

CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2018

As per notice in the Red Cloud Chief the Mayor and City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, October 2, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. in the conference room of the Red Cloud Community Center. Members present: Mayor Ratzlaff; Council members Horne, Knehans, Reynolds; Attorney McCracken; Superintendent Mahin and Clerk Meline. Councilman Phillips was unable to attend.

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.

The Sheriff's Report was presented to the council for their approval. Horne made the motion and was seconded by Reynolds to approve the report as presented. Motion carried.

The next scheduled item was to discuss uses for the Scout Lodge. Mike Goebel stated the group was not yet ready to make their presentation and asked if it could be put on the November agenda.

Jarrod McCartney, Heritage Tourism Development Director met with the council with some updates. He had sent a copy of his update to the Clerk to be put in the agenda packet. He answered the questions raised by the council. He requested that Jill Swartzendruber be appointed to the Economic Development Advisory Board. Reynolds made the motion and was seconded by Knehans to appoint Jill Swartzendruber to said board. Motion carried. He did state that the Economic Development Advisory Board would like the City to look into conducting a Cost-Benefit Analysis of Annexing areas to the north and to the west of the City approximately along the Highway 136 corridor stretching to Landmark Implement(Rd 1100) and along Highway 281 north to around Road H including the Animal Hospital.

Amanda Hajny, Cherry Corner Estates Director, was scheduled to meet with the council but was unable to attend. She gave the Financial Report and an update to Superintendent Mahin which he then presented. There is currently one empty room, two on a waiting list and one possible admit. She also sent a check in the amount of \$20,000 to go towards the payment of the bonds.

Next Lori Brown met with the council in regards to her concerns for excessive speed in the area of 8th Avenue and Franklin Street on the east/west road. She asked the council if they would consider posting Stop Signs on both sides of Franklin Street on 8th Avenue. After a brief discussion Horne made the motion and was seconded by Knehans to draw up a resolution for the Stop Signs. Motion carried. Clerk Meline will draw up the resolution and present at the November meeting.

Next Mayor Ratzlaff stated we were at the point for Public Comments, but no one in attendance wished to address the council.

Reynolds made the motion and was seconded by Knehans to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Knehans made the motion and was seconded by Horne to approve the Financial Reports and City Sales Tax for September. Motion carried. The City Sales Tax for the month of July received in September was \$16,896.79 compared to \$15,897.08 for the same month last year.

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

Since the resignation of Todd Mahin from the Board of Trust, the board presented the name of Val Phelps to take his place. Knehans made the motion and was seconded by Reynolds to approve Val Phelps to the Board of Trust. Motion carried.

Todd Mahin also needed to be replaced on the Health Insurance Committee. Horne made the motion and was seconded by Reynolds to have Clerk Meline serve on the committee. Motion carried.

A letter of resignation was received from Terri Eberly from the Historic Preservation Commission. Horne made the motion and was seconded by Knehans to accept her letter of resignation. Motion carried.

The Historic Preservation Commission presented three properties to the council for their approval to be named to the Local Historic Register. The properties nominated are: Red Brick House at 137 North Seward Street, Hedge/Illian Field at 5th and Locust and the Beal/Grigg House at 441 West 6th Avenue. Knehans made the motion and was seconded by Reynolds to approve the properties nominated to the Local Historic Register. Motion carried.

The Historic Preservation Commission is in need of a replacement and they recommended Peter Osborne to fill the vacancy. Reynolds made the motion and was seconded by Knehans to approve Peter Osborne to the Historic Preservation Commission. Motion carried.

There is also a vacancy on the Library Board and they requested that Peter Osborne be considered to replace Courtney Beacom Utecht. Knehans made the motion and was seconded by Reynolds to appoint Peter Osborne to the Library Board. Motion carried.

Promoting hunting was next on the agenda. Councilwoman Reynolds stated she would like to table this till next summer.

Next Councilwoman Knehans had asked the Martin Luther King Holiday be put on the agenda. She feels the City should observe this holiday by closing for the holiday. After some discussion, Knehans made the motion and was seconded by Reynolds to observe Martin Luther King Day. Knehans and Reynolds voted yea, while Horne voted nay. Motion carried.

