

CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS  
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2021

As per notice in the Red Cloud Chief, the Mayor and the City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, November 2, 2021 7:00 p.m. in the conference room of the Red Cloud Community Center. Members present: Mayor Brown, Councilmen Horne, Beitler, Daehling, Bryan, Attorney McCracken, Superintendent Clark, and Clerk Olson.

Mayor Brown 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.

Mayor Brown opened the Public Hearing on the City's 2021 CDBG Dam Rehabilitation project at 7:02 p.m. Lori Ferguson of SCEDD was on hand for the public hearing. She gave a brief history of the application and project to date. The project budget includes: \$15,000 for Acquisition, \$238,750 for Flood Drainage Improvements, \$10,000 for Construction Management and \$25,000 for general administration for a total CDBG project budget/request of \$288,750.00. The City will provide match of \$50,750 of local funds as required toward the project. Total project activity costs are \$339,500. One question was asked by Councilman Horne regarding the match and possible in-kind contribution. No other public comments were received and no written comments had been received by the clerk prior to the meeting. Horne made the motion and was seconded by Daehling to close the public hearing at 7:05 p.m. Motion carried. Horne made the motion and was seconded by Bryan to approve the contract with DED. Motion carried. Daehling made the motion and was seconded by Horne to approve the new procurement policy. Motion carried.

Beitler made the motion and was seconded by Daehling to approve the Sheriff's Report. Motion carried.

Stacie Heldt with the Red Cloud Health & Recreation Committee met with the council about the walking trail project. Heldt said some donations were received during the September Month of Giving. Brian Hof is going to get bids on concrete for Phase 1A of the project. The committee is going to try to complete this phase ASAP so they can continue to apply for grants for the project. The City will eventually need to vacate the alley that is located in Phase 1A, but the council decided to wait until bids are received to do so.

Dennis Hansen met with the council regarding Jarrod McCartney and his position as the Heritage Tourism Director. He stated the vision of Red Cloud having a Heritage Tourism Director first came to light in 2012. Hansen said at that time there was no funding for one but had started the process of raising funds to do so. In time, \$500,000 in donations was received and deposited into the Heritage Tourism account through the Nebraska Community Foundation. It was then the Red Cloud Community Fund started seeking partners to help fund the Heritage Tourism Director. The other partners were the Chamber, the Willa Cather Foundation, the City, and the Starke Round Barn. Hansen said in 2015 they were able to hire Jarrod. One of the biggest projects that Jarrod has been a part of is The Valley Child Development Center and now most recently the Garber Hotel project. Hansen also said a lot of things that have been accomplished in the last few years would not have been possible without Jarrod.

Amanda Hajny met with the council next regarding Cherry Corner Estates. Continued discussion on current events and the financial situation was held. She stated there are currently 8 residents in the facility. A survey was conducted as if the State was there by Michelle Sorsen and waiting for results from that. Daehling asked McCracken if he had looked into the legality of having a board at Cherry Corner.

McCracken said he had and wasn't sure if that was the right move and would like to visit about it more in executive session. There was also discussion on simply making the board smaller. Still waiting on final draft of the contract between Michelle Sorsen and the City to be completed.

There were no public comments.

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

Daehling made the motion and was seconded by Horne to approve the financial reports and city sales tax report. The city sales tax for August received in October was \$22,436.94 compared to \$23,611.01 for the same period last year. Motion carried.

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

Horne regretfully made the motion and was seconded by Beitler to approve the letter of resignation from the Historic Preservation Board from Lana Tietjen. Motion carried.

Next on the agenda was employees carrying over vacation time. After studying what is printed in the employee manual, the council determined the cap of vacation time is 20 days maximum, (said employee would have to have been with the City for 20 or more continuous years) at which an employee may not gain any more time, nor will they lose it at the beginning of the next calendar year. It was stated that if any employees would like to discuss changes to this policy to have it brought up at their upcoming in-house insurance meeting.

Community Center membership fees will be added back to bills starting January 2022 at \$25/year.

The Contract Labor position at the Community Center was next on the agenda. The position will start \$750/month. The ad will run in the paper for the month of November and the first week in December. A job description is available at City Hall.

Superintendent Clark stated the water tower has been cleaned per the contract the City has with SUEZ. The system is back into normal operating mode. There was a water leak at the intersection of 4<sup>th</sup> and Webster. The main running west broke where there were 5 taps relatively close together. A fair amount of the business district had to be shut down to make the repair. The swimming pool has had the first primary coat of paint applied. The company said if there was nice weather they would be able to come back and complete the stripes and the baby pool, if not they would return in the spring to finish. A new air conditioning unit has been installed at the Community Center, and a new fence will be put in around it when time provides. Oliver and Teresa Lunbery are replacing their driveway, Tracy Arevalo is demolishing a shed and Kyle Prellwitz is installing a new fence.

