

CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS  
TUESDAY, APRIL 7, 2020

As per notice in the Red Cloud Chief, the Mayor and the City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, April 7, 2020 7:00 p.m. at City Hall. Members present: Mayor Brown, Councilmen Horne, Goebel via Zoom, Mahin; Attorney McCracken, Superintendent Clark and Clerk Olson. Councilmen Beitler was absent.

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 east wall for public viewing, and until further notice the meetings will be broadcasted through Zoom pursuant to the Governor's Executive Order No. 20-003.

Horne made the motion and was seconded by Mahin to approve Casey's General Store to change from a Class B Liquor License to Class D as well as allow the name change from Casey's General Store to Casey's Retail Company. Motion carried.

Ron Sunday, Webster County Emergency Manager, gave an update by way of Zoom on the Coronavirus. He stated cases are still on the rise and waiting to hear back on a couple test results in Webster County. There has been a big surge in Hastings, and now it's not a matter of "if" but "when" it will hit our area. 50% of the population could be walking around with COVID-19 and not showing symptoms. The main thing is to stay home and social distance. Sunday also said a lot of PPE (personal protective equipment) has been distributed in Webster County. Mahin made the motion and was seconded by Horne to approve the Sheriff's Report. Motion carried. Discussion was held about whether or not the swimming pool should open this year. Governor Ricketts indicated pools may not be able to open until mid-July during a phone conference on April 1<sup>st</sup>. With that in mind, the council said the pool probably will not open unless COVID-19 clears.

Wes Olson, Fire Chief, met with the council on behalf of the Red Cloud Fire Department. He gave an informational report stating they have a full roster of 25 members. They conducted two control burns last winter and have responded to 13 fire/rescue calls so far this year. \$10,000.00 was received in grants last year and Olson said he would like to apply for more grants this year in hopes of purchasing four new sets of bunker gear. October 11<sup>th</sup> is the new date for the hamburger/soup feed. Horne made the motion and was seconded by Goebel to approve the roster for the fire department. Motion carried.

Jarrold McCartney met with the council by the use of Zoom and said a lot of changes have been made to the website. The City has its own tab, and there is also a COVID-19 resource page. In January there was an 87% increase in lodging tax; however, tourism has and will continue to be affected by the Coronavirus. Jarrold stated the Cather Conference is going to be digital this year, and the hotel has been continuing to make progress.

Mayor Brown said Amanda Hajny had contacted him about a small business loan that Cherry Corner Estates might be able to benefit from in light of COVID-19. Unfortunately, Attorney McCracken said he thought municipalities were excluded from this type of loan. Horne made the motion and was seconded by Mahin to approve Resolution #722 for the purpose of an operating line of credit at Cherry Corner Estates of up to \$50,000.00 if need be. Goebel nay, motion carried.

Horne made the motion and was seconded by Mahin to amend Resolution #720. Motion carried.

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

Horne made the motion and was seconded by Goebel to approve the financial reports and the city sales tax report. The city sales tax for January received in March was \$18,799.04 compared to \$13,926.88 for the same period last year. Motion carried.

Mahin made the motion and was seconded by Goebel to approve the claims. Horne abstained, motion carried. These will be listed in full at the end of the minutes.

Goebel made the motion and was seconded by Horne to approve the lot split for Jim Zimmerman and Cather. Attorney McCracken stated he will do a resolution for this. Motion carried.

Horne made the motion and was seconded by Mahin for the Mayor to sign the Arbor Day Proclamation. Motion carried.

Having been no nominations for the Economic Development Advisory Board, Councilman Goebel offered to withdraw his resignation and stay on the board. Horne made the motion and was seconded by Mahin to accept Councilman Goebel's withdrawal of resignation. Motion carried.

Due to being closed until further notice because of COVID-19 the council decided to table the idea of leasing new exercise equipment at the Community Center.

Superintendent Clark said two engines were ran in March at the power plant for exercise. Shark meters were installed on the distribution circuits. These meters will be able to show the load on each phase of each circuit, the max demand and also troubleshoot outages more efficiently. The C & D Site was inspected, please note pallets should not be taken there. He stated the city crew has been working on the streets as weather permits. It needs to be determined which streets need repaired and bids need to be taken. No applications have been received for summer help yet. An HVAC system has been installed at the Scout Lodge using funds received for community projects. Superintendent Clark said he has been visiting with the city crew about limiting exposure to the public as well as trying not to put themselves in a position to become infected or infect others with COVID-19. PPE has been made available to the crew to take on jobs.

Attorney McCracken said progress was made on the vendor application. Food truck vendors will have to pay an occupation tax. He has sent letters to the properties that need cleaned up and has not heard back from anyone.

Under Old Business, the appearance of 1021 N Webster and 521 N Cedar was brought up. Horne made the motion and was seconded by Mahin to have Attorney McCracken send letters to 1021 N Webster and 521 N Cedar. Motion carried. Discussion was held about concerns with having spring city-wide clean-up. Horne made the motion and was seconded by Mahin to cancel spring city-wide clean up and have one in the fall. Motion carried. The library has had some water damage on the inside, one bid has been received from a company in Grand Island. Goebel made the motion and was seconded by Horne to table this topic until next month and have the library try to get some local bids as well.

