

City Council Meeting Minutes
December 19, 2023

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Schuyler, Nebraska, met in regular session at the Schuyler Municipal Building on December 19, 2023 at 6:00 o'clock PM in a publicly convened session, the same being open to the public and having been preceded by posting a copy of the notice in three public places in the city, as evidenced by Attachment A hereto, said form of notice being the designated method for giving notice. The Mayor and City Council received advance notice of the meeting. A copy of their acknowledgment of receipt of such notice is attached to these minutes. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the meeting was open to the attendance of the public. Mayor Lindberg convened the meeting and Clerk Lora Johnson recorded the proceedings. The following council members were present: Baumert, Holmberg, Kasik, Kretz, Rodriguez and Wolfe. Absent: no one.

Council member Baumert moved to appoint LB840 Loan Review Board of Bret Schroder, Tim Healy and Zach Johnson for a term of 2023-2027. Council member Holmberg seconded the motion. Council member Kasik asked what this board does. Housing Specialist Bywater stated there are various loan programs that operate through the LB840 sales tax. They are a board that reviews the application and financials and they then make their recommendations to the SCD Board. Voting for: Baumert, Holmberg, Kasik, Kretz, Rodriguez and Wolfe. Voting against: no one. Motion carried.

Mayor Lindberg wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Administrator DeRoos reported the Police Station Renovation extras are being reviewed that are not part of the project such as furniture, security and internet. He included a timeline of work done and what is still needing to be done. (Attachment B) He is waiting on MOU with the Veteran's. The Ballroom roof bids are on the agenda for approval. The Oak Ballroom New Year's Eve event has sponsors and flyers out advertising. The Spanish version of the flyer will be coming soon. Since this is the last meeting of the year, he read a summary of projects completed or started in 2023 in the attachment.

Clerk Johnson reported the auditors will be here on December 27th and 28th and the Council is invited to come in and visit with them if they have questions. She will also be at the Utilities for a couple days.

Interim Utility Superintendent Sobota asked if Council had any questions on their budget. Mayor Lindberg stated that they will wait to ask questions when they get to the item on the agenda.

Police Chief Farber reported that Officer Alvarado has graduated and is riding with Officer Reed currently learning the ropes.

Ballroom Manager Rodriguez reported that the current sponsors are El Patron, Schuyler Inn, Albers All Around, Homestead Bank and Schuyler Grocery. She hopes to see everyone in attendance. Council member Kasik asked what the sponsors are providing. Rodriguez stated monetary donations to help pay the bands and DJs'.

Housing Specialist Bywater reported that the Water Tower Subdivision has had three foundations poured. There is currently seven houses under construction in that area now. The Mares property is having a preliminary plat drawn up and the next step will be to take it to the Utilities for review. The plat consists of 24 lots of various sizes and has two dedicated Streets.

Council member Baumert moved to approve the December 5, 2023 council meetings minutes and dispense with its reading. Council member Kasik seconded the motion. Voting for: Baumert, Holmberg, Kasik, Kretz, Rodriguez and Wolfe. Voting against: no one. Motion carried.

Council member Baumert moved to approve payment of claims for the period from December 2, 2023 through December 15, 2023, in the amount of \$364,379.27 and the following exceeding \$1,000: Sirsi Corporation, Software, Library, \$7,735.16; JEO, Eng. Fees, Admin/Street, \$14,552.50; Karel & Seckman, Legal Fees, Admin/LB840, \$2,928.00; Prochaska Tire, Oil, Streets, \$1,097.25; MacQueen Equip, Sweeper Repairs, Streets, \$2,872.31; Schuyler Coop, Fuel, Admin/Streets/Parks/Transit, \$1,865.01; Prime Secured, Security, Police, \$67,666.50; Kracl Garage, Repairs, Street, \$5,875.33. All claims under \$1,000 listed on (Attachment 1). Council member Kasik seconded the motion. Council member Kretz asked if Prime Secured was the security at the renovated police station. Administrator

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DeRoos stated it was for security cameras and electronic door fobs. Clerk Johnson stated that was charge for equipment not the labor. Mayor Lindberg asked if the MacQueen bill is for the sweeper just purchased last year? Parks and Street Manager Colvin responded it is that the brake master cylinder blew up on them and they were unable to repair it on their own and had to have them come out to repair. Voting for: Baumert, Holmberg, Kasik, Kretz, Rodriguez and Wolfe. Voting against: no one. Motion carried.

