Hiawatha/Brown County Humane Society, all of their funds are already used up for spay and neutering, there are no grants or anything that they can apply for to help with the cat population here in Pawnee City. They are also completely full, so cannot take any additional animals right now. Hiawatha did share with them that they were able to take cats down to K-State and got them spayed and neutered along with shots and it didn't cost them anything. Nita stated that she had given all of that contact information to Charlie about the traveling spayed/neuter clinic held at K-State to see if we could take any cats down there. Donna stated that Sharla Sitzman has been picking up cats from a couple different people and taking them down to someone who owns a couple farms in Kansas, which they would take as many cats as they can get. Council Member Dahlgren stated that he had been told by Jon Bailey that there are many cats going in and out of the house just East of where he lives. Council Member Dahlgren inquired to Clerk Curtis if the SHARE group could possibly get a certain percentage of tax money from the County like the Airport Authority does? Clerk Curtis stated the tax money the Airport Authority receives is State Statute mandated, but she did not think there was

anything out there that mandates a certain amount of tax money has to go to animal rescue groups. Ms. Henson stated that SHARE will just keep plugging along and are just thankful for their wonderful vet who treats them very well. Ms. Henson also thanked Council Member Eisenhauer for her donation to help a family in need get their dogs' rabies vaccination updated and licensed. Mayor Hatfield stated he would check it out with K-State and let them know what he finds out.

Doug & Teresa Hinrichsen, Discussion on moving house at 1332 F Street: Mayor Hatfield stated that members of the Fire Hall Committee had met last week to discuss the matter of the house being removed off the property but due to the City now owning the property, it would have pushed the date the property could have been completely cleared off too far out and we need to be getting this project out to bids. Mayor Hatfield stated he had visited with the Hinrichsen's this weekend letting them know if they had made contact much earlier in the year when the Community Foundation owned it, then moving the house off the property could have been considered but it just wasn't a possibility at this point in the game.

Take Action on Asbestos Abatement RFPs on 1332 F Street, the property where the new Fire Hall will be built: Council reviewed the four RFPs the City had received on the Asbestos Abatement at 1332 F Street. RFPs were received from ABC Abatement, \$2420.00; Bockmann Inc., \$2860; Wheeler Contracting, Inc., \$3280 and McGill Asbestos Abatement LLC, \$3640. Council Member Dahlgren made a motion to approve the Asbestos Abatement Proposal from ABC Abatement for \$2420. Council Member Helms seconded the motion. Roll Call vote indicated all present voting in favor of the motion, whereupon motion carried. Clerk Curtis stated she had contacted ABC Abatement this morning, just to tentatively get some sort of a timeline as to when they could start, pending council approval tonight. Brian Gibson stated that because it is over 175 SF asbestos removal, they have to give the State their 10-day notice & with Thanksgiving coming up, they possibly could get in there and remove it November 24 & 25th, but more realistically it is probably looking like November 30th. The removal should take 1-2 days and they will contact & make arrangements with the Asbestos Inspector to come do a walk through as soon as they have the dates for removal scheduled. **Discuss where we are at with New Fire Hall Project:** Clerk Curtis stated that late this afternoon, the City heard back from Greg Krueger, someone who was interested in removing the trees off of the 1332 F Street property. Greg plans to come take a look right away. Mr. Krueger was also informed that Derek Niss is interested in him removing the trees from the property West of the new daycare that Mr. Niss plans to have demolished, too. Foreman Cumley stated that he and City Crew Member Jr Droge had went to the property to check out the trees as it was looking like the City Crew might have to remove the trees if nobody else stepped forward. Foreman Cumley stated that there is also lot of other junk in that backyard that will need to be removed including a concrete patio, steel posts and clothesline poles, on top of the dozens of trees that need to be removed. Foreman Cumley stated there are powerlines at the south end of the property that will need to be taken down in order for some of those trees to be removed, so he will visit with Pat Hatfield with NPPD about that. Cumley had also visited with Mitch Turnbull who volunteered to spend a few hours after 4 p.m. topping some of the taller trees to assist the City in the removal process if that's what ends up happening, as he feels it is going to take them at least two weeks to remove all of the trees from that property. Foreman Cumley stated that if nobody has shown up to start taking those trees down by next week, the City Crew is going to start cutting them down and hauling them down to the tree dump to get this project going. Clerk Curtis asked

Council Member Helms to discuss what options he had found on the City renting an excavator. Council Member Helms stated he had called to get quotes on renting an excavator from three different companies including Caterpillar in Lincoln, Murphy's John Deere dealer in Lincoln and Roadbuilders Komatsu dealer with Road Builders having the best price on renting a big excavator for one week with transportation here and back, plus rental of the machine for \$5000.

