

City Council Meeting Minutes June 4, 2024

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Schuyler, Nebraska, met in regular session at the Schuyler Municipal Building on June 4, 2024 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, Kasik, Svoboda and Wolfe. Absent: Rodriguez.

Mayor Lindberg led the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Lindberg presented a plaque to Mrs. George (Teresa) Kretz in honor of his service to Schuyler and his service as a City Council member.

Administrator DeRoos reported that homes along the streets that are having work done have been notified at least a week ahead of time. Bierman has not been out to fix the water leaks at the Library, he has not gotten a response from them to his email he sent two weeks prior. The leaks at the Police Station have been resolved. Replacement parts for doors and window have been ordered and when they arrive, they will be installed. The 12th and B project designs have been sent over to the Colfax Foundation and Audra Jedlicka. He stated one design will need to be picked so JEO can get the project ready to go out for bids. He met with the Emergency Manager to create a new policy for when the sirens will be sounded during inclement weather. He reported that the Top Notch should be on the next agenda as they are close to having a deal made to sell the building. Council member Kasik asked if grass was going to be planted at Carnegie Park. DeRoos responded that it didn't all come up and they will plant grass in the fall.

Clerk Johnson reported she will be attending Finance School the following week and budget planning will begin after her return.

Emergency Manager Evert reported that there was no monthly test done due to cloudy weather.

Police Chief Farber reported that the Knights of Columbus Car Show went very well and with the new Expo everything was very safe. He has been having talks with School Superintendent Dr. Schroder about a potential SRO for next school year. They are discussing an MOU and finances. There continues to be an issue with DUI's in the community. They had picked up someone over .2 around noon and another was .338 around noon as well.

Library Director White reported that summer activities have started with Friday afternoon movies at 2:00 PM. Summer Reading program will begin in July on Monday's and Wednesday's. There will also be summer book bingo for young adults and adults, prize drawing will be August 2nd. Author Tammy Day from Norfolk will be at the library June 18th. They are also hosting Community Conversations at the library in conjunction with Library's Transforming Communities Grant. They are discussing how to improve library services for children and teens with special needs. They have two more sessions, one on June 6th at 11:00 AM and the other June 13th at 6:00 PM. Last she reviewed the leaking at the library is an ongoing concern. The building is six years old and has never been water tight. The main repair is the walls, but that is only one of the places water is coming in. Doors have water coming through and there is a vent on the ceiling leaking. She has reached out to the new City Attorney with all her documentation on the issues. Mayor Lindberg stated he appreciates her emails and documentation of all the issues at the library.

Community Development Coordinator and Housing Specialist Bywater reported tomorrow at noon is the Fraud Prevention Seminar at the Schuyler Senior Center. Recently SCD was selected to receive a \$500,000 a US Environmental Protection Agency Brownfields Assessment Grant. Funds will be able to be used to assess and revitalize our historic downtown and other areas of town that have lacked sufficient resources. Schuyler was the only Nebraska community selected. Key attributes that assisted in Schuyler being selected were our diverse business community, an opportunity zone, being a disadvantaged census tract and revitalization of the downtown historic district. This is a planning and assessment grant to assess buildings such as grain elevators, old power plant, Sky Theater to identify possible environmental concerns. That then opens up the possibility to apply for clean up grants with the EPA.

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He will be out of the office on June 13th attending Nebraska Economic Development Association Annual Meeting in Norfolk.

Council member Baumert moved to approve the May 21, 2024 council meetings minutes and dispense with its reading. Council member Kasik seconded the motion. Voting for: Baumert, Kasik, Svoboda and Wolfe. Voting against: no one. Motion carried.

Council member Baumert moved to approve payment of claims for the period from May 18, 2024 through May 31, 2024, in the amount of \$335,816.25 and the following exceeding \$1,000: Thiele Geotech, Inc., Material Testing, Streets, \$2,389.00; Woehl Welding Services, Salt Shed, Streets, \$10,000.00; Baker & Taylor, Books, Library, \$1,320.78; Great Plains Uniforms, Uniforms, Police, \$1,315.95; Albers All Around, Curb Repair Various Locations, Streets, \$11,400.00; Platte Valley Equipment, Repairs, Parks, \$1,992.37; Corral Auto Repairs & Towing, Repairs/Towing, Police, \$2,899.80; Arps, Concrete/Fuel, Street, \$5,679.00; Aqua-Chem, Inc., Chemicals/Parts, Pool, \$2,676.85. All claims under \$1,000 listed on (Attachment 1). Council member Wolfe seconded the motion. Voting for: Baumert, Kasik, Svoboda and Wolfe. Voting against: no one. Motion carried.

Council member Kasik nominated council member Baumert as council president.

Mayor Lindberg asked for further nominations. No further nominations were presented.

Council member Kasik moved the nominations for council president cease. Council member Wolfe seconded the motion. Voting for: Baumert, Kasik, Svoboda and Wolfe. Voting against: no one. Motion carried. Mayor Lindberg announced council member Baumert is the council president.

