CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

TUESDAY, APRIL 2, 2019

As per notice in the Red Cloud Chief, the Mayor and City Council met in a regular session on Tuesday, April 2, 2019, 7:00 p.m. in the conference room of the Red Cloud Community Center. Members present: Mayor Brown; Councilmen Horne, Beitler, Goebel, Mahin; City Attorney McCracken; City Superintendent Clark and Clerk Meline.

Mayor Brown called the meeting to order and asked those present to join the council in reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance. He then stated the Open Meetings Act is posted on the west wall for viewing by the public.

Sheriff Schmitz’s Police Report was first on the agenda. Sheriff Schmitz was in attendance. There was discussion about U-turns and j-turns in the downtown business district. There is concern for accidents and there recently was an accident caused by such. Attorney McCracken will do some research to see what the council can legally do. Horne made the motion and was seconded by Mahin to approve the Police Report as presented. Motion carried.

Wes Olson, Fire Chief, met with the council to present his annual report and to obtain approval of the current volunteer firemen. He stated they had twenty-three calls, two of which were within the City Limits. Budget wise he would like the City to continue to purchase four sets of bunker gear annually(cost shared with Rural Fire District) at an estimated $1,800 each. He then stated the City Pumper has had very little maintenance over the years and he would like to have Fyr-Tek check the pump out to see if any repairs are needed. There would be a fee of $450 for the inspection. The consensus was to go ahead and have the inspection so any expense can be allowed for in the 2019 – 2020 Fiscal Year Budget. Horne made the motion and it was seconded by Beitler to approve the following list of firemen: Darin L. Barnes, Michael T. Brown, Derald T. Burgess, Daniel S. Conway, Justin D. Elledge, Dustin Gay, Michael S. Goebel, Joseph D. Hansen II, Thomas L. Hitchler, Adrian J. Lockhart, Dalton L. Long, Kyle J. Pohlmeier Mans, Dustin R. McCleary, Ian W. Olson, Tyler L. Olson, Kyle W. Ord, Kyle J. Prellwitz, Mike Reiman, Brady C. Schmitz, Brent VanWey, Daniel S. Vodicka, Brandon D. Young, Ryan D. Zimmerman, Justin J. Zywiec and Wesley J. Olson. Motion carried.

Horne made the motion and was seconded by Goebel to approve payments to JEO for the Electric Efficiency Study (16-PP-009): invoice #108706 in the amount of $1,006.25, invoice #107177 in the amount of $224.25 and invoice #104173 in the amount of $1,222.00 or a total of $2,425.50. Motion carried. Horne then made a motion and was seconded by Beitler to request funds from NDED with Drawdown #10. Motion carried.

There was no public comment.

Horne made the motion and was seconded by Beitler to approve the Financial Reports and the City Sales Tax Report. Motion carried. The City Sales Tax for the month of January received in March was $13,926.88 compared to $14,463.39 for the same month last year.

Horne made the motion and was seconded by Beitler to approve the claims presented for payment. Motion carried.

The Economic Development Advisory Board has a vacancy after the resignation of Brenda Knehans that needs to be filled. The Board would like to have Councilman Goebel fill the vacancy. Beitler made the motion and was seconded by Horne to approve the appointment of Councilman Goebel. Horne, Beitler, Mahin voted yea, while Goebel abstained. Motion carried.

Horne made the motion and was seconded by Beitler to have Mayor Brown sign the annual Arbor Day Proclamation. Motion carried. The proclamation will be published in the paper as required for being a Tree City USA member.

Councilman Mahin had requested that recycling trailers be put on the agenda. He presented the council with pictures of a trailer and the cost for the various sizes. There is a grant that can be obtained to help offset the cost of the trailer. By using a trailer it would have to be hauled to a place that would accept it He also would like to sell the cardboard baler and quit taking cardboard at the building located by the power plant, since the City is in such need of storage. We need to have a certain number of bales for anyone to pick them up and then the money received for not only cardboard, but any recycling makes it hardly worth the time or expense the city has in the operation of the baler, etc. The council did ask Councilman Mahin to obtain another quote on a trailer and then the council will need to decide whether to go the route of the recycling trailer or to do away with all recycling.