A Report and update from City Foreman Cumley: *Discuss City/County Agreement:*

Foreman Cumley stated he had met with County Highway Superintendent Chris Rauner to discuss the City/County Agreement and changes they felt needed to be made. The changes that Mr. Rauner suggested were highlighted in gray on the agreement which included "commencing at the Intersection of 18th Street and H Street, then North to Nebraska Hwy 50; and remove the County inspecting two bridges and any maintenance on the third (14th/710 Rd; 621 Blvd/11th Street and Boston/709 Rd), which would make them the sole responsibility of Pawnee City to maintain and inspect. Foreman Cumley stated that the County has always had those two bridges inspected but has never charged the City to do so. Both of those bridges are in good shape, so Mr. Rauner would just like the City to take over getting the bridges inspected themselves. The third bridge located at Boston & I Street does not have to be inspected as it is too small but is not in the best shape as it seems to be settling. Council Member Helms state he plans to visit with Randy with Gyhra Construction about what size of a tube he feels is needed to hold that much water coming through it. Council Member Dahlgren stated it needs to be replaced as the City is liable, so we need to get it fixed. Council Member Helms continued that unfortunately the \$20,000 that he had placed in his street budget for asphalt overlay looks like it will be going towards the replacement of this tube, which will also need headwalls to handle that much water and quite a bit of tree removal in the area. Discussion was had on possible utilities in the area with Clerk Curtis stating that Kenny Reed's water line possibly runs through that area as Mr. Reed's water meter pit is located right at the side of the bottom drive of her husband Lynn's property. Clerk Curtis stated that she wasn't sure who had recently replaced Mr. Reed's water line, but that is who Foreman Cumley would need to visit with to find out exactly how that water line lays. Council Member Helms stated he will report back what he finds out from Mr. Gyhra on a cost estimate on this culvert tube replacement. Mr. Rauner also recommended removing all of the snow removal that the City had previously been responsible for on the agreement as the County has also purchased a skid steer loader, so are able to remove the snow themselves on the Courthouse driveways and the hospital has their own snowplow on their maintenance truck so they have also been plowing their own parking lots. Foreman Cumley stated that he had told Chris that if we ever get a deep and/or heavy snow that they can't push, then the City will always help them out at the courthouse and hospital. Council Member Eisenhauer made a motion to approve all of the proposed changes to the Interlocal Agreement between the County and City for Road and Street Maintenance. Council Member Zelenka seconded the motion. Roll Call vote indicated all present voting in favor of the motion, whereupon motion carried. **LARM \$500 Safety Award:** Council reviewed the "Lean on LARM" Safety Award for \$500 that will be used to reimburse the City towards the Milwaukee cordless power tools the City had purchased recently. Foreman Cumley stated they can now start working on applying for the new LARM \$500 Safety Award. Council Member Eisenhauer stated that they can discuss different options at their Safety Committee meeting next week. **Customer Only Parking Signs:** Foreman Cumley stated that the City Crew got the Customer Only Parking Signs put up downtown this past week.

Review/Approve RFP advertisement, RFP Sheet and Pricing Sheet Attachment for replacement of roofs and/or gutters and downspouts from hail damage: Council reviewed the RFP advertisement, RFP Complete Sheet and Pricing Sheet Attachment Clerk Curtis had made for the replacement of roofs and/or gutters and downspouts from hail damage the City had received in June 2019. Clerk Curtis stated she had sent the RFP complete sheet to City Attorney Sisco for her assistance with Ms. Sisco stating that everything looked fine. Clerk Curtis followed a template she had found online along with some pointers from our LARM Representative on what to and not to include in the RFPs. Council Member Dahlgren made a motion to approve the RFP documents for replacement of roofs and/or gutter and downspouts from hail damage on City owned buildings with the deadline for the RFP submittals of December 30th, 2020. Council Member Eisenhower seconded the motion. Roll Call vote indicated all present voting in favor of the motion, whereupon motion carried. Clerk Curtis stated she will run the advertisement in the November 26th edition of the newspaper and also send the RFP's out to local contractors that have been working in Pawnee City on many hail damaged roofs.

