

CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
TUESDAY, AUGUST 6, 2019

As per notice in the Red Cloud Chief, the Mayor and City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, August 6th, 2019, 7:00 P.M. at the Red Cloud Community Center. Members present: Mayor Brown; Councilmen Horne, Beitler, Mahin; Superintendent Clark; Attorney McCracken and Clerk Meline. Councilman Goebel was absent.

Mayor Brown called the meeting to order, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and stating the Open Meetings Act is posted on the west wall for viewing by the public.

Horne made the motion and was seconded by Mahin to approve the renewals of Class C and Class CK Liquor Licenses for the Palace, On The Brix, Knock 'Em Over Alley and the South Bar. Motion carried.

Mahin made the motion and was seconded by Horne to approve the July Sheriff's Report. Motion carried.

There was no public attendance, therefore, no Public Comments.

Beitler made the motion and was seconded by Mahin to approve the July minutes. Motion carried.

Horne made the motion and was seconded by Beitler to approve the July Financial Reports and City Sales Tax Report. Motion carried. The City Sales Tax for the month of May received in July was \$17,651.86 compared to \$15,672.32 for the same month last year.

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

Clerk Meline stated she didn't have the preliminary budget ready but would deliver the budget to the council yet this week. The council set Monday, August 19th, 7:00 P.M. for a work session to go over the 2019 – 2020 Fiscal Year Budget.

The council was asked to set a limit on how much to spend for a pickup for the Street Department. After a brief discussion Horne made the motion and was seconded by Beitler to set a limit of \$25,000. Motion carried.

Horne made the motion and was seconded by Mahin to pass Resolution # 708 to publish the annual salary by job description in the Red Cloud Chief. Motion carried.

Next Mayor Brown asked the council if there was some thoughts as to what the Scout Lodge could be used for. Mahin stated that he and Horne went to the Scout Lodge to check it out and they thought maybe the building could be used for the Chamber, Tourism/Visitor Center and maybe for Jarrod McCartney to have his office there. Mahin stated he approached McCartney about the idea. The various Boards would need to discuss the possibility and get back to the council hopefully by the September meeting. The City would need to do some work on the building. One problem would be parking.

Mayor Brown stated he is still checking out excavators but he is waiting for more estimates and currently the City Crew is testing one out.

Horne made the motion and was seconded by Mahin to approve the following donations: \$100 for Chamber dues, \$200 Chamber donation for Street Car Days and \$250 donation to the Community Foundation for the 5K run. Motion carried.

Superintendent Clark and Clerk Meline informed the council there are going to be some changes to the One & Six Year Street Plan process. In doing so the council will need to approve an updated One & Six Year Plan at the September meeting along with the Street Budget. So instead of needing to file the plan with the State by March of each year, the plan and budget will be on file at the City Office and subject to audit. Also a resolution will need to be approved and passed prior to October 1st the Municipal Annual Certification of Program Compliance Form. This will all be done in September of each year instead of February. Then the Year-End Certification of City Street Superintendent must be filed by December 31st of each year.

Mahin had asked that the JEO Electric Efficiency Study be placed on the August agenda. Discussion was held as to how to proceed and how to finance. Attorney McCracken stated that Bladen had obtained Federal monies along with bonds to finance their sewer project so he will check into that to see if the electric system would qualify for such funding. The council wants to stay on this and move forward.