For New Business, the council decided until further notice council meetings will be conducted entirely on Zoom. It was also discussed to show appreciation to the nurses at WCCH during nurses week.

Horne made the motion and was seconded by Goebel to enter into executive session at 9:11 p.m. for one employee evaluation. Motion carried. Horne made the motion and was seconded by Goebel to resume the regular meeting at 9:32 p.m. Motion carried. Horne made the motion and was seconded by Mahin to give a raise to the part-time help. 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 Mahin to adjourn said meeting at 9:33 p.m. Motion carried.

Total Salaries	23,192.02
City of Red Cloud- applied deposit	13.56

Y Perez- refunded deposit	186.44
Principal- dental insurance	454.59
Village Pharmacy- water sample supplies	4.00
Eagle Broadband- cable at CC	94.81
City of Red Cloud- applied deposits	400.00
CPI- fuel	62.80
J & A Auto Supply- welding helmet	117.99
Medicare- 3/15 payroll	427.84
Social Security- 3/15 payroll	1,829.26
Withholding- 3/15 payroll	1,076.48
Nationwide- retirement contribution	1,357.71
State Income Tax- month of March	858.34
Zee Medical Service- first aid kit updates	29.85
City of Red Cloud- applied deposits	200.00
R & M Disposal- trash collection	12,320.00
Aflac- insurance	194.00
The Lincoln Nat'l Life Ins Co- life insurance	167.07
Verizon- cell phone	43.20
Great Plains- phone/internet	1,058.52
Webster Co Treasurer- tax sale redemption	290.46
BCBS- health insurance	7,680.97
BCBS- health insurance	197.31
DHHS- water operator license	115.00
Postmaster- postage on utility bills	252.75
Kim Danehey-Nibbe- contract labor	1,000.00
Rose Equipment Inc- repair kit for sweeper	131.05
Hawkins, Inc- fluoride	111.68
Dutton-Lainson Co- pistol grease	59.00
Municipal Chemical Supply- boiler treatment	1,192.05
Village Pharmacy- water sample supplies	8.16
Municipal Supply, Inc- grease	17.00
HGTV Magazine- subscription	39.97
Webster Co Treasurer- property taxes	691.40
JEO Consulting Group- project study	3,100.00
D Benedict- computer repair	480.00
Aramark- mop, towel, uniform service	499.70
Kully Pipe & Steel- metal pieces for CAT @ dump	340.60
CPI- money received for TIF	197.05
T-Shirt Engineers- uniforms	243.92
Red Cloud Chief- ads, notices, blight study, sponsor, minutes	792.84
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 agreement	350.00
John Hodge- attorney fees	75.00
Various- business insurance transfer	4,754.02
General- police fund	1,916.51
M Clark- cell phone	44.00
J Hersh- cell phone	44.00
D Long- cell phone	33.00
Various- officer's salary	1,643.76
Various- to Economic Development	750.00
Various- to General	2,499.99
Various- to Board of Trust	833.34
Various- to Historic Preservation	618.87
Webster Co Sheriff- police contract	3,854.29
Red Cloud Fire Department- fire dept officer salary	4,150.00
Hometown Market- janitorial supplies	19.49
NE Public Health Env Lab- water samples	81.00
Barnes & Noble- books	374.15
Presto-X- pest control	216.14
Border States- termination kit, connector, ground rod	7,834.47
Harold K Scholz, Co- work on transformer	2,735.00
MEAN- purchased power	77,249.66
Summit Masonry LLC- replace curb, gutter, part of alley	10,725.00
Old Dominion Brush- broom for sweeper	1,118.54
Red Cloud Athletic Association- annual donation	1,000.00
Cardmember Service- adobe	16.04
Auld Public Library- DVD's, summer reading program	108.77
Bladen Sand & Gravel- gravel	281.19
Northern Safety & Industrial- shop towels	49.36
Nationwide- retirement contribution	1,884.53
Withholding- 4/1 payroll	1,839.61
Medicare- 4/1 payroll	565.46
Social Security- 4/1 payroll	2,417.82
One Call Concepts- line locate	30.30
Kenny's Lumber, Inc- materials, supplies, step stool	786.39
C & D Service Center- work on sweeper, oil, filter, parts, battery	1,514.83
J & A Auto Supply- battery, filter, cleaner, tools, parts	334.81
CPI- fuel	221.93
Olson Enterprises- fuel, repairs	4,154.19
G Horne- reimbursement	1,395.43
Black Hills Energy- natural gas service	2,479.21
Sandry Fire Supply- survivor alkaline lights	75.00
Communications Engineering- 2 batteries	40.00
Petty Cash- welding suit, postage	150.53

Eakes- office supplies, toner, labor law poster	385.25
Baker & Taylor- books	389.87
Energized Electric- units @ Scout Lodge	7,150.00
Principal- dental insurance	454.59
Eagle Broadband- cable @ CC	94.81
NMPP- air emissions & certificate of compliance	1,000.00
Electronic Systems, Inc- fire alarm inspection & battery	139.00
WAPA- purchased power	5,559.36
Total	\$222,059.88

Todd Brown, Mayor

ATTEST: Casie Olson, City Clerk