

CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
TUESDAY, AUGUST 3, 2021

As per notice in the Red Cloud Chief, the Mayor and the City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, August 3, 2021 7:00 p.m. in the conference room of the Red Cloud Community Center. Members present: Mayor Brown, Councilmen Horne, Beitler, 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.

At this time Kevin Daehling was sworn in as North Ward Councilman to replace former Councilman Mike Goebel.

Horne made the motion and was seconded by Beitler to approve liquor license renewals for The Palace, On The Brix, Knock 'Em Over Alley, and Juan's Tacos. Motion carried.

A dog complaint was filed at the city office. The mayor, council and city officials were informed and made aware of the situation. Beitler made the motion and was seconded by Horne to approve the Sheriff's Report. Motion carried.

Stacie Heldt, Lisa Mahin and Chuck Griffith with the Red Cloud Health & Recreation Committee met with the council to continue discussion on the walking trail project. They have received an estimate from FHU, an engineering firm in Lincoln, for what was called "Phase 1A" and "Phase 1B" for the project. Phase 1A goes from the elementary school to 1st Avenue. Phase 1B would take the trail from 1st Avenue to the park. They are seeking signage and maintenance from the City. Attorney McCracken will check to see if the alley on the west side of the football field has been vacated, and JEO will be reached out to. This topic will be revisited at the September meeting.

Boomer Peterson with Pinnacle Realty Group met with the council via Zoom to go over current numbers and standings with the Cherry Corner Estates listing. From the reports, he stated that 513 people had seen the property 1,180 times in the last 30 days. The listing is getting 6 times more exposure than a typical basic Health Care listing. 7 companies are following the listing and hopefully with the price drop to \$1.2 million it will be more appealing to a potential buyer.

Amanda Hajny, Roger Bohrer and Brad Burgess gave an update to the council regarding Cherry Corner Estates. Continued discussion on the financial situation was held. There is roughly \$16,000 left to borrow from the City until the \$150,000 agreement is met. Everyone brainstormed on ways to gain more residents.

For Public Comments, Roger Bohrer asked about SCEDD helping with a grant of some sort for the walking trail project. Lori Ferguson said she would need to do some research on that. She also suggested reaching out to SHDHD as they did a walkability study for Superior and that helped play into the grant they received for theirs.

The Public Hearing on the CDBG Planning Grant Application was opened. The City is seeking \$50,000 through the DED to undertake a planning study for the future of the downtown. If awarded, the City will have to match \$12,500 of the grant and will have 30 months to use the funds. This is due September 1st. No public comments or questions were had for this hearing. The public hearing for the CDBG Planning Grant Application was closed.

Next, the Public Hearing for the CDBG Application for the Dam Project was opened. The original cost for the project was \$529,615 total with \$25,000 being general administration & \$10,000 being

construction management. The City would have to match 20% or \$98,923. After conversing it was decided to revise the application, amend the original, and apply for \$250,000, bringing the match down to \$50,000 and the added acquisition to \$15,000. This is a 30 month project and if awarded the grant we will not know until November. Construction would not begin until fall 2022. There was no public comments or questions for hearing. Horne made the motion and was seconded by Bryan to authorize Mayor Brown to sign all documentation for the dam project. Motion carried. Horne made the motion and was seconded by Bryan to authorize Mayor Brown to sign all documentation for the planning grant. Motion carried. Horne made the motion and was seconded by Daehling to revise the dam project budget. Motion carried. The public hearing for the CDBG Application for the Dam Project was closed.

Kyle Klein and Lori Ferguson visited with the council about the CDBG Grant that WCCH was awarded. Lori reiterated that funds need to be in hand before any equipment can be ordered. Horne made the motion and was seconded by Bryan to reauthorize Mayor Brown to sign all documents for the hospital project. Motion carried.