Council member Rodriguez moved to accept the November 2023 Treasurer's Report. Council member Holmberg seconded the motion. Voting for: Baumert, Holmberg, Kasik, Kretz, Rodriguez and Wolfe. Voting against: no one. Motion carried.

Council member Holmberg introduced the second reading of Ordinance 2023-22, the title being: AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SCHUYLER, NEBRASKA, AMENDING THE ZONING MAP TO CHANGE PROPERTY ZONED R1, SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL, TO GC, GENERAL COMMERCIAL WAS FILED BY 4 WALLS LLC. THE PROPERTY IS LOCATED INSIDE THE CITY LIMITS AND LEGAL DESCRIPTION IS LOTS 1 AND 2, 4 WALLS MINOR SUBDIVISION, A SUBDIVISION OF THE CITY OF SCHUYLER, COLFAX COUNTY, NEBRASKA. Council member Rodriguez seconded the motion. Voting for: Baumert, Holmberg, Kasik, Kretz, Rodriguez and Wolfe. Voting against: no one. Motion carried.

Council member Holmberg moved to waive the third reading of Ordinance 2023-22. Council member Kasik seconded the motion. Voting for: Baumert, Holmberg, Kasik, Kretz, Rodriguez and Wolfe. Voting against: no one. Motion carried.

Council member Holmberg moved for final passage. Council member Baumert seconded the motion. Voting for: Baumert, Holmberg, Kasik, Kretz, Rodriguez and Wolfe. Voting against: no one. Ordinance No. 2023-22 was passed and adopted.

Council member Rodriguez moved to approve City of Schuyler, Board of Public Works, Department of Utilities 2024 Budget and Capital Improvements. Council member Holmberg seconded the motion. Administrator DeRoos stated that it looks like they are going in the hole \$11,000,000. He asked for projected revenues for the future and capital improvements. Interim Utility Superintendent Sobota said they will see how things play out this year. DeRoos stated your going \$11,000,000 in the hole and you are just going to see. Sobota replied they will be taking money out of the capital reserve to do what they are doing. DeRoos asked if they will be built back up in time for future capital improvement projects, like a waste water station that will cost \$20,000,000 in the future. Sobota stated that they just discussed that and will start setting aside for it over the next 5 years. DeRoos questioned if the amounts were the same on both documents. Mayor Lindberg stated fiscal budget capital improvement amounts are different. Clerk Johnson stated that on the fiscal budget the capital improvements add up to \$13,432,005 and on the Capital Improvement document they add up to \$11,839,335 for a difference \$1,592,670. Sobota responded he is new and fresh on this. DeRoos stated he is not trying to put him on the spot but he thinks the council needs to be presented on all aspects of the budget. Council member Baumert said it would be an education for everyone. Council member Holmberg asked how DeRoos comes up with \$11,000,000. DeRoos stated that the net loss for each category adds up to that. Voting for: Kretz. Voting against: Baumert, Holmberg, Kasik, Rodriguez and Wolfe. Motion failed.

Council member Baumert moved to approve bid from McCurdy Roofing for roof replacement at the Oak Ballroom for the \$86,475.00. Council member Kasik seconded the motion. Council member Kretz read that the bid says water shield per code and any step or chimney flashing needed. Ice and water shield will be installed on any roof slopes 4/12 or less. Kretz does not feel that is adequate for the roof with the possibility of large snow causing the roof to leak. Administrator DeRoos asked what would be adequate. Kretz responded another 12' up the 8/12 slope. Administrator DeRoos stated there is two ways they could move forward. They could decline the bid and alter the specifications and go out to bid again. They could also work with them and see if they would be willing to amend their bid, then no time will be lost. Council member Holmberg does not want to rebid since they all know what the others bid and it could raise the cost even more. Mayor Lindberg stated there are no valleys in that roof it's all California Style, are we supposed to replicate the current roof for the grant. Administrator DeRoos stated it is supposed to be replicated or done as close to

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the original as possible to keep the historic nature. Council member Holmberg said there is 168 feet of valleys on the bid, he questioned is there no valleys. Mayor Lindberg stated that is using metal sheeting and currently there are shingles in those areas. He asked which way do they want it. Council member Baumert asked if the Building Inspector had any opinion on the bid. Administrator DeRoos stated that the Building Inspector helped draft the bid invitation. Council member Kretz asked for a quote to add to current bid. Council member Baumert and Kasik amended their motion to table the motion. Voting for: Baumert, Holmberg, Kasik, Kretz, Rodriguez and Wolfe. Voting against: no one. Motion carried.