Review/take action on Resolution #2 authorizing Mayor and Clerk to sign USDA documents on Sewer Jet Trailer Grant: Clerk Curtis stated she had gotten all of the USDA-RD Grant documents filled out on the Sewer Jet Trailer so needed the Council to approve the Resolution authorizing the Mayor and Clerk to sign all of the USDA documents to keep moving forward. Council Member Eisenhower made a motion to approve Resolution #2 authorizing the Mayor and Clerk to sign USDA documents on the Sewer Jet Trailer Grant. Council Member Helms seconded the motion. Roll Call vote indicated all present voting in favor of the motion, whereupon motion carried.

A Report and update from Council Member Eisenhower-Discuss/Approve Pool Pass donation request: Council Member Eisenhower stated she had received a request from Kristi Robison, Music Director at Pawnee City Schools on awarding a free pool pass as one of her top prizes for a Music fundraiser they recently had. Council Member Eisenhower stated she felt this was a good way for the City to support the School and the students in their fundraising efforts. Council Member Eisenhower made a motion to approve donating a free pool pass to the Pawnee City Music Department as one of the top prizes in their pizza fundraiser. Council Member Zelenka seconded the motion. Roll Call vote indicated all present voting in favor of the motion, whereupon motion carried. Council Member Eisenhower stated she had talked with Miracle Mudjacking company and they will be here in the next two weeks to tear out the concrete on the top step at the pool, but it will be too cold to pour any new concrete until next Spring. They assured Ms. Eisenhower that the City is towards the top of their list for Spring work. They are also checking into the EcoFinish product this winter to see if they are able to apply that final coating on our pool or not.

Discuss/Approve special naming of Street by old Drs Office at 7th & I Street: Council Member Eisenhower stated that the hospital foundation would like to acknowledge Dr. George Voigtlander, who is planning to retire at the end of 2020 by having the City put up a special street sign "Dr. George Voigtlander Ln" by the old doctor's office at 7th & I Street in recognition of his longtime service to the Community. The costs of the sign are being donated by a member of the Community, so there will be no costs to the City. Council Member Eisenhower made the motion for the City to put up a special street sign "Dr. George Voigtlander Ln" by the old doctor's office at 7th & I Street in recognition of his long service to the Community. Council Member Zelenka seconded the motion. Roll Call vote indicated all present voting in favor of the motion, whereupon motion carried. Council Member Eisenhower requested this information not be published until after the

Hospital Foundation holds their dedication ceremony for Dr. Voigtlander planned sometime in the next few weeks.

Review Payroll Time Off Report: Council reviewed the Payroll Time Off Report showing what employees had left for vacation and sick time. Council Member Eisenhauer stated that she felt all employees were sitting very well on where they were at with vacation time left but was concerned that Lola had 133 hours left yet to be used up before the end of the year. Council Member Zelenka stated they were having a Library Board meeting on Tuesday, so she would inquire what her plans were in getting her vacation time used up. At this time Council Member Dahlgren inquired where we were at with our part-time summer employee working? Clerk Curtis stated that they only budgeted 1000 total hours for the summertime help so it was up to the Council on what they wanted to do. Council Member Dahlgren inquired if City Crew Member McAhon had registered to take the Sewer Test yet? Foreman Cumley stated that both Jr Droge and Sean McAhon are studying through the online computer course, which they are about 50% done with. Cumley continued that he needs to get them registered to take the Sewer Certification Test, as once they are registered you have six months to take it and when you are ready, you just call NE Rural Water and they go up and it's all a computer based test at Lincoln. Foreman Cumley stated these classes they are doing online has been some very good training and they both seem to be doing very well with it. Foreman Cumley stated they haven't been in the office doing the classes in the past couple weeks because they have all been very busy working on several street repairs Ric wanted done and then also helping the State pour concrete on a couple different sections of highway. Council Member Helms stated that he had the City Crew put down asphalt millings and then put down rock screenings on top on a few different streets that were in need of some maintenance done to them. Council Member Eisenhauer stated she didn't like the type of surface that was laid down by her residence as it is even loose to walk on and she could foresee that when they push the first snow, most of it will be gone. More discussion followed about if there was a need to keep the summer help on or let him go. Clerk Curtis stated that if the City Crew is going to try and get some crack filling done yet this fall and will be starting to tear down that property at 1332 F Street, they will most likely need that fourth crew member. Council was all in agreement to leave the summertime city crew member working until they don't need him any longer, as they can always amend the budget if needed.

