

CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2019

As per notice in the Red Cloud Chief, the Mayor and City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, September 10, 2019, 7:00 p.m. at the Community Center. Members present: Mayor Brown; Councilman Horne, Beitler, Goebel, Mahin; Superintendent Clark; Attorney McCracken and Clerk Meline.

Mayor Brown called the meeting to order and led the council in reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance and stated the Open Meetings Act is posted on the west wall.

Horne made the motion and was seconded by Mahin to open the One and Six Year Street Hearing at 7:01 p.m. Per state law the hearing was kept open for one hour. Motion carried.

Horne made the motion and was seconded by Beitler to accept the Sheriff's Report as presented. Motion carried.

Mayor Brown then opened the meeting up for public comments. Jarrod McCartney informed the council of upcoming events: BARNFEST(Starke Round Barn) to be held on September 21st; Ladies Weekend being held September 21 & 22nd; Ocean of Grass(Life on a Nebraska Sandhills Ranch) film screening on Sunday, September 29th at the Red Cloud Opera House and the 1st BBQ Cook-off to be held Sunday, October 5th at the City Park. Flyers for all these events will be posted at City Hall. Jake Yost asked some questions pertaining to the condemnation of properties. Attorney McCracken explained the procedure.

Horne made the motion and was seconded by Mahin to approve the Minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Goebel made the motion and was seconded by Horne to approve the August Financial Reports and City Sales Tax Report. Motion carried. The City Sales Tax received in August for June was \$15,520.66 compared to \$23,089.15 for the same month last year.

Horne made the motion and was seconded by Mahin to approve the claims presented for payment. Motion carried. These will be listed in full at the end of the minutes. Horne then made the motion to approve payments to JEO, invoice #111053 in the amount of \$2,247.50 and invoice #111461 in the amount of \$1,673.75. Motion carried. Horne then made the motion and was seconded by Goebel to approve the CDBG Drawdown request #14 in the amount of \$2,940.95 and the \$980.30 match by the City. Motion carried.

Horne made the motion and was seconded by Goebel to approve the 2019 – 2020 Fiscal Year Budget, the base limit of 2.5% increase, Resolution #712 -Appropriation of Funds and Resolution #713 – Setting of Property Tax Request. Motion carried.

Beitler made the motion and was seconded by Mahin to approve the appointment of Kim Brubaker to the Historic Preservation Commission. Motion carried.

Horne made the motion and was seconded by Goebel to accept the resignation of Richard Armstrong from the Red Cloud Housing Authority Board. Motion carried.

Horne then made the motion and was seconded by Beitler to appoint Sheryl McCracken to fill the vacancy by the resignation of Richard Armstrong. Motion carried.

The Scout Lodge was once again on the agenda. At the last meeting there had been a discussion as to possibly having the Scout Lodge serve as a Visitor Center and possibly the home for the Tourism Director. Clerk Meline stated an individual had contacted her as to renting the building twice a month to teach ceramics. Jarrod McCartney basically feels the location of the building would hinder it from being a good fit for a Visitor Center and/or his office. The Mayor stated he had an individual contact him about possibly purchasing the building. Upon further discussion the council decided they feel the City should keep the building but the scouts need to remove the belongings from the building. The City would pay for a dumpster. The council feels we just need to make a better attempt to make sure the public is aware the building is for rent.

The Fall Clean-Up will be held on Wednesday, October 23rd, 2019. A notice will be inserted in the utility bills due in October but for a full listing of what will be picked up, flyers will be available at City Hall and it will be posted on the Red Cloud Facebook page.

Horne made the motion and was seconded by Beitler to give a new business rebate for the Webster County Senior Services in the amount of \$809.57.