Superintendent Clark gave the council a brief update on work being accomplished by the employees and meetings, etc. he has had and meetings coming up. He told the council he had contacted Randy Goos with the State Department of Roads and Attorney McCracken as to if the State puts double lines on the highway downtown if that would handle the J-turn problem. This would eliminate putting up no J-Turn signs up as the double lines would make it illegal to make such a turn. However we will still need to put no U-turn signs(on order) at the intersections. The council felt this would solve the problem and make it easier for the Sheriff's Department to enforce. As far as the planned outage on Monday it took lots longer than anticipated as they were working in close quarters making it extremely hard to get the necessary equipment in and out. As well as the old pole was much deeper and in worse condition than anticipated making it extremely hard to remove. Then he informed the council it is time to consider raising water rates as the fund is running in the red. Part of the problem is the wet year is causing the revenue to be way down. The council decided to have Nebraska Rural Water perform a water rate study as they will perform the study free of charge. Only one estimate was received for the roof at the Power Plant and one for the recycling building. After a brief discussion on how important it is to get the roof at the power plant done ASAP, Horne made the motion and was seconded by Mahin to hire Compass General Contracting to make the roof repairs on the Power Plant and to hold off on the recycling roof to see if Compass puts an estimate in for the recycling roof. Motion carried. The council stated that when the repairs begin they will need to be done quickly and the council will set a time limit to complete the projects. He then stated he had asked for estimates to demolish the old packing plant but has not received them. The Swimming Pool is closing Friday the 9th and the 13th is the last day for the summer help. He also informed the council that an employee has given their two week notice and he asked if this could be discussed in executive session which since it pertains to an employee it is allowed.

Attorney McCracken stated he has been in touch with SCEDD to correct the mistakes they made in the Zoning Manual. The City Crew has constructed a road to the dam and hopefully work will begin on the dam in the very near future so he can inform the State progress is being made. The cell tower project for U S Cellular can be taken off the agenda as the paperwork is complete and they have paid the \$700 option fee. He is going to reach out to the Chamber, etc. on the vendor application and will present to the council when completed. Since Eagle Communications has sold, Beitler made the motion and was seconded by Horne to pass Resolution #709 approving change of the cable television franchise. Motion carried.

Next was the nuisance properties. There has been some progress here. The property at 59 North Webster was mowed and cars removed. There is a new owner of the property and the house will be coming down, 309 N. Seward is now being mowed regularly, 1122 Highway 136 was found to be vacant but it is the understanding that the property is in the process of possibly being sold and that five properties will be going to court on Friday, August 30th, 2019.

Horne made the motion and was seconded by Mahin to enter into executive session at 8:41 p.m. to discuss the two week notice given to Superintendent Clark. Motion carried. Horne made the motion and was seconded by Mahin to resume the open meeting at 8:52 p.m.

As there was no further business to be had and done by the Mayor and City Council, Horne made the motion and was seconded by Mahin to adjourn said meeting at 8:53 p.m.

The following is a complete listing of all claims approved for payment:

Principal, dental insurance	561.20
Red Cloud Chief, legal publishing	293.36

Presto X, pest control	150.87
Nationwide, 7/16 retirement contributions	1,416.82
AFLAC, insurance-payroll deducted	269.81
Social Security, 7/16 payroll taxes	2,712.26
Withholding, 7/16 payroll taxes	1,298.06
Medicare, 7/16 payroll taxes	573.28
R & M Disposal, trash pickup	12,216.00
State Income Tax, for the month of July	966.42
The Lincoln National Life, life insurance	194.25
Great Plains, telephones	1,040.47
BCBS, group health insurance	8,143.87
Various, for officer's salary	695.82
Various, for economic development	2,083.35
Various, for general fund	2,499.99
Various, for Board of Trust	833.34
Various, for historic preservation	500.01
Petty Cash, postage, filing fees, etc.	148.60
Nationwide, 8/1 retirement contributions	1,406.96
Withholding, 8/1 payroll taxes	1,277.79
Social Security, 8/1 payroll taxes	2,621.12
Medicare, 8/1 payroll taxes	612.98
Aramark, janitorial services	388.86
Kohmetscher Feed, head lamps for hard hats, dog food	167.76
Grace's Locksmith Service, compost site keys/city padlocks	42.00
Cardmember services, umbrella's for pool & adobe monthly fee	435.17
Eakes, office supplies	332.58
R C Area Chamber of Commerce, donations/membership	300.00
I.S.S., check fire panels at CC & library	340.00
Olson Enterprises, fuel & repairs	2,137.68
J & A Auto, parts & supplies	65.96
C & D Service Center, parts	445.24
CPI, fuel	180.85
Black Hills Energy, natural gas service	964.99
Deisley Excavating & Trucking, push Compost Site/C & D Site	1,575.00
Kenny Lumber, materials & supplies	1,644.26
Various, business insurance	7,358.16

