

City Council Meeting Minutes  
September 3, 2024

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

Mayor Lindberg led the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Administrator DeRoos had communication with Bill Comley from the Schuyler Elementary School. He stated his wishes were for no parking on Denver Street till 6:00 PM.

Council member Baumert moved to appoint Full-time Certified Police Officer Jacob Seibert. Council member Kasik seconded the motion. Voting for: Baumert, Kasik, Marron, Rodriguez and Wolfe. Voting against: no one. Motion carried.

Mayor Lindberg thanked everyone for their work to make Labor Day weekend a success.

Administrator DeRoos reviewed handout of levy rates of other cities. There are nine cities with higher tax levies. Schuyler's levy rate in 23-24 fiscal year was .48, the average of cities on his chart was .47, average of larger cities is .36, cities with lower valuation .49, cities with higher valuation is .40. The average rate across the entire state of Nebraska was .39 per \$100 evaluation.

Clerk Johnson reported that the budget hearings will be at 6:00 pm on September 17<sup>th</sup> and the regular meeting will follow immediately following the closing of the hearings. All council members are needed to be able to approve the 1% increase over the base limitation of 2.5% increase of restricted funds for the new fiscal year.

Utilities Superintendent Sobota reported that dirt work has been continuing in the Water Tower Subdivision and dewatering has been started to put the sanitary sewer in. The Department of Utilities is looking to turn over two vehicles to the Police Department. They are looking at an updated Jet Vac Combo Truck. It will have a hydro excavation option.

Police Chief Farber reported completed Drive Sober Get Pulled Over detail. There were 10 DUI arrests, over Labor Day weekend there were 5 of the 10 DUI. Labor Day weekend went well.

Library Director White reported there will be a writer's workshop on Saturday, September 7<sup>th</sup> it is for anyone interested in writing or photographing children's books. Jeff Barnes will be here on Tuesday, September 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM and he is sponsored by Humanities Nebraska on Buffalo Bill's Nebraska. On the 17<sup>th</sup> it is also voter registration day. Crochet club is back at the Library on Tuesday's from 6:00 to 7:45 PM.

Community Development Coordinator and Housing Specialist Bywater reported that the SCD has been awarded \$650,000 Grant through Home Funds a program administered by the DED that will finance part of the new low income housing tax credit project. This is similar to the Kracl Meadows this housing will be located in the new Sky Haven Subdivision. That project will include 20 units for seniors 55 years and older and income limits will apply. Total project cost of the project are 5.3 million dollars. Financing will be by tax credits and traditional financing. SCD is wrapping up its 2023 annual audit which is required by DED and the Nebraska Investment Finance Authority for receipt of funds through the Rural Workforce Housing Fund. Schuyler has recently been rated one of the safest cities in Nebraska online by SafeWise. Jose Rocha is working to add signs to the welcome signs with this stated.

Council member Rodriguez moved to approve the August 20, 2024 council meeting minutes and dispense with its reading. Council member Kasik seconded the motion. Voting for: Baumert, Kasik, Marron, Rodriguez and Wolfe. Voting against: no one. Motion carried.

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Council member Kasik moved to approve payment of claims for the period from August 17, 2024 through August 30, 2024, in the amount of \$674,182.04 and the following exceeding \$1,000: JEO, Engineering Fees, Admin, \$11,200.00; Pepsi Co., Bar Supplies, Ballroom, \$1,018.50. Council member Rodriguez seconded the motion. Voting for: Baumert, Kasik, Marron, Rodriguez and Wolfe. Voting against: no one. Motion carried.

Council member Baumert moved to authorize the Mayor to sign Agreement with JEO for the Schuyler East 22<sup>nd</sup> Street Drainage Improvements in the amount of \$31,600. Council member Wolfe seconded the motion. Steve Parr with JEO reviewed the agreement and the issues of the drainage ditch between H Street and Old HWY 30 with the Council. Voting for: Baumert, Kasik, Marron, Rodriguez and Wolfe. Voting against: no one. Motion carried.

Council member Baumert moved to authorize the Mayor to sign Agreement with JEO for the Schuyler Downtown Park in the amount of \$27,500. Council member Rodriguez seconded the motion. Steve Parr with JEO reviewed this will cover bidding and electrical design as well, along with construction services. Voting for: Baumert, Kasik, Marron, Rodriguez and Wolfe. Voting against: no one. Motion carried.

Council member Wolfe moved to authorize the Mayor to sign Agreement with JEO for the Schuyler Street Gap Paving Project in the amount of \$69,000. Council member Baumert seconded the motion. Steve Parr with JEO reviewed the agreement and that they can design five blocks for paving. Voting for: Baumert, Kasik, Marron, Rodriguez and Wolfe. Voting against: no one. Motion carried.

