

CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS  
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2017

As per notice in the Red Cloud Chief, the Mayor and City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, December 5, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. in the conference room of the Community Center. Members present: Mayor Ratzlaff; Council members Horne, Phillips, Knehans, Reynolds; Attorney McCracken; City Superintendent Mahin and Clerk Meline.

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

First on the agenda was the annual nomination of the President of the Council. Horne currently holds the position. Phillips made the motion and was seconded by Knehans to have Horne continue as President of the Council. Motion carried.

Next was the annual nomination for serving on the Financial Committee, currently held by Phillips and Knehans. Horne made the motion and was seconded by Reynolds to have Phillips and Knehans continue serving on the Financial Committee. Motion carried.

Knehans made the motion and was seconded by Phillips to accept the November Police Report as presented. Motion carried. Sheriff Schmitz was not in attendance.

Jarrold McCartney met with the council to give some updates. He had prepared a written update that was included in the agenda packet. There was some discussion on the Bike Ride Across Nebraska (BRAN) as to where they could stay. The council feels the park and Community Center would probably be best and they could use the showers at the swimming pool. No vote was needed. He presented the council with a flier showing the Open House of The Valley Child Development Center on Tuesday, December 19<sup>th</sup>, 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. There will also be a QuickBooks Training for Small Business to take place at the Auld Public Library on January 24<sup>th</sup> and January 31<sup>st</sup>, 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Then he presented the council with information on the Legacy Endowment Challenge. There will be an LB840 info session at noon on December 13<sup>th</sup>. This will be held at the Community Center.

Under Public Comments, no one in attendance wished to address the council. Phillips at this time brought up that he was getting complaints about trucks driving in residential areas especially Elm and Locust Street. Clerk Meline stated she had contacted Sheriff Schmitz about the problem. It was suggested putting up "No Trucks Allowed" sign at the north end of Elm Street.

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

Horne made the motion and was seconded by Phillips to approve the Financial Reports and City Sales Tax Report. Motion carried. The City Sales Tax for September received in November was \$18,250.19 compared to \$16,305.31 for the same month last year.

Phillips made the motion and was seconded by Horne to approve the claims presented for payment. Motion carried. Horne made the motion and was seconded by Knehans to approve expenses to date \$218,067.58 on the TVCDC Project #15PW002 with the drawdown in the amount of \$44,049.65. Motion carried. Horne then made the motion and was seconded by Knehans to approve Drawdown #10 in the amount of \$44,049.65. Motion carried.

Horne made the motion and was seconded by Phillips to appoint JEO Consulting as the City Engineers. Motion carried. This is done annually.

Horne made the motion and was seconded by Phillips to appoint Ryan C. Kavan from JEO Consulting as the 2018 Street Superintendent and the Certification of City Street Superintendent. Motion carried. This is done annually as JEO does the One & Six Year Street Plan to be filed with the State.

Phillips made the motion and was seconded by Phillips to renew the State Department of Roads Maintenance Agreement #32 and the Certificate of Compliance. Motion carried. There were no changes.

Horne made the motion and was seconded by Phillips to re-appoint and appoint City Boards and Committees. Motion carried. Those appointments are as follows: Planning Commission: Gary Olson, Bryan Berry, Mike McCartney, Sheryl McCracken, Brad Burgess, Tyler Olson, Kenny VanWey, Lila Bohrer and Barb Kenny; Zoning Board of Adjustment: Paula Hammond; Cemetery Board: Dan Conway(replace Richard Reiher); Housing Board: Keith Meyer; Assisted Living Board: Abby Hansen, Carol Beitler, Brad Burgess; Library Board: Paige Bolin; Historic Preservation Commission: Angela Duca, Jay Hall, Kay Blackstone; Economic Development Advisory Board: Bridget Daehling, Ashley Olson, Todd Mahin, Mike Kenny. Motion carried. Horne made the motion and was seconded by Knehans to replace Justin Bolin on the Red Cloud Board of Public Trust with Todd Mahin. Horne, Phillips, Knehans voted yea and Reynolds voted nay. Motion carried.

Horne made the motion and seconded by Knehans to pass Resolution #689 which allows the consumption of alcohol at the Red Cloud Interlocal Fire Hall. Motion carried.

Reynolds made the motion and seconded by Phillips to pass Resolution #690 setting the Employee Recognition Dinner on Sunday, January 14, 2018 at the Palace Lounge II. Motion carried.