Lisa Whitmer brought up during public comments that she is interested in filling the position for contract labor at the Community Center. She also asked about the water supply in Red Cloud and if it was safe as she had heard some talk around town about the quality of the water. Superintendent Clark stated the water tower had been flushed (about 176,000 gallons) and all of the tests received back were negative for any coliform. He reassured that the water is safe for residents to consume and all reports from water tests are open for the public to view any time.

Horne made the motion and was seconded by Bryan to approve the minutes from the July 6th council meeting. Motion carried. Horne made the motion and was seconded by Beitler to approve the minutes from the July 21st special meeting. Motion carried.

Beitler 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 \$28,820.13 compared to \$29,557.32 for the same period last year. Motion carried.

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

Bryan made the motion and was seconded by Daehling to set the budget work session for Sunday, August 15th at 7:00 p.m. This will be held in the conference room at the Community Center. Motion carried.

Beitler made the motion and was seconded by Bryan to approve Resolution #745 – Annual Salary by Job Description for Newspaper. Motion carried.

Horne made the motion and was seconded by Beitler to approve Resolution #746 – Support and Endorsement for City to Submit LCC Program Application. Motion carried.

Horne made the motion and was seconded by Beitler to approve the recommendation for a new corporate manager at Casey's Retail Company. Motion carried.

The city council would like to thank the Nebraska Community Foundation for the \$10,000 donation to the Historic Preservation Fund.

Pool Manager, Fran Bauer, and Assistant Pool Manager, Sarah Hood, met with the council to visit about the pool. Pool policies and procedures were discussed. The long distance block has been lifted on the phone line. Daehling made the motion and was seconded by Beitler to change the policy to close the pool with less than 5 attendants (formerly 10) effective summer 2022. Motion carried.

Superintendent Clark spoke about regular exercise of the engines at the power plant. The batteries were changed at the switch house. The last time they were changed was in 2009. He stated the

water situation has been resolved: 2 negative tests were collected from the water tower and 2 negative tests were collected from the main on Franklin Street. 3 routine tests have been taken since the special tests and they came back negative also. The city crew has been busy patching streets, mowing and getting the town ready for Street Car Days. The air conditioning unit needs to be replaced at the Community Center. Bryan made the motion and was seconded by Beitler to replace the air conditioning. Motion carried.

Attorney McCracken had nothing to report on the TIF project or any nuisance updates. Horne made the motion and was seconded by Bryan to approve Ordinance #655 – Vacating a Street running between Block 6 and Block 7, Platt’s First Addition to Red Cloud, Webster County, Nebraska. Motion carried. Horne made the motion and was seconded by Beitler to waive the 3 meetings for the ordinance. Motion carried.

Under old business, new federal holiday Juneteenth was brought up again. Attorney McCracken stated that upon further research, the City does not have to give federal holidays off, nor do they have to pay time and a half. The holiday is not listed in the employee manual yet, it will be updated. It will be revisited next month to update to employee policy handbook. Also under old business, switching to a part-time employee or staying with contract labor at the Community Center was discussed. Bryan made the motion and was seconded by Beitler to stay with the bid process, and keep the cleaning at the Community Center as contract labor. Horne nay, motion carried.

For new business, Mayor Brown stated that grass clippings in the streets around town is a huge problem. Grass clippings need to stay on the property, not blown into the street, and disposed of properly or left as a natural fertilizer. Clerk Olson said she would put a post on Facebook in regards to this issue.

Bryan made the motion and was seconded by Horne to enter into executive session at 10:57 p.m. to discuss the city dam. Motion carried. Bryan made the motion and was seconded by Horne to resume regular session a 11:15 p.m. Motion carried.

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 Bryan to adjourn said meeting at 11:16 p.m. Motion carried.