Council member Baumert moved to authorize the Mayor to sign Agreement with JEO for the Schuyler Library Masonry Façade and other Building Repairs in the amount of \$27,500. Council member Marron seconded the motion. Steve Parr with JEO reviewed the agreement to put a bid package together and bid out the project, they will also assist with addressing issues at Library. Voting for: Baumert, Kasik, Marron, Rodriguez and Wolfe. Voting against: no one. Motion carried.

Council member Rodriguez moved Resolution 2024-0903 A Resolution to regulate parking within the city limits of the City of Schuyler, Nebraska restricting parking on Denver Street from 22<sup>nd</sup> Street North through and including 24<sup>th</sup> Street on West and East sides of Street. Council member Baumert seconded the motion. Mayor Lindberg stated regular school hours 8 to 3:30, no parking 7:30 to 4:30 would cover normal school hours. The after-school programs are an elective for children to attend. He does not want to restrict residents for hours outside of normal school hours. Council member Kasik stated at 5:30 there is a lot of cars still. Council member Rodriguez stated he thinks 4:00 is a good time, and council member Baumert agreed. Voting for: Baumert, Kasik, Marron, Rodriguez and Wolfe. Voting against: no one. Motion carried.

Council member Rodriguez moved to approve closing 12<sup>th</sup> Street from C Street to D Street, C Street from 11<sup>th</sup> Street to 12<sup>th</sup> Street and the City Parking Lot for the Chamber of Commerce and Warrior Academy on Thursday, October 24<sup>th</sup> from 3:00 to 8:00 PM for the 2024 Downtown Trunk or Treat. Council member Kasik seconded the motion. Chamber Director Jedlicka stated they are just adding a bigger space for the event. Voting for: Baumert, Kasik, Marron, Rodriguez and Wolfe. Voting against: no one. Motion carried.

Council member Kasik moved to authorize transfer in Keno funds to the General Fund for the Ballroom and Pool expenditures in FY 23-24 in the amount of \$100,000. Council member Rodriguez seconded the motion. Clerk Johnson stated that currently the shortages at this point for the Pool is \$60,181 and Ballroom \$65,785 for a shortage totaling \$125,966 with a month left of revenues and expenses for the Ballroom. Council member Rodriguez asked if this is for current fiscal year expenses. Clerk Johnson stated yes. Council member Marron asked if this included the floor repairs and heater repairs. Clerk Johnson stated no those expenses will be in the next fiscal year. There was an increase in building and grounds for the pool due to repair work done in the baby pool before the start of the season. Council member Kasik asked how much will be left in the Keno fund after this transfer. Clerk Johnson stated ruffly \$25,000 will be left. Voting for: Baumert, Kasik, Marron, Rodriguez and Wolfe. Voting against: no one. Motion carried.

Council member Rodriguez moved to authorize the Mayor to sign Northeast Nebraska Economic Development District Service/Consult Agreement for Construction Management for project 22-PW-016. Council member Wolfe seconded the

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motion. Clerk Johnson stated this agreement is for the construction of the 12<sup>th</sup> and B Street project now that there has been a release of funds for the grant. Voting for: Baumert, Kasik, Marron, Rodriguez and Wolfe. Voting against: no one. Motion carried.

Mayor Lindberg opened a discussion on the library's policies and procedures for book acquisition and the life cycle of a book. Library Director White reviewed handout of the Life Cycle of a Library Book and Library Patron Concerns. (Attached) The library staff follow the Collection Development Policy that was board approved for staff to use with selection of new books purchased. She reviewed the policies and procedures in place to address a community member's concerns with books in the collection. Council member Kasik asked how they dispose of books they weed out of the collection. White stated they are offered to the patrons for a monetary donation, after time if not purchased she then tries to find a place to donate the books to such as a correctional facility, last resort is to recycle them. This information will be added to their website and Facebook page.

Mayor Lindberg opened a discussion regarding ongoing water issues at the Schuyler Public Library.

Attorney Graham recommended that the Council go into a closed session for the protection of public interest, specifically to hold a strategy session with respect to the settlement of a claim. Council member Kasik moved to go into closed session. Council member Baumert seconded the motion. Voting for: Baumert, Kasik, Marron, Rodriguez and Wolfe. Voting against: no one. Motion carried.

Mayor Lindberg stated they are now going into closed session for the protection of public interest specifically to hold a strategy session with respect to litigation which is imminent. The time is 6:44 PM. He requested the City Attorney, Administrator, Clerk and Library Director to stay in the closed session.

Mayor Lindberg stated they are now ending the closed session and coming back into open session. The time is 6:59 PM.

Council member Baumert moved that we direct the City Attorney to proceed as directed in the closed session on the ongoing water issues at the Schuyler Public Library. Council member Marron seconded the motion. Voting for: Baumert, Kasik, Marron, Rodriguez and Wolfe. Voting against: no one. Motion carried.

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

ATTEST:

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Mayor Art Lindberg

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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.

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City Clerk Lora Johnson