Information from Jarrod McCartney was included in the agenda packet as Jarrod was unable to attend the meeting. The council held a discussion on the TIF(Tax Increment Financing) portion of the information provided. This is being brought up because of the potential renovation of the former Brenda’s Shoppe into a hotel. It was noted in the packet that the hotel has the potential to bring in $95,000 in sales tax and $317,000 to the County via lodging tax over a 10-year period. The Economic Development Advisory Board would like to see the City TIF the project so they could look into using a Community Redevelopment Authority to utilize the revenue to improve infrastructure related to the hotel project. It was recommended the City look into having JEO or SCEDD conduct a study to see whether it is worth pursuing. The Board also would like the council to consider implementing an occupancy tax to take advantage of the revenue generated by the new hotel. After some further discussion it was decided to contact Sharon Hueftle from SCEDD to attend the May meeting to check into a possible study.

Superintendent Clark presented his report to the council. Some highlights of the report were: repaired leak at north well; met with Matt from JEO on the Electric Efficiency Study, water meters were not read in March but will be read in April; street repairs have begun but having problems obtaining cold mix because of all the damage to roads in the flooded area,; Conley has started on the house metering and C. T. change at the power plant. The whistle has not been working for some time due to an open loop in the messenger cable. Because of this it has been decided and discussed prior to move it to the Fire Hall. After obtaining the information requested at the last meeting on the warranty for the south well VFD, Goebel made the motion and was seconded by Beitler to go with the Water DrivePRo-Tection Service Contract for three years in the amount of $1,885. Motion carried. Pictures of the Power Plant roof was presented to the council. The roof is in sad shape and even has trees growing. The council told Superintendent Clark to look into costs of repairs &/or replacement.

Attorney McCracken introduced John Hodge, our prosecuting attorney, since we have a basically new council that had not met him. There was some discussion as to proceeding with the properties on the list and other possible properties. McCracken stated he had a telephone conversation with Rodney Timm concerning the Dam Project. McCracken stated he told Timm the City will keep him in the loop of what is going on and when the City Crew will be working up there. The State will be here the 16th of April to inspect the Dam. Horne made the motion and was seconded by Mahin to approve the location and the maps for the upgrades of U S Cellular project up by the old packing plant. Motion carried.

Two building permits were issued during the month of March: upgrades for AT & T and fence for Todd Mahin.

A copy of the Board of Trust minutes was included in the council packet. The minutes do not need approval from the council it is just for their information.

Under New Business, Goebel stated there is trash, etc. on Indian Princess Hill and was wondering if the council had any objections of him checking into having students working up there. There were no objections and it was brought up the fire hydrants around town need painting and whether they would be interested in taking on that project.

As there was no further business to be had and done by the Mayor and City Council, Goebel made the motion and was seconded by Beitler to adjourn said meeting at 9:19 p.m. Motion carried. The next meeting will be Tuesday, May 7th, 2019.

The following is a list of claims approved for payment:

Total Salaries 22,706.99

Farabee Mechanical, gaskets for engine #3 `769.73

C & D Service Center II, gauge for PP 16.00

Principal, dental insurance 448.96

NPPD, replaced a failed electro-mechanical control 17,200.24

Harold K. Scholz, meters @ power plant 1,282.00

Presto X, pest control 110.21 Verizon, cell phone bill 53.07

Red Cloud Chief, legal printing 274.07

Withholding, 3/16 payroll 1,153.56

Social Security, 3/16 payroll 1,921.54

Nationwide, 3/16 retirement contribution 1,350.08 Medicare, 3/16 payroll 449.42

NE Child Support Payment, garnishment 254.75

NE Child Support Payment, garnishment 265.50

State Income Tax, for March 896.89

City of Red Cloud, applied consumer deposit to utility bill 139.61

C. H. refund balance of deposit 60.39

The Lincoln National Life, life insurance 153.99

AFLAC, insurance-payroll deducted 269.81

BlueCross BlueShield, supplemental insurance 184.41

R & M Disposal, trash collection utility bill/city properties 12,779.50 Great Plains, telephone bills 990.28