Superintendent Clark gave an overall update: pool is closed and the manager gave him a list of items in need of repair or replaced; with all the moisture mowing has been never ending keeping the City Crew from getting other things done; had a meeting with FEMA; received one bid for the demo of the old packing plant; received two bids for the replacement of the roof torn off during the wind storm; Compass Roofing will be repairing the Power Plant Roof; the CPI project is a go, so he has ordered the materials needed for the project(CPI will reimburse the City); looking at mini-excavators but has not received any bids; the URGE Test at the Power Plant went well and passed for another year. Three building permits were issued since the last meeting: garage for Dennis & Lois VanWey, new sign for the Red Cloud Fire Department and fence for John Ord & Megan Shaw. The bids for the replacement of the roof of the Recycling Center were discussed. After a brief discussion Goebel made the motion and was seconded by Beitler to go with the lower bid from Delbert Elliott in the amount of \$7,630. Motion carried. Rural Water Assn. was recently in the office to look over the water rates and profit/loss statement of the water fund which showed a loss averaging \$69,000 a year the last three years. Because of the wet summers the customers aren't watering their yards therefore the revenue is way down but the monthly expenses remain the same. The council would like to a proposal of rates based on meter sizes, therefore, after the guys get that information gathered, Nebraska Rural Water will come down and do a rate study by meter sizes. Then the council can decide which study they will use.

Attorney McCracken stated we recently had a residence that was infested with fleas. This was reported by a business that was doing some work at the property. McCracken has been working with the owners of the property to get the flea infestation taken care of. The property at 510 North Elm Street has been turned over to the prosecuting attorney. He is working on the vendor permit and SCEDD is still working on the revision of the Zoning Manual. He stated he has found some grants that could be beneficial with the dam project as well as other projects. If the council wants him to he will check into the application process. The council feels a couple of the grants would really help offset the cost of the projects, therefore, he will check into it further.

At this time the council returned to the One and Six Year Hearing as the hour was up. Horne made the motion and was seconded by Beitler to approve the Municipal Certification of Program Compliance to NE Board of Public Roads Classifications and Standards, Resolution #710 – Accepting the One & Six Year Street Plan and Resolution #711 – Municipal Annual Certification of Program Compliance. Motion carried. The hearing was closed at 8:30 p.m.

Under Old Business Horne made the motion and was seconded by Goebel to replace the front, windows three south windows and front door at City Hall in the amount of \$14,769.71 with Howard's Glass doing the project. Motion carried.

Also under Old Business is the nuisance properties. The trial held on the 30th of August was just a pre-trial. McCracken stated the prosecuting attorney is working with some of the owners of the nuisance properties and progress is being made. The property at 137 North Walnut he feels will be remedied in the near future, 59 North Webster has been purchased and is going to be demolished. The Board of Trust might purchase the property at 530 North Cherry Street.

There was no new business.

Horne made the motion and was seconded by Beitler to enter into executive session at 8:46 p.m. for the discussion of personnel and employee evaluations. Motion carried.

Goebel made the motion and was seconded by Horne to resume the open meeting at 9:44 p.m. Motion carried. Goebel made the motion and was seconded by Mahin to give raises as discussed to the part-time employees. Beitler, Goebel, Mahin voted yea, while Horne abstained.

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 Beitler to adjourn said meeting at 9:45 p.m. Motion carried. The next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 8, 2019.

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

Red Cloud Chief, legal printing	329.14
Principal, dental insurance	505.10
R & M Disposal, trash pickup/collected on utility bills	11,618.50
State Income Tax for August	956.44
Nationwide, 8/16 retirement contributions	1,333.46
AFLAC, insurance-payroll deducted	269.81
Withholding for 8/16 payroll	1,183.50
Social Security for 8/16 payroll	2,235.50
Medicare for 8/16 payroll	546.22
Great Plains for phones & internet	1,104.25
The Lincoln National Life, life insurance	194.25
BCBS, group health	7,182.19
Various, business insurance	6,998.04
Various, officer's salary	695.74
Various, economic development	2,083.15
Various to general	2,500.11
Various to Board of Trust	833.28
Various to Historic Preservation	499.89
Nationwide, 9/1 retirement contribution	1,314.56
Withholding for 9/1 payroll	1,052.94
Social Security for 9/1 payroll	1,880.46
Medicare for 9/1 payroll	439.80
Aramark, towels & janitorial services	388.86
Eakes, office supplies	207.82
Barco, traffic cones, signs, etc.	1,030.78
JEO, electrical system efficiency study/blight study	3,223.75
Red Cloud Municipal Airport, aviation fuel for fire trucks/chain saws	261.41
Northern Safety, safety glasses, waders, etc.	373.24
Midwest Turf & Irrigation, parts for mowers	285.02
Gary Thompson Agency, payroll audit, firemen insurance	3,183.28
Border States, parts	2,383.28
Olson Enterprises, fuel & repairs	357.81
Kenny Lumber, materials & supplies	813.92
J & A Auto Supply, parts & supplies	154.01
CPI, fuel	1,046.03
Black Hills Energy, natural gas services	804.52
Cardmember Services, water fountain, backup camera	455.71
Petty Cash, postage, title, etc.	246.21
Principal, dental insurance	404.08
Presto X, pest control	112.35

