

CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
TUESDAY, JANUARY 9, 2018

As per notice in the Red Cloud Chief, the Mayor and City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, January 9, 2018 at 7:00 P.M. in the conference room of the Community Center. Members present: Mayor Ratzlaff; Council members Horne, Knehans, Attorney McCracken; Superintendent Mahin and Clerk Meline. Absent: Councilman Phillips, Councilwoman Reynolds.

Mayor Ratzlaff called the meeting to order and asked those present 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 a Public Hearing on the 2015 Planning Grant and Public Works grant. Sharon Hueftle from SCEDD was present for the Hearing. Horne made the motion and was seconded by Knehans to open the hearing at 7:09 P.M. Motion carried. By law two public hearings are required on CDBG funded projects. The Planning Grant should be completed by the end of January and presented to the City Council at the February meeting. Superintendent Mahin gave a brief overview of what has been done so far. On the Public Works Grant there will be one more draw down for construction and one for administration. As there was no public attendance, Knehans made the motion and was seconded by Horne to close the hearing at 7:19 P.M. Motion carried.

Sharon Hueftle talked to the council some about Nebraska LB518 which is the Rural Workforce Housing Investment Act. A housing study is required which is done by a windshield assessment. Attorney McCracken stated he had a spreadsheet from the County with the information on it needed for the assessment. Superintendent Mahin and Mayor Ratzlaff will conduct the windshield assessment and turn in to SCEED.

Knehans made the motion and was seconded by Horne to approve the payment of \$2,376.56. Motion carried. Knehans then made the motion and was seconded by Horne to approve Drawdown #1 in the amount of \$2,376.56. Motion carried. Horne made the motion and was seconded by Knehans to approve the payment of \$441.43. Motion carried. Horne then made the motion and was seconded by Knehans to approve drawdown #11 in the amount of \$441.43. Motion carried.

Sheriff Schmitz had submitted the December Police Report to be distributed to the council members. Horne made the motion and was seconded by Knehans to approve the Police Report. Motion carried.

Nancy Stafford met with the council in regards to holding a Farmers' Market (produce only) in the City Park in 2018. The months of the Farmers' Market would be June to November and would be held on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month. The hours would be 9:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. She stated she would do the advertising and clean-up of the park. After some discussion, Horne made the motion and was seconded by Knehans to table this issue till the February meeting to get the input of the other council members. Motion carried.

Amanda Hajny, Cherry Corner Estates, met with the council to give a brief update on the facility. Currently they have thirteen (13) residents and two (2) units open. She has had interest in the vacant units. They had to replace one water heater and are having problems with another one but are hoping a new motor will fix the problem. She also stated that Cherry Corner Estates and the TVCDC are sharing the costs of some services.

Since there was no public attendance at the meeting, there were no public comments.

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

Horne made the motion and was seconded by Knehans to approve the Financial Reports and City Sales Tax as presented. Motion carried. The City Sales Tax for October received in December was \$14,305.72 compared to \$17,631.39 for the same month last year.

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

Members of the Health Insurance Committee informed the council of the insurance they had elected to go with. The company is National General Benefits Solutions and is a self-funded PPO Copay Plan. It has a \$1,500 deductible and \$7,150 total out of pocket maximum. This plan is a substantial lower premium than what the City was paying.

Knehans made the motion and was seconded by Horne to approve the New Business Rebate for Energized Electric in the maximum amount of \$1,200. Motion carried.

The Historic Preservation Commission submitted a nominee, Mike Kenny, to fill the vacancy on their Board. Horne made the motion and was seconded by Knehans to approve the nominee. Motion carried.

Next was Attorney McCracken. The Interlocal Agreement with the County for sharing of equipment and machinery has been signed by the County and now needed approval of the City Council. Knehans made the motion and was seconded by Horne to authorize the Mayor to sign the agreement. Motion carried. Last month the council had discussed the possibility of requiring a deposit to release an impounded dog to get a rabies shot. Said deposit would be held until the Certification of Rabies Shot is presented at City Hall. Horne made the motion and was seconded by Knehans to table till the February meeting. Motion carried. The council then was informed that a municipality is exempt from CRP money therefore; Horne made the motion and was seconded by Knehans to authorize Attorney McCracken to negotiate a rental agreement with Gary Shipman for the land south of the new C & D Site. Motion carried.