Kim Danehey-Nibbe, contract labor 975.00

Postmaster, postage on utility bills 246.15

BlueCross BlueShield, group insurance 3,636.65

Electric to bond & interest 2,000.00

Sewer, CM sewer reserve 625.00

Water, CM water reserve 625.00

Heritage Bank, loan payment 731.98

Hometown Leasing, lease payment on copier 110.00

Mid Rivers 911, 911 user fee 350.00

John Hodge, Attorney 75.00

Various, business insurance tr. 7,358.16

General, to police fund 1,916.51

Nationwide, retirement loan payments 59.81

Franssen, towards cell phone bill 44.00

Hersh, towards cell phone bill 44.00

Long, D. towards cell phone bill 33.00

Various, officer’s salary 695.82

Various, economic development 2,083.35

Various, general fund 2,499.99

Various, Board of Trust 833.34

Various, Historic Preservation 500.01

Webster County Sheriff, contract payment 3,854.29

Petty Cash, supplies, mtg., mtg. expenses 101.55

Nationwide, 4/1 retirement contribution 1,208.85

Withholding, 4/1 payroll 1,001.34

Social Security, 4/1 payroll 1,773.66

Medicare, 4/1 payroll 414.82

NE Child Support Payment, garnishment 265.50

NE Child Support Payment, garnishment 254.75

R C Volunteer Fire Dept., annual compensation 4,150.00

Hometown Market, janitorial 23.27

Time, subscription renewal 49.92

Municipal Supply, repair clamps 771.12

Auld Public Library, DVD’s, janitorial supplies 185.53

Red Cloud Municipal Airport, fuel for fire trucks 133.11

Corporate Image Designs, vacuums 798.00

NMVCA, mosquito annual workshop registration 95.00

Presto X, pest control 96.30

MAC, cold patch 739.20

Aramark, janitorial, uniforms, towels 343.15

Mike Clark, reimbursement for fuel 86.24

MEAN, purchased power – February 77,009.56

Baker & Taylor, books 378.79

R & M Disposal, roll off at 1005 N. Webster 306.76

Integrity Home Inspection, asbestos inspections 1,200.00

Garwood and McCracken, final tax return for BOT 120.00

JEO, electric efficiency study 1,006.25

NMPP, air emission & cert. of compliance for PP 1,175.00

Baird Holm, bond council/assisted living bonds 2,520.00

Solomon, disposal of bushings 1,101.00

NE Health Env. Lab, water analysis 15.00

Zee Medical, 1st aid kits update 25.25

RC Volunteer Fire Dept. 1,295.32

Carrot-Top, American Flag 152.30

Sensus, annual software support 1,715.95

Eakes, office supplies 1,371.62

Fyr-Tek, repairs 227.55

City of Red Cloud, applied deposit to utility bill 167.85

J. P. , refund balance of deposit 232.15

Landmark, parts 154.80

Integrated Security Solutions, monitoring Fire Alarm System 480.00

NMPP, annual dues 867.80

CPI, diesel fuel supplement 34.08

Eagle, cable TV 88.61

R C Athletic Assn., annual donation 1,000.00

Cardmember, adobe monthly service 16.04

Olson Enterprises, fuel & repair 2,045.21

J & A Auto, parts 158.84

C & D Service, parts & rentals 308.22

Black Hills Energy, natural gas bills 3,015.44

WAPA, purchased power for March 5,559.36

Border States, line supplies for stock, pressure control for compressor 848.65

Kenny Lumber, parts, materials, supplies 316.18

Total Expenses $210,432.95

Todd Brown, Mayor

ATTEST: Sue Meline, City Clerk