

City Council Meeting Minutes
May 3, 2022

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Schuyler, Nebraska, met in regular session at the Schuyler Municipal Building on May 3, 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 Clerk Lora Johnson recorded the proceedings. The following council members were present: Holmberg, Kasik, Kment, Kretz and Rodriguez. Absent: Baumert.

Mayor Knutson read the press release from the Department of Utilities about the power outage on April 29th and 30th.

Mayor Knutson reported he made calls and was at the Utility Department on Friday night when the power went out. He said the Utilities wanted to keep the notice of 24 hour outage since it was still unknown if Cornhusker or Loop would be able to get online. He said everyone worked well together.

City Attorney Seckman reported he is working with City staff on a couple ordinances for temporary signage and parking. Those will first go to the Planning and Zoning Commission before it moves on to the council.

Administrator DeRoos commended everyone for their hard work during the power outage. He reported during the event he observed ways to improve for the next emergency. There were issues with the Police radios during the outage. He would like to tag \$200,000 of the ARPA funds for a shed to house equipment at the base of a tower in town to upgrade the radio system. He also tagged \$600,000 for the police station renovation project, \$100,000 for the project with the school for the softball fields, and \$15,000 for ADA chairlift at the pool. The police chief and himself met with a local business person that will be able to house a temporary location for the police while the renovation is underway. Denver Street construction has started. The ballroom has been leaking back in a storage room and was repaired temporarily. Construction on the salt shed has begun with dirt work. A letter was also sent to the Library Contractors with what the structural engineer stated is wrong with the library causing the water leaks. He is waiting for a response on how they plan to proceed.

Clerk Johnson reported that Sergeant interviews of two applicants will be this week. There are two applications for Police Officer that will start the process soon. She also reported that at the May 17th meeting there will be a public hearing for a special use permit for Parkview Storage.

Emergency Manager Evert reported that an EF1 tornado was reported by the National Weather Service. All damage has been documented in case we can get a disaster declaration.

Police Chief Farber reported that there was no criminal activity or accidents during the power outage. The State Patrol was in town for training so they pitched in and helped with traffic control. They have been utilizing the ICrime Fighter for code and criminal investigations between local departments and it is working well.

Street and Parks Manager Colvin reported he is talking with the state about a backup system for the stop light, and getting more stop signs that light up. He feels there is a need for backup generators at the ballroom and the police station. There were a few blocks by Elk Street where water was standing and he feels storm drains should be installed since the culverts are not handling it. They have installed benches around Carp Lake. The next step is to get solar lighting at the cost of \$1,500. The Spring Fling will be on the 13th and 14th.

Library Director White reported that they are looking for local young artist interested in comic books. They will get training from a comic book artist and get to create their own comic book to be featured in the library. Any interested children should contact the library.

Housing Specialist Bywater reported that Kelby with Progressive Builders informed him that one of the two houses being constructed by them has been sold. Houses will be 1500 sq ft. and asking price will be between \$325,000 to \$350,000. A new apartment building by the Eastview Apartments is on hold due to the rise in construction costs.

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Council member Holmberg moved to approve the April 19, 2022 council meeting minutes and dispense with its reading. Council member Kasik seconded the motion. Voting for: 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 April 16, 2022 through April 29, 2022, in the amount of \$195,723.79 and the following exceeding \$1,000: Schuyler Area Chamber of Commerce, Membership Dues, Admin, \$2,000.00; JEO, Eng. Fees, Admin/Streets, \$7,517.00; Petty Cash – Ballroom, Bar Supplies, Ballroom, \$1,072.00; D&K Products, Fertilizer, Park, \$1,914.00; Colonial Research, Paint, Streets, \$3,032.80; At-Scene, LLC, ICrimeFighter Subscription, Police, \$3,600.00; DeLeon’s Quality Flooring, Carpet Installation, Admin, \$4,750.00; Colfax County Food Pantry, Reimburse Supplies, CDBG Grant, \$4,405.00; Kohl Construction, Salt Shed Pad, Streets, \$3,195.00; Spectrum, Scoreboard, Parks, \$4,975.00; Dept. of Utilities, EMC Dividend, Admin, \$25,388.59. All claims under \$1,000 listed on (Attachment 1). Council member Rodriguez seconded the motion. Voting for: Holmberg, Kasik, Kment, Kretz and Rodriguez. Voting against: no one. Motion carried.

Council member Rodriguez moved to approve closing B Street and sidewalks from 11th Street to 12th Street on Sunday, September 4th, 2022 from 5:00 PM to 1:00 AM for the Schuyler Community School Foundation and Schuyler Chamber of Commerce Street Dance. Council member Kasik seconded the motion. Council member Kasik asked why this is not being held at the ballroom. Jedlicka with the Chamber of Commerce was present and due to low attendance, they thought changing it up to a Street Dance would help. The Ballroom is still a rain location. The Ballroom will also have Dueling Pianos on Saturday night sponsored by the Sertoma. El Patron will be supplying the alcohol. Voting for: Holmberg, Kasik, Kment, Kretz and Rodriguez. Voting against: no one. Motion carried.

Council member Kasik moved to approve the application to sell fireworks at retail to Marv’s Fireworks at 218 East 16th Street from June 25, 2022 at 12:01 AM through July 4, 2022 11:59 PM. Council member Rodriguez seconded the motion. Voting for: Holmberg, Kasik, Kment, Kretz and Rodriguez. Voting against: no one. Motion carried.

Council member Rodriguez moved to authorize sale of the 2009 Ford Crown Victoria Blue VIN#2FAHP71V69X126014 and advertise for bids by posting in three public places and publishing the notice for two weeks. Council member Kasik seconded the motion. Voting for: Holmberg, Kasik, Kment, Kretz and Rodriguez. Voting against: no one. Motion carried.

Council member Holmberg moved to adjourn. Council member Kretz seconded the motion. Voting for: 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