Discuss email requests from the Chamber of Commerce on their Christmas Event: Council reviewed the email from Lori Anderson, Chamber President on their Chamber Christmas Event requests for A.) Use of the Cornerstone Building Ramp on December 11th for Santa to be there & Social Distance; B). Run electric cord from City Offices for some lights on the railing and maybe a patio heater so Santa doesn't get too cold? (**Note- Electricity has been shut off to Cornerstone Bldg*) and C). Advertise Chamber Christmas Event on back of December Water Bill. Clerk Curtis stated just to clarify that the ramp of the Cornerstone Building would only be lit up the night of December 11th and not for the whole month of December. Council Member Zelenka made a motion to approve the use of the Cornerstone Building Ramp on December 11th for Santa to be there & Social Distance; running electric cord from City Offices for some lights on the railing and maybe a patio heater so Santa doesn't get too cold and to advertise the Chamber's Christmas Event on the back of the December Water Bill. Council Member Eisenhauer seconded the motion. Roll Call vote indicated all present voting in favor of the motion, whereupon motion carried.

Review Governor Ricketts Executive Order #20-34: Council reviewed the Executive Order #20-34 from Governor Ricketts regarding Public Meeting Requirement Limited Waiver for alternative participation for Elected Officials through December 31, 2020. Clerk Curtis also mentioned that Governor Ricketts had held a press conference this morning to go over the new Directive Health Measure (DHM) that goes into effect this Wednesday, November 11th and although there wasn't much change to how the City is handling their offices it was stated that the capacity for indoor gatherings will be going from 50% capacity down to 25% capacity with Libraries one of the facilities mentioned. Clerk Curtis asked Council Member Zelenka to check with the Library Board to make sure that wasn't going to change the status of the use of the Library Meeting Room in the near future back into their decontamination room, as this would involve her needing to change her future meeting notice advertisements to a different location if that should happen. Council Member Zelenka stated she will let Clerk Curtis know what she finds out.

Nebraska Clerks Institute & Academy 2021: Council reviewed the email from Nebraska Clerks Institute & Academy 2021. Registration is open now to register Clerk Curtis to attend March 14-19, 2021. Clerk Curtis stated that since this past year's Clerks School was cancelled, the City been refunded, so in order to attend this year's Clerk's School the City would need to approve her attendance. Clerk Curtis also stated that she felt that even if they could not attend in person, they would still hold the schooling virtually through webinars. These hours will go towards her Treasurer's Continuing Education Requirements needed for 2021. Council Member Zelenka made a motion to approve Clerk Curtis attending the Nebraska Clerks Institute & Academy 2021 March 14-19. Council Member Eisenhauer seconded the motion. Roll Call vote indicated all present voting in favor of the motion, whereupon motion carried.

Election Results: Council reviewed the City Council General Election Results: Donnie Fisher (259), Bruce Haughton (230), Vickie Zelenka (199), John Dahlgren (101). Donnie Fisher & Bruce Haughton will fill the Council Member positions, both to be sworn in at the December 14th regular City Council Meeting. Council Member Dahlgren made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Council Member Helms seconded the motion. Roll call vote indicated all present voting in favor of the motion, whereupon motion carried, and meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

ATTEST: Tamela S. Curtis, City Clerk

Charlie Hatfield, Mayor