Superintendent Mahin presented a general update for the month of December. Joe Hersh began employment on December 1, 2017; finished the trash fence at the C & D Site; repaired water main break at the railroad; unplugged a sewer main; had a scheduled outage for SPPD scheduled maintenance on the incoming line to town (ran our engines); some repairs are needed on #4 and #5; worked with the County on repairs to 11th Avenue; guys cleaning up properties obtained by the Red Cloud Public Board of Trust; repairs made to the H-structure behind City Hall and upon inspecting the remaining H-structures more repairs are needed; removed snow on Christmas Eve; downspout at Library was plugged and took down Christmas decorations. Mahin then told the council upon inspection of fire extinguishers in our facilities and vehicles they have not been inspected for some time. He would like to get on a regular maintenance program. He will get more information on costs and present to the council at the February meeting. Water rates were discussed and it was decided it might be time to have a new rate study done by the Nebraska Rural Water Assn. as they do charge. Next he presented the council with an estimate for repairs to the North Well. Knehans made the motion and was seconded by Horne to proceed with the repairs in the amount of \$3,798.66 with Sargent Drilling. Motion carried. The proposed project from the State for installing LED lights in the school beacons has been dropped.

Next the council reviewed the proposed One & Six Year Street Plan. Superintendent Mahin went through the projects listed in last years plan that he and Pat scrapped because A Avenue from Walnut to Cherry needs a major overhaul from all the equipment, etc. from the building of the TVCDC facility. The revisions have been sent to JEO. The One & Six Year Street Plan Hearing will be held at the February meeting.

There was one building permit approved since the last meeting and it was a fence for Craig Lockhart.

Under Old Business are the nuisance & condemned properties and those sent to the Prosecuting Attorney. The hearing on the McDole properties has been moved to March 2nd. Knehans made the motion and was seconded by Horne to move the properties at 705 N. Walnut and 641 N. Locust be moved to the Nuisance List. Motion carried. Horne made the motion and was seconded by Knehans to start the condemnation process of the property at 506 North Seward Street for the February meeting. Motion carried.

Horne made the motion and was seconded by Knehans to enter into executive session at 9:49 P.M. for the purpose of an employee evaluation and contract employee. Motion carried. Knehans made the motion and was seconded by Horne to resume the open meeting at 9:56 P.M. Motion carried. Horne made the motion and was seconded by Knehans to give a raise to a Power Plant employee and to table discussion on the contract employee to the February meeting. Motion carried.

As there was no further business to be had and done by the Mayor and Council, Horne made the motion and was seconded by Knehans to adjourn the meeting at 10:00 P.M. Motion carried. The next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 6, 2018 at 7:00 P.M.

The following is a complete listing of claims approved for payment:

Principal, dental insurance	566.49
Red Cloud Chief, legal notices	363.25
Nationwide, 12/16 payroll retirement contribution	1,395.22
Medicare, 12/16 payroll taxes	421.48
Social Security, 12/16 payroll taxes	1,802.12
Withholding, 12/16 payroll taxes	1,125.01
Great Plains Comm., telephone bills	937.04
R & M Disposal, trash hauling/collected on utility bills	11,188.00
The Lincoln National Life Insurance Co., life insurance	166.07
AFLAC, insurance-payroll deducted	264.27
State Income Tax, for the month of December	801.06
United HealthCare, group health insurance for January	6,247.09
Various, monthly to business insurance fund	6,871.70
Various, monthly to officer's salary fund	914.19
Various, monthly to economic development fund	2,195.25
Various, monthly to general fund	875.01
Nationwide Trust, 1/1/18 retirement contribution	1,380.39
Withholding, 1/1/18 payroll taxes	1,093.05
Social Security, 1/1/18 payroll taxes	1,708.04
Medicare, 1/1/18 payroll taxes	399.50
Cardmember Service, frt., safety vests, ear plugs, etc.	188.24
Black Hills Energy, natural gas service	2,771.68
Aramark, uniforms, towel services, uniforms	279.36
Dana F. Cole & Company, 80% of audit	6,889.51
Sensus, annual software renewal	1,715.95
C & D Service Center, parts	785.85
CPI, fuel	1,632.26
J & A Auto Supply, parts	195.01
Red Cloud Hardware, parts	41.91
Kenny Lumber, materials & supplies	522.64
Eakes, office supplies	262.52
Principal, dental insurance	622.61