Mayor Lindberg opened discussion on Campground Rates. Administrator DeRoos stated they would like to order envelopes for the next campground season and on those envelopes are the rates. Parks and Street Manager Colvin stated that we are the lowest priced campground around. He stated David City is \$40 to \$45 a night. He stated we no longer have the \$10 sites. He thinks \$5 to a \$10 increase. He doesn't want to price us out of getting the long-term campers. Our cost has increased but we have not raised rates in a long time. Council member Holmberg stated game and parks is \$35 and \$30. He feels \$30 for a full service would be a good rate. Colvin stated we are one of the few allowing long term camping and that maybe there could be a different rate for them. Colvin would also like to charge for dumping services. Council member Holmberg stated that would be hard to regulate. He did think the host could have more responsibilities since they stay for free.

Mayor Lindberg opened discussion on Schuyler Animal Control. Administrator DeRoos stated that process currently is the Police Officer captures the animal they then bring it over to the Street Department who cares for the dog. The Administration Office is the one that then deals with the owner to collect the fines and then they go pick up at Street Department. They need to provide proof of rabies vaccine while licensing the dog, but are at times unable to do so until the city releases the dog back to the owner for them to take them to get their shots. Then at times the owners are not coming back to provide proof of rabies. The processing of the payments causes issues when the owners come in and question why they are losing their dog. The Administration Office has to call the police officer to have them discuss the issue and then coordination also has to be done with the Street Department for releasing dogs. He has been looking into a better way to handle the dogs. He has contacted the local veterinarian to see if they could possibly house the dogs picked up or if they would come out to our facility to vaccinate the dogs before they are released to the owner. Then moving the processing of the tickets at the police station. Chief Farber stated the veterinarian office did tell them that they could possibly license the dogs there when they get their vaccinations so it is a one stop shop. They are looking at similar cities and contracts they have with their veterinarians. The vet also felt the City and County should combine to have an animal control or human society for the entire county for dogs and cats since it is a county wide problem. 120 dogs were picked up last year. Of those dogs 88 were returned to owner and not housed, 32 were taken to Street Department, and 23 were unclaimed and were taken to Paws and Claws. Mayor Lindberg stated for them to keep collecting information and it can be discussed more in the future.

Council member Kasik moved to table the motion to move into executive session to discuss an employee matter. Council member Holmberg seconded the motion. Voting for: Baumert, Holmberg, Kasik, Kretz, Rodriguez and Wolfe. Voting against: no one. Motion carried.

Council member Baumert moved to table the motion to approve the employee contract for the Administrator. Council member Holmberg seconded the motion. Voting for: Baumert, Holmberg, Kasik, Kretz, Rodriguez and Wolfe. Voting against: no one. Motion carried.

Council member Rodriguez moved to adjourn. Council member Baumert seconded the motion. Voting for: Baumert, Holmberg, Kasik, Kretz, Rodriguez and Wolfe. Voting against: no one. Motion carried.

ATTEST:

Mayor Art Lindberg

City Clerk

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STATE OF NEBRASKA)
COUNTY OF COLFAX) SS
CITY OF SCHUYLER)

I, Lora Johnson, City Clerk for the City of Schuyler, Nebraska, hereby certify that all of the subjects included in the foregoing proceedings were contained in the agenda for said meeting, kept continually current and available for public inspection at the office of the City Clerk; that such subjects were in said agenda for at least twenty-four hours prior to said meeting; that the minutes of the City Council of Schuyler, Nebraska, from which the foregoing proceedings have been extracted, were in written form and available for public inspection within ten working days and prior to the next council meeting.

City Clerk Lora Johnson