

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2018
CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

As per notice in the Red Cloud Chief, the Mayor and City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, November 6th, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. in the conference room of the Red Cloud Community Center. Members present: Mayor Ratzlaff; Council members Horne, Phillips, Knehans, Reynolds; Attorney McCracken and Clerk Meline.

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 on the west wall for viewing by the public.

Mayor Ratzlaff then opened the Public Hearing on the Planning Grant for the Electric Efficiency Study Grant. Sharon Hueftle from SCEDD was in attendance. The hearing was held to give all interested parties the opportunity to be heard regarding the status and implementation of the Planning Grant. She stated at some point, most likely when the vacant City Superintendent position is filled JEO Consulting will want to meet with the council to go over the Study. Horne made the motion and was seconded by Knehans to close the hearing at 7:10 p.m. Motion carried. There was also some discussion about the annual membership with SCEDD. The County informed SCEDD that they do not intend to be SCEDD members. The City of Red Cloud and Blue Hill both use the services of SCEDD and by the County not being a member it will cause a hardship not only on SCEDD but the cities.

Horne made the motion and was seconded by Phillips to approve the payment to SCEDD in the amount of \$892.50 for work done on the Planning Grant. Motion carried.

Knehans then made the motion and was seconded by Horne to approve Drawdown #9 in the amount of \$892.50. Motion carried.

Phillips made the motion and was seconded by Reynolds to approve the Police Report as submitted by Sheriff Schmitz. Motion carried. Sheriff Schmitz was not in attendance.

Ryan Kavan from JEO Consulting met with the council to go over street work they would like to schedule for the One and Six Year Street Plan. Usually the preliminary work is done by the Superintendent but since the position is vacant he met with the council. The One and Six Year has to be filed with the State in March.

Ana Armstrong(On The Brix) met with the council in regards to parking a taco vendor truck downtown for events at the business. After a brief discussion it seemed to be the consensus to have the truck park on the south side on West 5th Avenue or the north side of that block. Parking there would not take up parking spaces in the downtown area.

Mike Goebel met with the council as to propane tanks in residential areas. The City has no ordinances pertaining to this as there are stringent federal rules and regulations pertaining to placement of propane tanks in the residential areas. Even if there was an ordinance it most likely would just state that placement of propane tanks would have to be installed per the Federal Codes. If a tank was installed incorrectly the State Fire Marshal would be contacted to remedy the situation. Therefore the council does not feel there is any reason for the city to have such an ordinance.

Next on the agenda was the time for Public Comments. No one in attendance wished to address the council.

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 the City Sales Tax Report. Motion carried. The City Sales Tax for August received in October was \$15,912.91 compared to \$18,011.86 for the same month last year.

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

Mayor Ratzlaff and Councilman Horne updated the council on the last meeting held with the Nebraska Department of Transportation concerning the brick streets. Horne stated that one option offered by the State is to put bricks in the center of the road(not parking area) from 5th Avenue to 3rd Avenue and from Elm Street to Cedar Street at their cost. If the City would like bricks on the highway other than that area the City would have to stand that cost. No matter what is done to the streets the City will have the expense of replacing the water main running down Webster Street. Meetings will continue with this committee and then eventually public meetings will be held.

Next on the agenda was the Scout Lodge. There have been discussions on this for a couple of months. There had been a request to turn it into a weight center and another request to donate to the VFW. According to Mike Goebel turning it into a weight center is off the table. As far as giving it to an organization they would be responsible for the utilities, maintenance, mowing etc. The council felt for now just to leave as is. The council was asked if they would consider selling it and the council said they would consider it or any other viable suggestion.

Horne made the motion and was seconded by Phillips to adopt Resolution #701 placing stop signs on 8th Avenue at the intersection of Franklin Street and 8th Avenue heading east and on 8th Avenue at the intersection of Franklin Street and 8th Avenue heading west. Motion carried.

Jarrod McCartney was unable to attend the meeting but had prepared an update that went out with the council agenda packet for them to look over to see what has been going on since the last meeting.