Attorney McCracken informed the council since it is the owner that is cited for a dog in violation of a City Code, it doesn't matter which dog it is. So citations will not be based on the dog but the violation. A question had been brought up to as when a dog is impounded and there is no proof of rabies shot they have 72 hours to obtain the shot and provide proof to the City. It doesn't happen often, but there are times a dog is released and the owner is told they have 72 hours but we have no recourse except to impound the dog again. But to do that you have to go onto the owners property and that could cause problems. After some discussion it was suggested that a deposit be collected when the owner pays the impoundment fee. This deposit would be returned when proof of rabies shot is provided. This will be put on the January agenda. On the agenda under the attorney was an Interlocal Agreement with the County for sharing of equipment/machinery. This will be addressed at the January meeting. Attorney McCracken stated he had sent a letter to the owner of the property at 317 W 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue and he has seen no change there. Then he informed the council he was still going through the Zoning regulations prepared by SCEED and he was finding some items that need to be changed.

Superintendent Mahin gave a general update: sent Dalton to a turf meeting, Pat/Dalton worked on snow boxes, did quarterly testing on two engines at power plant, put up Christmas decorations, have been picking up trash at the C & D Site and Hydraulic Equipment recently did dielectric testing on all the electric department equipment and they all passed and then he gave a thorough inspection of the equipment and the problems he found have been corrected. He then presented the council with an article from the Nebraska Rural Water Assn. on raising water revenue without raising rates. Currently all sized water meters are charged the same amount. Their recommendation is since the larger meters are usually the ones that put the most demand on the system and therefore should pay according. The article also gives 10 revenue-generating examples. The council did not take any action, there is no hurry it is just something for them to think about and re-visit sometime next year. Then he presented the council with an agreement with the Department of Roads pertaining to the beacon at the elementary school. The State intends to remove the school crossing beacon on Highway US136 and rebuild as a Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon. There is no cost to the Municipality. Attorney McCracken will make a small change to the agreement so therefore it was not approved at this meeting. Next he presented the council with permits issued since the last meeting: shed for Chris Meline, fence for Jeff Ord, deck for Austin Manchanthasouk, fence for Matt Licking and deck for Matt Licking.

Next on the agenda was old business. Knehans made the motion and was seconded by Reynolds to send the properties at 333 West 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue and 137 West 2<sup>nd</sup> Street to the Prosecuting Attorney. Motion carried. Horne made the motion and was seconded by Reynolds to move 302 N. Seward and 510 N. Elm to the Keeping Track of List. Motion carried. Knehans made the motion and was seconded by Horne to add 202 S. Seward, 239 S. Seward, 221 S. Cedar and 205 S. Cedar to Nuisance List. Motion

carried. Attorney McCracken will contact the owner of the pasture in the south part of town that the fence goes across the sidewalk onto the terrace and ask that it be moved. Knehans made the motion and was seconded by Phillips to have Attorney McCracken send a letter to the owner of the property at 906 N. Cedar to clean up the driveway and to put on nuisance list. Motion carried.

Next it was brought up that it was to be on the agenda about the possibility of going with direct deposit for the payroll. Since this is old business it was allowed to have the discussion. Superintendent Mahin stated he had talked to all the full time employees and the majority were okay with direct deposit. After a brief discussion Reynolds made the motion and it was seconded by Knehans to go with direct deposit for the payroll. Phillip, Knehans, Reynolds voted yea and Horne voted nay. Motion carried.

Under New Business, Reynolds stated that all the Giving Trees are up at some business around town.

Horne made the motion and was seconded by Phillips to enter into executive session at 8:40 p.m. for an employee evaluation, contracted custodian and land contract. Motion carried.

Reynolds made the motion and was seconded by Horne to resume the open meeting at 9:10 p.m. Motion carried.

Horne made the motion and was seconded by Reynolds for a raise for a Power Plant Operator and Custodian of the Community Center which is done by contract. Motion carried.

Horne made the motion and was seconded by Reynolds to have the City Attorney respond to FSA inquiries about the land around the C & D Site. 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 Phillips to adjourn said meeting at 9:12 p.m.

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

United HealthCare, group health insurance	5,371.52
Red Cloud Chief, legal notices	504.47
BARCO, magnetic locator	697.91
Presto X, pest control	106.89
Nationwide, 11/16 retirement contribution	1,387.52
Medicare, 11/16 payroll taxes	382.60
Withholding, 11/16 payroll taxes	1,070.99
Social Security, 11/16 payroll	1,635.86
State Income Tax, 11/16 payroll	689.38
Great Plains Comm., Inc. phone bills	943.91
R & M Disposal, City property trash pickup/collection from utility bills	11,938.00
AFLAC, insurance-payroll deducted	264.27
The Lincoln National Life, group life insurance	166.07
Various, December transfer to business insurance	6,871.70
Various, December transfer to officer's salary	914.19
Various, December transfer to economic development	2,195.25
Various, December transfer to general fund	875.01
Petty Cash, water sample postage, extra postage, etc.	147.41
Nationwide Trust, 12/1 retirement contribution	1,596.91
Withholding, 12/1 payroll taxes	1,474.08
Social Security, 12/1 payroll taxes	1,929.06
Medicare, 12/1 payroll taxes	451.16
NMPP, 2018 software support	2,269.00
Dan Benedict, computer assistance	170.00
Glenn Plumbing, test backflow devices	200.00
Eakes, office supplies	790.89