Attorney McCracken stated he is going to have to re-take pictures of the nuisance/court properties as some have gone past the eighteen month statute of limitation and he we will have to refile. Also for the council's information he stated U S Cellular is looking into replacing their tower up by the old packing plant with a taller tower and most likely will increase their monthly payment to the City.

Superintendent Mahin gave a general update: general update of work being done by the employees; DEQ conducted their annual inspection of the Compost Site and they found no issues; October 10th NMPP is holding a Generation Workshop in Kearney and he signed Jason, Joe and Hayes to attend. The workshop covers operational procedures of generating in the Power Plant. He informed the council that there were a total of 156 bales of hay from the Cemetery, Sewer Lagoon and C & D/Compost Site. Our agreement with Rasser is 60/40 split. The Dam Project seems to be at a standstill until a decision is made as how to proceed. It was Todd's recommendation to end our contract with JEO until the council decides how to proceed. Todd had been contacted by Jim Farmer in regards to the City supplying an employee and loader for four hours to move the tires around during their Tire Recycling Pickup on Friday November 2. After some discussion Horne made the motion and was seconded by Reynolds to provide one man and the loader for four hours unless a priority arises for the City. Motion carried. During the month of October Tri-Sign Company will be installing the awning above the west windows and entry door. The City Crew will be making repairs to a water main that feeds the football field meter pit. The crew from NPPD will be here to install the new Load Tap Changer

Controller on the 69kv Transformer. They will take oil samples to establish a historic trend on the LTC oil. Work will continue at the Webster County Courthouse HVAC service.

A fence permit was issued during September to Amanda Hajny.

The council then turned their attention to Old Business which is the nuisance properties. Attorney McCracken stated that the Board of Trust may try to purchase the property at 229 South Seward at the Sheriff's Sale. Knehans made the motion and was seconded by Reynolds to remove 226 North Cherry and 506 North Seward Street from the prosecuting attorney list. Motion carried. The property at 226 N. Cherry was purchased and demolished and the Board of Trust bought the property at 506 North Seward Street. McCracken stated he needs to check the file on 137 North Walnut at the courthouse to check on the status. After some discussion, Knehans made the motion and was seconded by Reynolds to authorize Attorney McCracken and Attorney Hodge to use their judgement on prioritizing the Nuisance Properties and Keeping Track Properties as to sending letters and/or moving to the Prosecuting List. Motion carried. Attorney McCracken will present their findings to the council at their November meeting.

Under New Business, Councilwoman Reynolds felt the discussion of replacing the City Superintendent should be handled in open session instead of executive session as requested earlier on. The council agreed there was no need to go into executive at this point. There was a discussion as to the job description and what is expected of the position. Clerk Meline will e-mail everything in the job description and what is in the Municipal Code Book pertaining to the position for the council to look over. It was decided to start advertising immediately.

Clerk Meline informed the council that Ana Armstrong had a question as to bringing a food vendor truck in for a special event at On The Brix as to where the truck would be allowed to park. The council can take no action on this as it wasn't on the agenda but will think about it and to have Ana attend the November meeting. Horne made the motion and was seconded by Knehans to enter into executive session for two employee evaluations at 8:29 p.m. Motion carried. Knehans made the motion and was seconded by Reynolds to resume the open meeting at 8:42 p.m. Motion carried. Horne made the motion and was seconded by Knehans to approve raises for the City Clerk and Cemetery/Park employee. 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 Reynolds to adjourn said meeting at 8:43 p.m. Motion carried.

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

Principal, dental insurance	622.61
Presto X, exterminating services	69.55
R & M Disposal, trash pickup/collection from utility bills	11,793.00
Nationwide, 9/16 retirement contribution	1,353.76
Medicare, 9/16 payroll	414.12
Social Security, 9/16 payroll	1,770.66
Withholding, 9/16 payroll	916.30
State Income Tax, for the month of September	753.95
Great Plains, telephone bill	1,133.51
United HealthCare, health insurance	6,241.03
The Lincoln National Life Insurance, life insurance	186.20
AFLAC, insurance, payroll deducted	303.71
Red Cloud Chief, legal printing	1,127.95
R/C light/Water, annual transfers on City properties	50,146.27