The council then turned their attention to Ordinance #646 which would increase the annual compensation of the Mayor and City Council by \$50 per meeting. The last increase was twelve years ago. Only an outgoing council member can ask for the increase and Councilman Phillips asked for this to be put on the agenda. Currently the Mayor receives \$175 per meeting and the council receives \$125 per meeting. If they miss a meeting there is no compensation. The increase would put the Mayor at \$225 per meeting and the City Council at \$175 per meeting. Upon reading by title, Phillips made the motion and was seconded by Knehans to approve Ordinance #646. Phillips, Knehans, Reynolds voted yea while Horne abstained. Motion carried. Then Horne made the motion and was seconded by Knehans to waive the reading of ordinance at three separate meetings, motion carried. Knehans made the motion and was seconded by Phillips to approve said ordinance and publish in pamphlet form. Horne, Phillips, Knehans vote yea, while Reynolds abstained. Motion carried.

Attorney McCracken presented the council with a lease agreement between the City of Red Cloud and Brooks Rasser for haying of city properties. The lease is for a five year period. This year Rasser will pay the city the 40% as agreed upon before a lease was drawn up which this year is estimated to be around \$5,000. In the future the City will receive 1/3 of the proceeds from the sale of all grass, hay, or alfalfa or any other crops raised on the premises. After a brief discussion, Horne made the motion and was seconded by Phillips to enter into this agreement. Motion carried. Horne then made the motion and was seconded by Phillips authorizing the Mayor to sign the agreement. Motion carried.

Two building permits were issued since the last meeting: garage for John Benge and shed for Dick Goebel.

Under Old Business Attorney McCracken stated he picked some of the worst properties and resent letters starting the process over. The new prosecuting Attorney John Hodge had surgery and was unable to attend this meeting. Knehans made the motion and was seconded by Reynolds to add the property at 741 North Cherry to the Nuisance Properties. Motion carried.

Under New Business, Horne requested that the council consider moving the date of the June meeting. This will be done at the next council meeting.

Then as President of the Council, he and Councilwoman Reynolds presented "Certificates of Dedicated Service to the City" and a "Key to the City" to outgoing council members Roy Phillips and Brenda Knehans. He then gave a "Key to the City" to the Mayor. A plaque had been given to the Mayor during Street Car Days for his years of service. At the December meeting there will be a ceremonial changing of the chairs from the outgoing members to the newly elected officials.

Horne made the motion and was seconded by Knehans to enter into executive session at 8:30 p.m. for employee evaluations. Motion carried. Horne then made the motion and was seconded by Knehans to return to the open meeting at 8:40 p.m. Motion carried. Horne made the motion and was seconded by Reynolds to give a raise to the Street Foreman. Motion carried. Horne then made the motion and was seconded by Knehans to advertise for the vacancy at the Power Plant upon the retirement of Arnold Merrill on November 13th after 22 + years.

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 8:41 p.m. Motion carried. Pictures were then taken of the outgoing council members with President of the Council Horne.

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

Presto X, exterminating services	77.04
Cardmember Services, go-light	112.04
Principal, dental insurance	622.61
Black Hills Energy, natural gas service	745.76
Nationwide, 10/16 payroll retirement contributions	1,247.47
Withholding, 10/16 payroll taxes	885.90
Social Security, 10/16 payroll taxes	1,691.68
Medicare, 10/16 payroll taxes	395.64
Dan Benedict, computer upgrades	5,780.00
Lincoln National Life Ins., life insurance	186.20
United HealthCare, health insurance	6,241.03
AFLAC, insurance-payroll deducted	303.71
Great Plains, telephones & internet	1,051.40
R & M Disposal, trash collection/trash pickup	12,125.50
Various, business insurance transfer	7,358.16
Nationwide, retirement loan pymts.	322.68
Various, officer's salary	695.82
Various, economic development	2,083.35
Various, general	2,499.97
Various, Board of Trust funding	833.34
Various, Historic Preservation funding	500.01

Nationwide, 11/1 payroll retirement contribution	1,311.88
Withholding, 11/1 payroll taxes	942.35
Social Security, 11/1 payroll taxes	1,801.00
Medicare, 11/1 payroll taxes	421.20
Aramark, janitorial services	533.10
Dutton Lainson, lighting@ PP/well house heaters	60.07
Eakes, office supplies	129.09
Cardmember Services, go-light	158.31
State Income Tax, for the month of October	818.36
Petty Cash, postage, supplies, computer asst.	191.09
C & D Service Center, materials and supplies	165.60
Black Hills Energy, natural gas service	1,376.71
Olson Enterprises LLC, fuel for sewer plant, fuel for dually	149.27
Kenny's Lumber, materials & supplies	412.15
J & A Auto, parts	103.49
CPI, fuel, tires	571.86
Norder Supply, chemicals	105.64
Principal, dental insurance	510.37

