

CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS  
August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023

As per the notice in the Red Cloud Chief, the Mayor and the City Council met in regular session on Tuesday August 8, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. in the conference room of the Community Center. Members present: Mayor Brown, Councilman Horne, Mahin, Bryan, Daehling, Attorney McCracken, Superintendent Thies and Clerk Schmitz.

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

Ana Armstrong was present to ask the council to Waive on the vendor fee for the food vendor Special Scoops since they are a nonprofit organization. The council informed Ana that they will still need to present their insurance and fill out a vendor form. Councilman Bryan made the motion to approve the waiver seconded by Mahin. Motion carried.

Next was the Sheriffs Report. Councilman Mahin made the motion and was seconded by Bryan to approve the sheriffs report. Motion carried.

Attorney McCracken was present to speak to the council on the fluoride in the water. Attorney McCracken gave information from the American Dental Association (ADA) on the benefits of having fluoride in the water for the younger children and the more poverty-stricken families who cannot afford dental care and how the fluoride in the water can be a benefit to them.

Next on the agenda was Courtney Crowley. Courtney was present to speak to the council on why he wants to have a moratorium on fluoride in the water. He gave points on why it can be harmful to the public and how it should be the public's choice on if they want to use fluoride.

Councilman Daehling made the motion to put water fluoridation on a moratorium until we get to the population of a 1,000 which is where the state requires fluoride in the water. Seconded by Bryan, Horne Nay. Motion carried.

Mrs. Kyle Allen was present to speak to the council about wanting to be placed on the ballot in May for the public to vote on having a lottery (Keno) in Red Cloud. She informed the council on what her company does and the process of getting put on the ballot. She said the conduction of a lottery can have community betterment purposes as well. The council will return to this discussion next month.

Next on the agenda was Josh Young with SCEDD. Josh was unable to make it to the meeting but called in. First, he went through the 2022 property review, councilman Horne made the motion to rescind parcel 1064 seconded by Daehling. Motion carried. Next, he went through the parcels from the 2023 review councilman Daehling made the motion to rescind parcels 2065 and 2112 seconded by Horne. Motion carried. Josh then took the council through the parcels that have been making progress and would like to be put on a hold/extension till the September meeting, councilman Daehling made the motion to approve the hold/extension of parcels 2005, 2006, 2032, 2058, 2093, 2097 seconded by Mahin. Motion carried. Lastly Josh went over the properties that the council should move forward with on abatement, councilman Bryan made the motion to start the abatement process on parcels 1065, 2040, 2067, 2102, 2113, 2124, seconded by Daehling. Motion carried. The council then went through both abatement contracts that were presented to them. Councilman Bryan made the motion to approve Bruce Sundling as the abatement contractor seconded by Horne. Motion carried.

Councilman Horne made the motion to approve payment to SCEDD for \$700.00 for grant administration services on the CDBG 2021 Public Works Grant seconded by Daehling. Motion carried. Councilman Horne made the motion to approve payment to JEO for \$1,657.70 for engineering services on the CDBG 2021 Public Works Grant seconded by Daehling. Motion carried. Councilman Horne made the motion for the approval of CDBG drawdown #6 seconded by Bryan. Motion carried. Councilman Horne made the motion for approval of invoice #1606 grant administrative services seconded by Mahin.

Motion carried. Lastly, councilman Horne made the motion for approval of drawdown #9 seconded by Daehling. Motion carried.

Historic preservation was next on the agenda. The Red Cloud Historic Preservation Commission approved the grant request for porch repairs at the McKeeby House (641 N Cherry St.) and is needing the council to approve the payment to the Willa Cather Foundation in the amount of \$1,350.00.

Councilman Daehling made the motion to approve payment to Willa Cather Foundation in the amount of \$1,350.00 seconded by Horne, Bryan abstains. Motion carried.

Councilman Horne made the motion to approve the renewal of the Class C/Ck Liquor license seconded by Daehling. Motion carried.

Councilman Horne made the motion to approve the wages to be published seconded by Bryan. Motion carried.

Amanda Hajny was next to give updates on Cherry Corner. Amanda let the council know they had to discharge one patient, so a room is now available. They have done a couple tours since to be back fully occupied. She also informed the council on the new policy for the bus going out of town and how it will be charged due to having multiple staff having to go with.

Jarrold McCartney was next on the agenda; he was unable to attend but gave the council a packet on general updates.

Public comments were then opened.

Councilman Bryan made the motion and was seconded by Horne to approve the minutes. Motion was carried.

Councilman Horne made the motion and was seconded by Bryan to approve the financial reports and city sales tax report. The city sales tax for May received in July was \$16,479.46 compared to \$20,717.32 for the same period last year. Motion carried.

Councilman Bryan made the motion and was seconded by Horne to approve the claims. Motion carried. Mahin Abstain. These will be listed in full at the end of the minutes.