Various, business insurance transfer	7,358.16
Nationwide, retirement loan payments	322.68
Various, officer's salary	695.82
Various, economic development	2,083.35
Various, general	2,499.99
Various, October to Board of Trust	833.34
Various, to Historic Preservation Commission	500.01
Nationwide, 10/1 retirement contribution	1,570.15
Withholding, 10/1 payroll	1,177.51
Social Security, 10/1 payroll	2,061.16
Medicare, 10/1 payroll	482.06
Eakes, office/janitorial supplies	172.67
Deisley Excavating & Trucking, push C & D Site/Compost	927.50
Aramark, janitorial services	352.84
C & D Service, parts & supplies	916.59
J & A, parts & supplies	86.20
Olson Enterprises, fuel	756.84
Kenny Lumber, materials & supplies	311.44
CPI, fuel	192.22
Petty Cash, postage, cert. letter, supplies	221.51

ELECTRIC

NE Child Support Payment Center, 9/16 garnishment	254.75
NE Child Support Payment Center, 9/16 garnishment	265.50
Adams County Court, garnishment	71.03
BlueCross BlueShield, supplement insurance	876.57
Zee Medical Service, 1 st aid kit supplies	52.35
Postmaster, postage-utility bills	231.71
Electric, for bond & interest	2,000.00
Dutton Lainson, supplies	7.39
MEAN, purchased power for August	73,918.75
Nebraska.gov, swipe machine	257.25
Presto X, pest control at power plant	93.09
Hatten Electric, start capacitors	9.60
Farabee Mechanical, consultation	5,440.00
WAPA, purchased power for September	3,924.87
Salaries	15,498.94

WATER

Water, to CM water reserve	625.00
Jason Franssen, towards cell phone bill	44.00
Joe Hersh, towards cell phone bill	44.00
Adams County Clerk, garnishment	71.03
NE Child Support Pymt. 10/1 garnishment	265.50

NE Child Support Pymt., 10/1 garnishment	254.75
Village Pharmacy, water sample expense	8.00
NE Public Health Env. Lab, water analysis	30.00
SEWER	
Sewer, Oct. to CM Sewer Reserve	625.00
GENERAL	
Hometown Leasing, lease payment on copier	110.00
General, police fund	1,916.51
Webster County Public Transportation, share of public transportation	3,692.65
John W. Hodge, Attorney, attorney fees	75.00
Dan Benedict, computer assistance	150.00
Heritage Bank, annual payment on mower	3,239.13
STREET	
Verizon, cell phone bill	60.54
Dalton Long, towards cell phone bill	33.00
Bladen Sand & Gravel, road gravel	93.09
Salaries	2,218.06
LIBRARY	
Real Simple, subscription renewal	24.00
NE Library, Overdrive subscription renewal	500.00
Auld Public Library, janitorial supplies, registrations	238.20
Baker & Taylor, books	339.45
Salaries	1,366.68
COMMUNITY CENTER	
Presto X, pest control	39.59
Eagle Communications, cable TV	86.59
Kim Danehey-Nibbe, contract payment	950.00
BOARD OF TRUST	
Frank Degener, mow/trim BOT properties	250.00
Kenny's Lumber, painting supplies	577.81

FIRE

J & A Auto, supplies	36.22
Heritage Bank, loan pymt. on fire storage bldg.	731.98
Mid Rivers 911, October 911 user fee	350.00
MES, protective gloves	2,526.00
Darin Barnes, supplies for Fire Prevention Week	671.00
RC Volunteer Fire Dept. repairs to 550	281.58

PARK

Hometown Market, janitorial supplies	7.37
Salaries	2,168.94

POLICE

Webster County Sheriff, contract payment	3,854.29
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COMPOST

R & M Disposal, Clean-up day	2,971.00
Salaries	890.01

CEMETERY

Mid West Turf, mower repairs	84.93
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TIF

CPI Elevator, 1/2 of TIF payment	2,930.10
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CONSUMERS

City of Red Cloud, applies deposits to utility bills	400.00
Total Expenses	\$239,087.46

Gary Ratzlaff, Mayor

ATTEST: Sue Meline, City Clerk

