

City Council Meeting Minutes February 15, 2022

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Schuyler, Nebraska, met in regular session at the Schuyler Municipal Building on February 15, 2022 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 Knutson convened the meeting and Deputy Clerk Joan Mejstrik recorded the proceedings. The following council members were present: Baumert, Holmberg, Kasik, Kment, Kretz and Rodriguez. Absent: no one.

Mayor Knutson read a letter sent by Sandy Seckman stating that travel around the Schuyler Golf Club is a very busy pedestrian walk way. She would like to see something done to keep these residents of Schuyler safe.

Mayor Knutson then announced he was told by citizen Jerry Mundil that he does not like the idea of taking the booths out of the ballroom. The booths are being stored, a few were damaged as they were removed but could be repaired and placed back into the ballroom. Administrator DeRoos stated there has been interest in purchasing the booths

Council member Baumert reported on the Public Safety meeting that they talked about a lot of things and came up with a lot of solutions and every solution ran into a brick wall for one reason or another.

Attorney Seckman reported that at the Downtown Revitalization Committee they came up with a letter to send that they were going to have the Mayor sign and an officer serve to the property owner with a deadline of when improvements have to be done.

Administrator DeRoos reported he had Parks and Street Manager Colvin look into the cost of speed bumps, one speed bump will cost \$588 for removable bumps. The Oak Ballroom renovation is on it's way the entire wood flooring has been taken out. Asbestos abatement has also started and will be finished quickly. The bond for the Police Station has gone through, they are going out to sell it. He was contacted by Cory Brodersen with JEO about the service contract they are going to be utilizing some old plans which will cut down on the cost of new plans.

Emergency Manager Evert reported Covid cases have dropped and hospitalization. We are still in cold and flu season. There are antiviral medications available for anyone who gets Covid. The health district will have covid test available at the Schuyler Library free to the public.

Police Chief Farber reported they had five arrests, three for controlled substance, one distributing case and one sexual assault case.

Parks & Street Manager Colvin reported that they took all the booths out in two days and they are stored in storage at this time.

Library Director White reported they are having a Red Cross blood drive on Thursday from 11:30 to 5:30 and then Thursday night at 6:00 they will be having Craft Night.

Economic Development Director Brandenburgh reported she went with Officer Andel and Building Inspector Glodowski to create the list of properties that Attorney Seckman referred to. She has not completed the letters yet, but she will be adding photos to the letters as well. The Schuyler Leadership class met and are working on branding of a new Schuyler logo.

Housing Specialist Bywater reported he recently traveled to Albion. He was invited by the Nebraska Community Foundation to speak about Schuyler successes in housing development. He was able to give credit to the City Council, CDA, and Department of Utilities. While at Albion he was able to hear what Albion along with Boone County are doing to bring new amenities into their community. They have added an aquatic center, child development center, trail system and agricultural education center.

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Council member Baumert moved to approve the February 1, 2022 council meeting minutes and dispense with its reading. Council member Rodriguez seconded the motion. Council member Kasik asked about DeRoos report of Yost withdrawing his request for the city to vacate the Street. She talked with Yost and he told her he did not want to withdraw the request. DeRoos stated he had told him he wanted to retract and then he changed his mind. Attorney Seckman stated he will address it in item 11. Voting for: Baumert, Holmberg, Kasik, Kment, Kretz and Rodriguez. Voting against: no one. Motion carried.

Council member Holmberg moved to approve payment of claims for the period from January 29, 2022 through February 11, 2022, in the amount of \$135,475.48 and the following exceeding \$1,000: Colfax County Food Pantry, Reimburse Food, CDBG Grant, \$5,434.14; Petty Cash – Ballroom, Bar Supplies, Ballroom, \$1,123.00; Uline, Picnic Tables/Shelters, Parks, \$1,691.68; Regier Carr & Monroe, Audit Services, Admin., \$5,500.00; Karel & Seckman, Legal Fees, Streets/Ballroom/Admin/Police, \$2,310.00; JEO, Flood Risk Evaluation, Admin, \$12,255.00; Cenex Voyager Fleet, Fuel, Streets/Police/Transit, \$1,217.86; Jones Automotive, Upfit Durango, Police, \$8,197.38. All claims under \$1,000 listed on (Attachment 1). Council member Kasik seconded the motion. Voting for: Baumert, Holmberg, Kasik, Kment, Kretz and Rodriguez. Voting against: no one. Motion carried.

Council member Baumert moved to accept the 2022 January Treasurer's Report. Council member Holmberg seconded the motion. Voting for: Baumert, Holmberg, Kasik, Kment, Kretz and Rodriguez. Voting against: no one. Motion carried.

Council member Holmberg moved to approve bid from ME Collins in the amount of \$584,504.00 for the 2022 Denver Street & Downtown Improvements funds coming from Street Capital Improvement. Council member Baumert seconded the motion. Steve Parr with JEO was present and stated that they were able to get two separate bids. He stated JEO recommends the council goes with ME Collins. Voting for: Baumert, Holmberg, Kasik, Kment, Kretz and Rodriguez. Voting against: no one. Motion carried.