Aramark, uniforms, towels, mop service	353.49
Red Cloud Hardware, paint, materials, supplies	70.27
J & A Auto Supply, parts & supplies	111.51
Olson's Enterprises, fuel & repairs	1,577.96
CPI, gas & tire repair	56.03
GIS Workshop, simplicity setup & 1 <sup>st</sup> year subscription	7,462.50
Kenny Lumber, materials & supplies	489.25
Black Hills Energy, natural gas service	2,214.07
T – Shirt Engineers, uniforms	856.05
Webster County Treasurer, property taxes	555.94

#### ELECTRIC

Glenn Plumbing, auger drain at power plant	85.00
Postmaster, utility bill postage	230.51
Electric, December tr. to bond & interest	2,000.00
ECMC, 12/1 payroll garnishment	47.92
NE Child Support Payment, 12/1 garnishment	254.75
Adams County Court, 12/1 payroll garnishment	.74
Todd Mahin, towards cell phone bill	44.00
Jason Franssen, towards cell phone bill	44.00
HES, repairs to utility trucks	2,761.71
MEAN, purchased power for October	64,980.71
Zee Medical Service, update 1 <sup>st</sup> aid kit updates	13.95
Cardmember, computer monitor/monthly adobe fee	155.04
Kriz Davis, photo cells, bulbs, meters	920.45
Dutton Lainson, ballast, conduit	596.38
Superior Utilities, CT's	207.00
Norder Supply Inc. tordon	51.84
WAPA, purchased power for November	6,762.99
Salaries	9,089.07

#### WATER

DHHS-Div. of Public Health-Licensure, water operator license renewal	230.00
Water, December tr. to CM water reserve	625.00
NE Public Health Env. Lab, water sample testing	310.00
One Call Concepts, line locates	10.20

#### SEWER

Sewer, December tr. to CM sewer reserve	625.00
NDEQ-Fiscal Service, principal/interest payment	10,628.80
Salaries	4,193.86

GENERAL

Hometown Leasing, lease payment - copier	110.00
Sara Bockstadter, December retainer fee	75.00
JEO Consulting, dam reduction improvement	2,131.00
Nebraska Secretary of State, notary renewal for Clerk	30.00
General, December tr. to police fund	1,916.51

LIBRARY

Good Housekeeping, subscription renewal	34.97
Martha Steward Living Magazine, subscription renewal	19.00
O'Keefe Elevator, elevator maintenance	295.36
Electronic Systems, Inc. fire alarm inspection	55.00
Follett, license support renewal	870.45
Baker & Taylor, books	352.50
Michael Frederick, book	25.00
Salaries	1673.06

CEMETERY

Kyle Prellwitz, parts for cemetery pickup	175.00
Olson Auto Body, LLC, cemetery pickup windshield	399.60
Landmark, oil for mower/new mower	5,403.82
C & D Service, repairs to edger	31.43
Sue Meline, cemetery/genealogy-annual payment	200.00

COMMUNITY CENTER

Kim Danehey Nibbe, November contract payment	800.00
NE Fire Sprinkler, semi-annual inspection CC	343.00
Eagle Communications, cable TV	76.38

TVCDC PROJECT #15PW002 (CDBG BLOCK GRANT)

SCEED, administrative fees	10,000.00
TVCDC, drawdown #8	45,519.48

FIRE

Heritage Bank, December loan payment on storage bldg.	731.98
Mid Rivers 911, December 911 user fee	350.00
Platte Valley Communications, pager repair	79.50

HIGHWAY ALLOCATION

Nationwide, loan payment-payroll deducted	262.87
Dalton Long, towards cell phone bill	33.00

Figgins Construction, cold mix	580.60
Verizon, phone bill	39.85
Salaries	4,048.45
CONSUMERS	
City of Red Cloud, applied deposit to utility bill	137.50
J. Hunter, refund balance of deposit	62.50
OFFICER'S SALARY	
Gary L. Ratzlaff, annual compensation	2,625.00
Roy Phillips, annual compensation	2,000.00
Gene Horne, annual compensation	2,000.00
Marianne Reynolds, annual compensation	1,875.00
Brenda Knehans, annual compensation	2,000.00
RED CLOUD BOARD OF PUBLIC TRUST	
Integrity Home Inspection & Testing, asbestos inspection at 1005 N. Webster	525.00
Kory McCracken LTA, purchase of property at 905 N. Cedar	5,510.00
POLICE	
Webster County Sheriff's Department, November contract payment	3,854.29
PARK	
R & J Seamless Gutters, replace gutters on Scout Lodge (hail damage)	445.00
Salaries	393.76
COMPOST	
Salaries	480.22
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$262,231.13

Gary L. Ratzlaff, Mayor

ATTEST: Sue Meline, City Clerk