Superintendent Thies was present to give the council general updates. He let the council know they had their capability test on July 6<sup>th</sup> with MEAN and everything went great. Superintendent Thies let them know with the recent storms we had a couple outages but got everything back on in a timely manner. He stated that they painted parking lines on Highway 281 but due to the rain were only able to complete the downtown area. Councilman Horne then made a motion to start the process of putting the old bucket truck out for bid and to have it closed by the October meeting, seconded by Daehling. Motion carried. Jim Owens and Joanna Reiher got fence permits and Jane Morris got a building permit.

Clerk Schmitz brought up to the council approving a date for the budget workshop. Councilman Horne made the motion to have the budget workshop on August 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 pm seconded by Mahin. Motion carried.

Attorney McCracken gave a general update. He informed the council of the status of the grant he has been working on, he stated after talking with SCEDD we should have some more news by the September meeting.

Under old business councilman Daehling brought up that Hotel Garber is needing an answer by the end of the year about the council approving the occupancy tax/ lodging tax. Councilman Horne made the motion to table this till next month when Jarrod can be here to explain it more in detail to the council, seconded by Daehling. Motion carried.

Under new business Mayor Brown let the council know that Tru-Built construction will be starting to put the third story back on Hotel Garber, which means there will be a slight detour on Highway 136 while they are placing it.

Councilman Bryan made the motion at 8:58 pm to enter executive session to discuss the Nuisance list seconded by Daehling. Motion Carried. Councilman Horne made the motion and was seconded by Bryan to return to regular session at 9:25 pm. Motion carried.

As there was no further business to be had and done by the Mayor and City Council, Councilman Daehling made the motion and was seconded by Bryan to adjourn said meeting at 9:25 pm. Motion carried.

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| Total Salaries                                 | \$35,823.27  |
| City of Red Cloud- Applied Deposit             | \$1,000.00   |
| Withholding- 7/15 Payroll                      | \$1,468.00   |
| Social Security- 7/15 Payroll                  | \$2,814.12   |
| Medicare- 7/15 Payroll                         | \$658.14     |
| Nationwide- 7/15 Payroll/ Loan                 | \$1,490.76   |
| St. Income Tax- Month of July                  | \$1,350.81   |
| R&M Disposal- Trash Collection                 | \$12,832.50  |
| Central NE Collection- Garnishment             | \$201.14     |
| Altec Capital Services- Bucket Truck           | \$109,900.00 |
| Principal Life Ins.- Dental Ins.               | \$404.08     |
| MEAN- Electric Distribution                    | \$1,650.00   |
| JEO- 1&6 Year Program                          | \$3,000.00   |
| NE Power Review Board- Annual assessment       | \$196.45     |
| The Lincoln National- Life Ins.                | \$153.99     |
| Johnson Service Company- Lift station cleaning | \$2,500.00   |
| Elm Street Center- Refund on utility Billing   | \$90.99      |
| Postmasters- Postage on bills                  | \$296.34     |
| Withholding- 8/1 Payroll                       | \$1,360.63   |
| Social Security- 8/1 Payroll                   | \$2,633.54   |
| Medicare- 8/1 Payroll                          | \$615.90     |
| Nationwide- 8/1 Payroll/ Loan                  | \$1,525.33   |
| General Collection Company- Garnishment        | \$203.26     |
| City of Red Cloud- Applied Deposit             | \$200.00     |
| Postmasters- Envelopes                         | \$1,512.80   |
| Electric- Bond and Interest                    | \$2,000.00   |
| Sewer- CM Sewer Reserve                        | \$625.00     |
| Water- CM Water Reserve                        | \$625.00     |
| Heritage- Loan Payment                         | \$731.99     |
| Hometown Leasing- Copier Agreement             | \$136.64     |
| Mid Rivers- 911 Contract                       | \$350.00     |
| Patrick Calkins- Attorney Fees                 | \$75.00      |
| Various- Bus. Ins Transfer                     | \$4,680.83   |
| General- To Police Fund                        | \$3,295.72   |
| P Long- Phone Bills                            | \$44.00      |
| R Hitchler- Phone Bills                        | \$44.00      |
| D Long- Phone Bills                            | \$44.00      |
| D Thies- Phone Bills                           | \$44.00      |
| Various- Officers Salary                       | \$1,139.59   |
| Various- Economic Development                  | \$1,909.98   |
| Various- To General                            | \$2,500.00   |
| Various- Board of Trust                        | \$416.67     |
| Various- Historic Preservation                 | \$618.75     |