Council member Kasik moved to table agreement with JEO and authorize JEO to prepare plans and bid specifications for Schuyler Police Station Renovation and Addition. Council member Rodriguez seconded the motion. Voting for: Baumert, Holmberg, Kasik, Kment, Kretz and Rodriguez. Voting against: no one. Motion carried.

Council member Kretz introduced the second reading of Ordinance 2022-04, the title being: AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SCHUYLER, NEBRASKA, TO AUTHORIZE THE SALE OF REAL ESTATE OWNED BY THE CITY OF SCHUYLER, NEBRASKA, SCHUYLER DEPARTMENT OF UTILITIES, AND DESCRIBED AS LOTS 11 AND 14, BLOCK 3, WATER TOWER SUBDIVISION, SECOND ADDITION, TO THE CITY OF SCHUYLER, COLFAX COUNTY, NEBRASKA, TO VALLEY DRIVE PROPERTIES, LLC, A NEBRASKA LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY, FOR THE SUM OF \$50,000.00, WITH AUTHORIZATION MADE PURSUANT TO NEBRASKA REVISED STATUTE SECTION 16-202 (REISSUE 2012); PROVIDING BUYER TO BUILD RESIDENCES COMPLETED AND SOLD WITHIN 24 MONTHS FOR DISCOUNT OF \$20,000.00 PER LOT WITH PAYMENT WAIVED IN THAT EVENT; AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SIGN THE REAL ESTATE PURCHASE AGREEMENT, WARRANTY DEED AND ANY REAL ESTATE SALE CLOSING DOCUMENTS; PROVIDING FOR NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. Council member Rodriguez seconded the motion. Voting for: Baumert, Holmberg, Kasik, Kment, Kretz and Rodriguez. Voting against: no one. Motion carried.

Council member Holmberg moved to waive the three-reading rule. Council member Kasik seconded the motion. Voting for: Baumert, Holmberg, Kasik, Kment, Kretz and Rodriguez. Voting against: no one. Motion carried.

Council member Kment moved for final passage. Council member Baumert seconded the motion. Voting for: Baumert, Holmberg, Kasik, Kment, Kretz and Rodriguez. Voting against: no one. Motion carried. Ordinance No. 2022-04 was passed and adopted.

Council member Holmberg introduced the first reading of Ordinance 2022-05, the title being: AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SCHUYLER, NEBRASKA, VACATING THE STREET DESCRIBED AS EAST 21ST STREET BETWEEN

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COLFAX STREETS AND "A" STREETS BEING A STREET 68 FEET IN WIDTH; PURSUANT TO NEBRASKA STATUTE SECTION 16-611, CITY OF SCHUYLER, NEBRASKA, RESERVES AN EASEMENT TO THE SOUTH 40 FEET OF SAID STREET FOR UTILITY PURPOSES; TITLE TO THE SUBJECT STREET BEING VACATED AND SUBJECT TO THE RESERVATION OF THE EASEMENT IN FAVOR OF THE CITY OF SCHUYLER, NEBRASKA, SHALL VEST IN THE OWNERS OF THE ABUTTING PROPERTIES, ONE-HALF ON EACH SIDE THEREOF; TO REPEAL ALL ORDINANCES OR PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH; TO PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE DATE. Council member Rodriguez seconded the motion. Attorney Seckman stated he has had communication with Andy Yost. He stated since he has measured how much land will become his and that most of the trees are not on his part so he would like to keep moving forward with the vacating. His current garage is only 9 feet off of where his new property line would be. Seckman does have a concern that the residents to the south have not been notified of this. He suggests that they just pass one reading of the ordinance tonight until the property owners on the south are notified. Utility Superintendent McGowen stated he spoke with the property owner on Monday and dropped off a copy of the vacated ordinance, he included an aerial photo of the property and where the water lines run. He asked for it also to be only read once until the Administrator or himself talk to them. Voting for: Baumert, Holmberg, Kasik, Kment, Kretz and Rodriguez. Voting against: no one. Motion carried.

Council member Kretz moved to approve and authorize the Mayor to sign the Protective Covenants, Conditions, Restrictions, Easements and Improvements for Water Tower Subdivision Fourth Addition, contingent on the approval of the Minor Subdivision by the Planning Commission on February 22nd. Council member Kasik seconded the motion. Attorney Seckman stated that this is something Utility Superintendent McGowen and himself have been working on, currently McGowen has a Minor Subdivision filed for six new lots. McGowen stated it was similar to the other Water Tower Subdivisions Covenants. Voting for: Baumert, Holmberg, Kasik, Kment, Kretz and Rodriguez. Voting against: no one. Motion carried.

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

ATTEST:

Mayor Jon Knutson

City Clerk

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