Mayor Lindberg opened a public hearing concerning an application from Schuyler Treats, LLC to the City of Schuyler for its Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Economic Development Revolving Loan Fund (EDRLF) Program. This grant funding is available to local governments for community development activities. A public hearing is required for these CDBG funded activities to obtain citizen input, comments, or opinions with regard to the program or project performance.

Jeff Christensen with NENEDD was present and stated that two hearings are required to give the public a chance to comment. This is the second hearing and no action is needed following the hearing.

Council member Baumert moved to close the public hearing. Council member Svoboda seconded the motion. Voting for: Baumert, Kasik, Svoboda and Wolfe. Voting against: no one. Motion carried.

Mayor Lindberg opened a public hearing concerning the amendment of its Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Economic Development Revolving Loan Fund (EDRLF) Program. The EDRLF will be discontinued, ceasing any Economic Development activities. The current EDRLF program guidelines still apply to existing projects and loans, including an ED agreement from 2019. The CDBG funds have been used for activities that have primarily benefited low-to-moderate income persons and did not result in the residential displacement of people.

Jeff Christensen with NENEDD was present and stated the last project that the City has done was with the Dairy Queen project. The state guidelines state that if funds are not used within two years they need to be returned. At one time the state had 18 communities with the funds and now Schuyler and Knox County are the only two left with funds. There is approximately \$28,000 in the account now. He stated there will need to be a motion to approve the closure of the account. Clerk Johnson stated they will do that on June 18th.

Council member Baumert moved to close the public hearing. Council member Kasik seconded the motion. Voting for: Baumert, Kasik, Svoboda and Wolfe. Voting against: no one. Motion carried.

Mayor Lindberg opened a public hearing to consider the purchase of the real property legally described as: the West 80 feet of the South 70 feet of a tract of land described as follows: the South 400 feet of Block 3, Clarkson and Dorsey's Subdivision, an Addition to the City of Schuyler, Colfax County, Nebraska, and excepting therefrom the East 10 feet thereof and further excepting the West 40 feet thereof.

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Utility Superintendent Sobota stated this is located at the intersection of 20th and Banner Street. The school owns the property where the old nursing home was. They found this spot to have good water for a new well.

Council member Baumert moved to close the public hearing. Council member Kasik seconded the motion. Voting for: Baumert, Kasik, Svoboda and Wolfe. Voting against: no one. Motion carried.

Council member Baumert moved resolution 2024-0604 a resolution authorizing the City of Schuyler, Nebraska to bring about the purchase and to accept a deed for the real property described herein in Colfax County, Nebraska; and for such other purposes. Council member Kasik seconded the motion. Voting for: Baumert, Kasik, Svoboda and Wolfe. Voting against: no one. Motion carried.

Council member Kasik moved to approve closing Higgins Drive and South Park Road for the Schuyler Community Schools cross country meet on Thursday, September 5, 2024 from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Council member Svoboda seconded the motion. Clerk Johnson stated it is the same route as the previous year just the time is moved up to the morning instead of later afternoon. Voting for: Baumert, Kasik, Svoboda and Wolfe. Voting against: no one. Motion carried.

Council member Kasik moved to approve the application to sell fireworks at retail for Bellin Fireworks, Inc. at 1610 Colfax Street from June 25, 2024 at 12:01 AM through July 4, 2024 11:59 PM. Council member Baumert seconded the motion. Clerk Johnson stated this is a new location in the Casey's parking lot of a tent. Council member Kasik asked how many this will make and does it cause an issue. Johnson stated here have been three applications approved so far this year. Voting for: Baumert, Kasik, Svoboda and Wolfe. Voting against: no one. Motion carried.

Council member Kasik moved to approve the use of the Oak Ballroom Parking Lot area for Farmers Market's on Thursday's starting June 20th thru October for the hours of 4:00 PM to 6:30 PM, sponsored by CHI Health and the Chamber. Council member Baumert seconded the motion. Chamber Director Jedlicka stated it would be in the main parking area towards the Merchant Park. They are working with the Center for Rural Affairs on this to make it a better event. Council member Kasik asked if they are trying to expand it. Jedlicka stated yes they would like to expand it and grow it with entertainment. That location will be cooler for the vendors. Voting for: Baumert, Kasik, Svoboda and Wolfe. Voting against: no one. Motion carried.

Council member Baumert moved to authorize pay application #1 for the 2024 Schuyler Street Improvements in the amount of \$53,609.83 to Elkhorn Paving Construction, Co., Inc. Council member Wolfe seconded the motion. Terry Mead with JEO was present and stated that this includes the work done before Memorial Day on B Street. The plan is to be done within eight weeks from the start. Voting for: Baumert, Kasik, Svoboda and Wolfe. Voting against: no one. Motion carried.

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

ATTEST:

Mayor Art Lindberg

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

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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