ELECTRIC

BCBS, supplemental insurance 2 months	368.82
Credit Management, garnishment	96.57
NE Child Support Payment Center, garnishment	254.75
Postmaster, utility bill postage	251.65
Electric to bond & interest	2,000.00
Nationwide, loan payment	59.81
Jason Franssen, towards cell phone bill	44.00
Joe Hersh, towards cell phone bill	44.00
NE Child Support Payment Center, garnishment	254.75
Village Pharmacy, batteries for air freshner	3.09
H.K. Scholz, power plant repairs	3,232.50
Farabee Mechanical, power plant service call	2,916.00
MEAN, purchased power for July	80,204.01
NMPP, envelopes for utility bills	59.42
Nebraska Dept. of Revenue, waste reduction & recycling	25.00
WAPA, purchased power for August	5,030.04
Utilities Section LOM, annual utility dues	730.00
Salaries	12,296.95

WATER

Water, CM water reserve	625.00
NE Public Health Env. Lab, water analysis	295.00
Hawkins, fluoride	276.31
One Call Concept, line locates	2.69
NE Rural Water Assn., annual dues	175.00
Salaries	4,632.77

SEWER

Sewer to CM sewer reserve	625.00
Iowa Pump Works, #2 sewer pump repairs	3,235.14

STREET

Norder Supply, chemicals	147.96
Verizon, cell phone bills	49.72
Jerry Spady Chevrolet, 2014 pickup(replace 1984 pickup)	25,325.00
Kucera Construction, grading Welsch Street	225.00
C & D Service Center, repairs to Bobcat grapple	168.76
Bladen Sand & Gravel, millings	1,089.75
Salaries	2,711.58

GENERAL

Hometown Leasing, copier lease	110.00
John Hodge, Attorney, legal services	75.00
General to police fund	1,916.54
NE Dept. of Agriculture, dog shelter annual fee	175.00
Webster County Sheriff, issue five citations	78.00
Garwood & McCracken, attorney fees since 12/11/2018	7,290.61
League of NE Municipalities, annual dues	1,040.00
Bear Graphics, city checks	224.95

COMMUNITY CENTER

Presto X, pest control	40.66
Kim Danehey-Nibbe, August contract payment	975.00
Energized Electric, furnace filters	178.28
CEI Security & Sound, UPS for camera's	123.00
Eagle Broadband, cable TV	88.61

LIBRARY

Real Simple, 1 year subscription	24.00
People, 1 year subscription	118.26
Auld Public Library, DVD's	67.84
Baker & Taylor, books	405.5
O'Keefe Elevator, quarterly testing of elevator	307.17
Red Cloud Chief, annual subscription renewal	32.50
Salaries	1,427.61

FIRE

Heritage Bank, loan payment	731.98
Mid Rivers 911, user fee	350.00
Platte Valley Communications, pager repairs	181.50
U-Line, janitorial services	146.64

BOARD OF TRUST

Frank Degener, mowing properties	180.00
Frank Degener, mowing properties	90.00

CONSUMERS(METER DEPOSITS)

City of Red Cloud, applied deposits to utility bills	109.19
Arterburn, refund balance of deposit	90.81
City of Red Cloud, applies deposit to utility bill	8.24
Lukes, refund balance of deposit	191.76
City of Red Cloud, applied deposits to utility bills	200.00

City of Red Cloud, applied deposits to utility bills	266.91
Evans, refund deposit	133.09
SWIMMING POOL	
Black Hills Energy, final bill	69.32
Salaries	6,209.77
C & D SITE	
NDEQ – Fiscal Services annual operating fee	750.00
Salaries	554.38
CEMETERY	
Dalton Long, towards cell phone bill	33.00
Salaries	1,000.91
TIF	
CPI, TIF payment	6,209.80
POLICE	
Webster County Sheriff, August contract payment	3,854.29
PARK	
Salaries	2,443.08
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$247,517.55

Todd Brown, Mayor

ATTEST: Sue Meline, City Clerk