Attorney McCracken said he worked on the contract between Michelle Sorsen and the City and is waiting to hear back from her attorney.

Under old business McCracken brought up ways to utilize the ARP funding and to start thinking about projects. It was decided to have McCracken look into the legality of using the funding towards projects at the ballfield, the new AC unit at the Community Center and the walking trail project.

Horne made the motion and was seconded by Bryan to enter into executive session at 9:00 p.m. for 1 employee evaluation, to discuss applications received, the donation to the Heritage Tourism Director, and the idea of getting rid of the board at Cherry Corner. Motion carried. Horne made the motion and was seconded by Bryan to resume regular session at 10:13 p.m. Motion carried. Horne made the motion and was seconded by Bryan to approve the raise as discussed. Motion carried. Daehling made the motion and was seconded by Beitler to pay the \$15,000 annual donation to the

Heritage Tourism Director. Horne nay, motion carried. No decision was made on the board at Cherry Corner.

As there was no further business to be had and done by the Mayor and the City Council, Daehling made the motion and was seconded by Horne to adjourn said meeting at 10:14 p.m. Motion carried.

Total Salaries	24,221.83
Principal- dental insurance	454.59
Verizon- cell phone	47.79
United States Treasury- underpayment on payroll tax	1,484.57
Cherry Corner Estates- payroll/vendor expenses	1,200.00
Withholding- 10/15 payroll	1,148.50
Social Security- 10/15 payroll	2,010.82
Medicare- 10/15 payroll	470.26
Nationwide- retirement contribution	1,650.20
State Income Tax- month of October	929.94
R & M Disposal- trash collection	12,184.00
Professional Choice Recovery- garnishment	192.74
The Lincoln National Life Ins Co- life insurance	174.12
State of NE DHHS- return LIHEAP payment	700.00
Great Plains- phone/internet	1,069.16
BCBS- insurance	7,396.79
BCBS- insurance	216.45
City of Red Cloud- applied deposit	400.00
K Danehey-Nibbe- contract labor	1,050.00
Cherry Corner Estates- payroll/vendor expenses	13,491.59
Postmaster- postage on utility bills	259.08
Withholding- 11/1 payroll	1,037.59
Social Security- 11/1 payroll	1,852.12
Medicare- 11/1 payroll	433.18
Nationwide- retirement contribution	1,562.20
Professional Choice Recovery- garnishment	192.74
Professional Choice Recovery- garnishment	258.68
Electric- bond & interest	2,000.00
Sewer- to CM sewer reserve	625.00
Water- to CM water reserve	625.00
Heritage- loan payment	731.98
Hometown Leasing- copier agreement	136.64
Mid Rivers 911- 911 contract	350.00
P Calkins- attorney fees	75.00
Various- business insurance transfer	6,598.28
General- to police fund	3,295.72
M Clark- cell phone	44.00
J Hersh- cell phone	44.00
R Hitchler- cell phone	44.00

D Long- cell phone	44.00
Various- to Officer's Salary	1,431.24
Various- to Economic Development	981.96
Various- to General	2,426.49
Various- to Board of Trust	416.67
Various- to Historic Preservation	618.75
Webster Co Sheriff- police agreement	3,854.29
City of Red Cloud- C & D site fees for 521 N Cedar St	6,236.70
Central District Health Dept- water samples	203.50
Reminisce- subscription	10.00
Red Cloud Chief- 1 year subscription	33.50
Martha Stewart Living- subscription	19.00
People Magazine- subscription	118.26
NE Public Health Env Lab- water samples	48.00
PrestoX- pest control	128.40
T Eberly- reimburse for books and mileage for meeting	270.36
Municipal Automation & Control- install plant pressure sensor	1,079.22
Aramark- mop, towel, rug, uniform service	734.90
Eakes- office supplies, copier lease start-up & finish	446.28
Lakeview Books- books	293.86
Auld Public Library- reimburse meetings, DVD's, books, office supplies	227.03
Auld Library Foundation- supplies	19.88
Winlectric- maintenance/repairs	733.94
MEAN- purchased power	69,647.12
R & M Disposal- city wide clean-up	2,994.24
Municipal Supply, Inc- water couplings	162.60
Consolidated Concrete Co- concrete for 4 <sup>th</sup> & Webster	1,017.50
CEI Security & Sound- CC fob key fix	45.00
Vyve Broadband- cable @ CC	107.51
One Call Concepts- line locates	29.22
Aflac- insurance	208.31
Black Hills Energy- natural gas service	851.74
Premier Custom Building- concrete @ Hwy 136/281	562.50
Cardmember Service- tools, filter, Adobe, safety gear, meals for class	233.33
Petty Cash- window paint, Halloween candy, Kleenex, water samples, postage	151.57
Total Expenses	\$187,045.43

Todd Brown, Mayor

ATTEST: Casie Olson, City Clerk