ELECTRIC

JEO Consulting, electrical efficiency study	1,222.00
Sapp Bros. Petroleum, oil for power plant	3,783.56
Dana F. Cole & Company, balance due on audit	2,246.05
Postmaster, postage on utility bills	232.92
Electric, bond & interest	2,000.00
Jason Franssen, towards cell phone bill	44.00
Joe Hersh, towards cell phone bill	44.00
Adams County Court, garnishment	71.03
NE Child Support Pymt. Center, garnishment	265.50
NE Child Support Pymt. Center, garnishment,	254.75
MEAN, purchased power for September	68,062.29
Border States, light repairs	2,198.95
Municipal Chemical Supply, boiler treatment	1,136.20
South 40, new business rebate	1,200.00
Barco Municipal Products, utility work ahead sign	219.63
Dana F. Cole & Company, bal. due on audit	22.46
GIS Workshop, yr. 2 of 3 year agreement	2,400.00
WAPA, purchased power for October	4,130.28
Olson Auto Body LLC, repairs to fiber glass basement	273.60
NPPD, work on transformer at PP	22,358.17
Salaries	9,341.03

WATER

Utility Service, quarterly pymt. water tower	1,069.50
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One Call Concepts, line locates	9.84
Hawkins, fluoride	165.50
NE Child Support Pymt., 10/16 garnishment	265.50
NE Child Support Pymt. 10/16 payroll garnishment	254.75
Adams County Court, garnishment	71.03
Water, CM water reserve	625.00
NE Pubic Health Env. Lab, water analysis	134.00
Sunbelt Rentals, rental of tamper	89.78
Hawkins, fluoride	180.50
One Call Concepts, line locates	15.93
Village Pharmacy, water testing supplies	8.00
Sargent Drilling, well service call-replaced pipe	882.76
Salaries	6,563.12

GENERAL

Kohmetscher Feed, dog food	23.36
Kidder Benefits, administrative fees	220.00
Eakes, copy charges	107.12
Red Cloud Chief, legal printing	346.43
Hometown Leasing, lease pymt. copier	110.00
Arbor Day Foundation, annual membership	15.00

LIBRARY

Red Cloud Chief, subscription renewal	31.50
Electronic Systems Inc., fire alarm inspection	65.00
Barnes & Noble, books	374.81
Terri Eberly, meeting expenses	186.66
Auld Public Library, DVD's, janitorial services, office supplies	128.10
Kenny Lumber, furnace filters	113.97
Salaries	1,664.02

STREET

Verizon, cell phone bill	49.79
Norder Supply, chemical	73.35
Dalton Long, towards cell phone bill	33.00
Road Builders, parts for loader	116.29
Bladen Sand & Gravel, white rock chips/road gravel	433.49
Salaries	3,860.18

FIRE

Heritage Bank, fire storage bldg. loan pymt.	731.98
Mid Rivers 911, November user fee	350.00

Fry - Tek, hose for city pumper/hose repair	670.93
Landmark, parts	81.10
Cornhusker, janitorial supplies	29.62
COMMUNITY CENTER	
Hometown Market, janitorial supplies	13.70
Kim Danehey Nibbe, contract labor for October	950.00
Prestige Exteriors, insurance damage at CC	4,186.33
Eagle Communications, cable TV - CC	86.59
BOARD OF TRUSTS	
Heritage Bank, purchase of Mittan Property	205.00
Frank Degener, mowing	250.00
R & M Disposal, roll off - 506 N. Seward	277.13
PARK	
Presto X, exterminator service	35.31
Salaries	329.90
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	
RC Community Foundation, support Heritage Tourism Director	15,000.00
SEWER	
Sewer, CM Sewer Reserve	625.00
POLICE	
Webster County Sheriff, October contract payment	3,854.29
HISTORIC PRESERVATION	
Lynda Mesloh, Historic Preservation Grant	1,500.00
CEMETERY	
CPI, chemicals	80.55

SWIMMING POOL

Iowa Pump Works, repair pool pump	1,693.51
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COMPOST

Salaries	602.80
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Total Expenses	\$226,868.29
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Gary L. Ratzlaff, Mayor

Attest: Sue Meline, Clerk