ELECTRIC

NE Child Support Payment Center-garnishment	254.75
NE Child Support Payment Center-garnishment	265.50
ECMC, garnishment	47.92
Petty Cash, employee benefits	1,800.00
Postmaster, postage on utility bills	218.26
BlueCross BlueShield, supplemental insurance	815.04

Electric, to bond & interest fund	2,000.00
Kriz Davis, gloves, materials, supplies, meters	1,260.95
Theobald Law Office, collection fee	88.96
Estela L Chan MD, medical expense	140.00
MEAN, purchased power for November	65,972.74
Glenn's Plumbing, auger drain at power plant	96.70
JEO Consulting, Electric system efficiency study	792.19
WAPA, purchased power for December	7,504.33
Olson Enterprises, power steering fluid & oil	73.37
Salaries	15,363.31

WATER

Water, to cash management water reserve	625.00
One Call Concepts, line locates	11.73
NE Public Health Env., Lab, water analysis	319.00
Hawkins, fluoride	358.00

SEWER

Sewer, to cash management sewer reserve	625.00
ECMC, garnishment	47.92
NE Child Support Pymt. Center, garnishment	265.50
NE Child Support Pymt. Center, garnishment	254.75
Adams County Court, garnishment	.74
Todd Mahin, towards cell phone bill	44.00
Jason Franssen, towards cell phone bill	44.00
Joe Hersh, towards cell phone bill	44.00

LIBRARY

Postmaster, P O Box	88.00
Reminisce, subscription renewal	12.98
Better Homes & Gardens, subscription renewal	11.00
Auld Public Library, DVD's supplies	280.16
Dan Benedict, maintenance-updates, cleanups	100.00
Baker & Taylor, postage on books	19.87
National Geographic, subscription renewal	39.00
Salaries	1,786.79

GENERAL

Hometown Leasing, lease payment on copier	110.00
General, to police fund	1,916.51
Sara Bockstadter, retainer fees	150.00
Corporate Image Design, dog tags, ATV permits	267.00
The Red Cloud Chief, subscription renewal	30.50

FIRE

Heritage Bank, loan pymt. on fire hall storage bldg...	731.98
Mid Rivers 911, January 911 user fee	350.00
Red Cloud Volunteer Fire Dept., badges, shovel holders	155.98
Energized Electric, lights	649.38
COMMUNITY CENTER	
Presto X, pest control	39.59
Kim Danehey Nibbe, contract payment	950.00
Eagle Communications, cable TV	76.38
STREET/HIWAY ALLOCATION	
Verizon, cell phone	43.25
Nationwide Trust, retirement loan pymt.	262.87
Dalton Long, towards cell phone bill	33.00
Bladen Sand & Gravel, asphalt millings	139.50
JEO Consulting, 2017 street superintendent services	3,000.00
Salaries	3,933.95
COMPOST	
SCPP, annual power at compost site	218.51
NMC, valves for Cat	71.73
Salaries	406.34
CONSUMERS	
City of Red Cloud, applied deposit to utility bill	200.00
City of Red Cloud, applied deposits to utility bills	400.00
City of Red Cloud, applied deposit to utility bill	200.00
INSURANCE	
National General, new insurance premium	5,500.48
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	
R C Chamber of Commerce, sponsorship/Farmers & Merchants	100.00
PARK	
Modesta Horne, contract payment	202.50
Salaries	340.53
SWIMMING POOL	

NE Dept. of Revenue, annual sales tax	503.41
POLICE	
Webster County Sheriff, December contract payment	3,854.29
BOARD OF PUBLIC TRUST	
Webster County Treasurer, 2016 taxes on 1005 N. Webster	299.57
CDBG #15-PW-002	
TVCDC, drawdown #10	44,049.65
PAYROLL TAXES	
NE Dept. of Revenue, pool state income tax	274.82
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$227,754.95

Gary L. Ratzlaff, Mayor

ATTEST: Sue Meline, City Clerk