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| Webster County Sheriff- Sheriff Contract           | \$3,854.29 |
| M Schmitz- Contract Labor                          | \$1,000.00 |
| D McGuire- Ins.                                    | \$66.65    |
| Jared's Auto- Service/ Cabin Air Filter            | \$276.62   |
| Central Health Dept.- Water Testing                | \$241.00   |
| American Playground Company- Mulch                 | \$3,400.00 |
| Back Alley Bicycles- New business rebate           | \$417.30   |
| Hometown Market- Janitorial Supplies               | \$14.74    |
| Aramark- Rug, Towel, and uniform service           | \$298.16   |
| Newport Group- Retirement Plan                     | \$450.00   |
| Baker and Taylor- Books                            | \$18.96    |
| Hydraulic Equipment Service- Bucket Truck Repair   | \$6,073.87 |
| NE Rural Water Association- Water Conference       | \$420.00   |
| Van Diest Company- Herbicide                       | \$944.25   |
| Great Plains Communication- Phone/Internet         | \$976.64   |
| Pheasants Forever- Member Renewal                  | \$35.00    |
| NE Public Health lab- Fluoride                     | \$20.00    |
| Terri Eberly- Conference/Meeting                   | \$10.00    |
| Red Cloud Chief- SRP Advertisement                 | \$90.00    |
| RCFD- Fuel   | \$215.18   |
| PrestoX- Pest Control                              | \$255.92   |
| Eakes- Copies                                      | \$239.77   |
| Aramark- Rug, Towel, Uniform service               | \$171.78   |
| J&A Auto Supply- Parts                             | \$224.25   |
| Border States- Grip Dead-end                       | \$19.58    |
| CPI- Fuel  | \$397.70   |
| BCBS- Ins  | \$275.75   |
| Various- Employee ins.                             | \$8,976.20 |
| Crowl Tree Service- Tree trimming                  | \$4,280.00 |
| Aflac- Ins   | \$236.11   |
| WAPA- Purchased Power                              | \$6,696.77 |
| Border States- Meter Covers                        | \$52.32    |
| Rose Equipment- Hydraulic Filter                   | \$65.03    |
| Dutton- Lainson Company- Electrical Supply         | \$132.60   |
| Hawkins- Chemicals                                 | \$441.00   |
| Iowa Pump Works- Pool Pump                         | \$9,578.71 |
| Van Diest Supply Company- Chemicals                | \$944.25   |
| Auld Public Lib- DVD/Books                         | \$81.90    |
| HGTV- Subscription                                 | \$49.97    |
| Nebraska Mag- Subscription                         | \$19.26    |
| Black Hills Energy- Natural Gas Selection          | \$2,352.41 |
| Mark Bencken- BOT Mowing                           | \$60.00    |
| Red Cloud Airport- Fuel for FD                     | \$189.00   |
| Kearney Winlectric- Overhead triplex/ led fixture  | \$1,234.00 |
| Dutton- Lainson Company- Arm Brace                 | \$228.26   |
| Eakes- Binders, calendars, ink                     | \$231.45   |
| Cardmember Services- Prime Membership/ nozzle Etc. | \$1,301.81 |
| Border States- Copper Wire                         | \$1,145.88 |

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| WAPA- Purchased Power                                   | \$7,915.81  |
| Aramark- Rug, Towel, Uniforms                           | \$171.78    |
| League of NE Municipalities- Membership dues            | \$741.00    |
| League of NE Municipalities- Dues                       | \$1,872.00  |
| GTA- Bond   | \$159.00    |
| MEAN- Purchased Power                                   | \$73,549.72 |
| Red Cloud Chief- SCEDD notices, ads, Nuisance Abatement | \$5,367.21  |
| Hawkins- Chemicals                                      | \$241.50    |
| One Call Concepts- Line Locates                         | \$24.98     |
| Olsons- Fuel, 1998 Pickup                               | \$1,323.42  |
| C&D Service Center- Temp Gauge, Hose, Busching Etc.     | \$293.41    |
| Sunset Pool Supplies- Slide, Foot Board                 | \$6,563.88  |
| Superior Outdoor Power- Oil                             | \$16.95     |
| Core & Main- Water Meters                               | \$2,924.46  |
| Raynor Garage Door- Overhead Door                       | \$3,055.00  |
| Kenny's Hardware- Paint, Sprinkler Etc.                 | \$3,115.98  |
| CPI- Fuel/ Tires  | \$4,823.60  |
| Energized Electric- Wire/ AC @cc                        | \$145.48    |
| Norder- Tank Cleaner                                    | \$371.78    |
| NE Dept of Ag- Pound Fee                                | \$175.00    |
| PrestoX- Pest Control                                   | \$54.85     |
| Principal Life Ins.- Dental Ins.                        | \$404.08    |
| One Call Concepts- Line Locates                         | \$90.58     |
| Eakes- Towels/ Bath Tissues                             | \$377.56    |
| Hometown Market- Janitorial                             | \$16.02     |
| Corporate Warehouse- Toner                              | \$1,559.65  |
| Municipal Supply of NE- Line Dept                       | \$2,677.50  |
| Jared's Auto Experts- 2001 International/ 2015 Chevy    | \$1,459.51  |

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| Total Expenses | \$379,589.88 |
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Todd Brown, Mayor  
Maddy Schmitz, City Clerk