ELECTRIC

Northern Safety, annual fee	149.00
Webster County Court, garnishment	96.57
Postmaster, utility bill postage	253.30
Electric to bond & interest	2,000.00
Nationwide, retirement loan payment	59.81
Jason Franssen, towards cell phone bill	44.00
Joe Hersh, towards cell phone bill	44.00
Credit Management, garnishment	96.57
NE Child Support Payment, garnishment	265.50

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JEO, electric efficiency study	2,247.50
State Power Review Board, annual assessment	181.28
Core & Main, battery for handheld	193.68
MEAN, purchased power	72,563.01
Border States, tools & supplies	1,669.05
MEAN, meters for bus barn	310.03
H K Scholz, digital display voltmeter	5,522.94
NMPP, electrical distribution services	1,650.00
Postmaster, 4 rolls of first class stamps	220.00
WAPA, purchased power	6,529.26
Christensen Concrete, sealant for brick façade at City Hall	360.16
Salaries	10,180.08

WATER

NE Child Support Payment, garnishment	265.50
NE Child Support Payment, garnishment	254.75
Water, for CM water reserve	625.00
Municipal Supply, for stock	456.88
NE Public Health Env. Lab, water analysis	66.00
Hawkins, fluoride	231.31
One Call Concepts, line locates	27.25
Utility Service Co., Inc. quarterly maint. Water tower	4,447.50
Salaries	5,837.92

SEWER

Sewer, for CM sewer reserve	625.00
JEO, sewer system mapping	100.00

COMMUNITY CENTER

Eagle Communications, cable TV	88.61
Hometown Market, janitorial supplies	25.20
Kim Danehey-Nibbe, July contract payment	1,050.00
CEI, audio adaptor	49.00

STREET

Norder, chemicals	78.82
Verizon, cell phone	61.68
Dultmeier, nozzle for street sprayer	78.40
Midwest Turf & Irrigation, parts	53.93
Salaries	2,683.01

FIRE

Fyr-Tek, repairs to City pumper & bucket of blaze out	1,501.68
Heritage Bank, loan payment	731.98
Mid Rivers 911, 911 user fee	350.00
Danka Emergency, emblem on coat shoulder	122.26
Landmark, bucket of towel refill	152.17

CEMETERY

Stadler Implement, mower blades	109.54
City Limits Auto Salvage & Supply, vehicle window	65.00
Salaries	3,909.66

CONSUMERS

City of Red Cloud, applied deposit	200.00
City of Red Cloud, applied deposits	375.00

LIBRARY

Auld Public Library, DVD's & computer expenses	100.92
Baker & Taylor, books	414.91
Dan Benedict, router problems	100.00
Salaries	1,744.22

HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Webster County Museum, preservation grant	3,500.00
Todd Mahin, preservation grant	1,500.00

GENERAL

Hometown Leasing, copier lease payment	110.00
John Hodge, attorney fees	75.00
General to police fund	1,916.51
Kidder Benefits Consultants, administrative fees-retirement	213.00

BOARD OF TRUST

Frank Degener, mowing	380.00
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PARK

Dalton Long, towards cell phone bill	33.00
Presto X, pest control-Scout Lodge	36.38
Salaries	422.98

POLICE

Webster County Sheriff, police contract 3,854.29

INSURANCE, BUSINESS

Gary Thompson Agency, annual business insurance payment 92,985.00

CDBG

City of Red Cloud, reimbursement for electric efficiency study 1,936.87

SCHOOL DISTRICT

Red Community Schools, annual license fees collected 2,050.00

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Red Cloud Community Foundation, 5k sponsorship 250.00

POOL

Kimberly Brown, reimbursement for expenses 150.00
Salaries 7,329.50

C & D SITE

Salaries 671.94

Total Expenses \$308,293.19

Todd Brown, Mayor

ATTEST: Sue Meline, City Clerk