Total Salaries	35,325.10
City of Red Cloud- applied deposit	138.73
Z Smith- refund deposit	61.27
Black Hills Energy- natural gas service	1,550.80
Internal Revenue Service- 2 nd quarter payment for pool	79.58
T Goos, LGI- lifeguard certification	300.00
K McCracken, LTA- purchase of 330 N Walnut St	5,757.21
Baker & Taylor- books	35.52
Black Hills Energy- natural gas service	90.04
Norder Supply, Inc- weed spray	55.85
Principal- dental insurance	454.59
Verizon- cell phone	45.98
Withholding- 7/15 payroll	1,164.77
Social Security- 7/15 payroll	2,751.56
Medicare- 7/15 payroll	643.50
Nationwide- retirement contribution	1,622.87
State Income Tax- month of July	1,201.66

R & M Disposal- trash collection	12,146.00
Credit Management Services- garnishment	184.11
Great Plains- phone/internet	1,073.52
BCBS- health insurance	7,396.79
BCBS- health insurance	216.45
The Lincoln National Life Ins Co- life insurance	174.12
City of Red Cloud- applied deposit	150.00
Aflac- insurance	208.31
Postmaster- postage on utility bills	244.60
Cherry Corner Estates- payroll & vendor expenses	14,550.00
K Danehey-Nibbe- contract labor	1,050.00
Withholding- 8/1 payroll	1,100.80
Social Security- 8/1 payroll	2,116.18
Medicare- 8/1 payroll	494.92
Nationwide- retirement contribution	1,636.12
Credit Management Services- garnishment	184.11
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	110.00
Mid Rivers 911- 911 contract	350.00
P Calkins- attorney fees	75.00
Various- business insurance transfer	6,572.09
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	33.00
Various- to Officer's Salary	802.08
Various- to Economic Development	1,420.65
Various- to General	833.34
Various- to Board of Trust	833.34
Various- to Historic Preservation	618.75
Webster Co Sheriff- police agreement	3,854.29
Cardmember Service- flags, mower parts, adapter, sprinkler, bearings, etc.	1,398.43
League of NE Municipalities- membership dues	1,274.00
Bladen Sand & Gravel- gravel	87.64
Aramark- mop, towel, uniform service	615.66
PrestoX- pest control	208.65
Midwest Turf & Irrigation- parts for mower	217.19
Van Diest Supply Co- mosquito spray	1,430.00
Pheasants Forever- membership	35.00
Northern Safety & Industrial- ear foam plugs	30.09

NE Notary Association- notary bond, state fee	70.00
Centurion Technologies- Smartshield renewal	50.00
NE Public Health Env Lab- water samples	48.00
Road Builders Machinery & Supply Co- sensor for loader	267.28
Landmark Implement- parts for cooling tower	13.25
Central District Health Dept- water samples	55.50
NMPP- electric distribution service	1,650.00
Red Cloud Chief- ads, notices, minutes	221.96
Eakes- notary stamp, office supplies, janitorial	339.71
Energized Electric- supplies for carport	47.28
RC Schools- liquor license fees	1,325.00
GTA Insurance Group- renew insurance policy	101,018.00
MEAN- purchased power	75,315.99
Barco Municipal Products- safety vests	92.66
Sunset Pool Supplies- chlorine & flow meter tubes	973.40
Hawkins, Inc- fluoride	559.50
WAPA- purchased power	6,792.26
D Benedict- computer repair	425.00
NE Municipal Clerks' Association- membership dues	35.00
League of NE Municipalities- utilities section membership dues	730.00
Vyve Broadband- cable @ CC	103.23
J & A Auto Supply- oil, clamp, fuse, battery charger	150.18
C & D Service Center- cleaner, string, fittings, labor	381.09
CPI- fuel	522.94
Olson Enterprises LLC- AC compressor, fuel, barrel, battery, etc.	12,934.38
M Bencken- mowing BOT properties	410.00
One Call Concepts- line locates	16.14
Petty Cash- water samples, reimbursement for postage	116.80
Barnes & Noble- books	100.65
T-Shirt Engineers- uniforms	762.97
Total Expenses	\$327,942.13

Todd Brown, Mayor

ATTEST: Casie Olson, City Clerk