

MINUTES-May 15, 2023
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
COUNCIL CHAMBERS-
1111 AVE E, WISNER, NEBRASKA 68791

The City Council of the City of Wisner, Nebraska met in regular session in the Council Chambers at the City offices in Wisner, Nebraska, on Monday, May 15, 2023, at 7:00 P.M. according to the notice published in the Wisner News Chronicle issue of May 11, 2023, a copy of proof of publication is attached to these minutes. Notice of the meeting was posted in three public places which are the Wisner Post Office, Wisner Public Library, and the Wisner City Office. Notice of the meeting and the agenda were mailed or emailed to the mayor and all members of the City Council. A true copy of their signed acknowledgement of the receipt of the advance notice of this meeting and the agenda is filed in the office of the City Clerk/Treasurer. An agenda for the meeting was kept continuously current, and was available for public inspection at the City Offices three days before the meeting date. Agenda subjects were contained at least twenty-four hours prior to the meeting. Mayor Soden presided and the City Clerk/Treasurer recorded the proceedings of this meeting. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the general public.

Mayor Soden called the meeting to order, and announced the location of the posted Open Meeting Act, pursuant to Section 84-1412(8) of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act. Mayor Soden also announced that this meeting is being recorded.

Present on the roll call: Cathy Gobar, Barry Meyer, LJ Parker, Jay Meyer, and Mayor Soden. Staff present: Randy Woldt, City Administrator/Utility Superintendent, Stephanie James, City Clerk/ Treasurer, Jonathan Brandow, Care Center Administrator, Doug Salmen, Chief of Police, and Tiffany McLean, Police Officer.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1 – CONSENT AGENDA – AGENDA, MINUTES OF THE MAY 1, 2023 REGULAR MEETING, & CARE CENTER, CITY, & CITY/RURAL FIRE BOARD APRIL 2023 FINANCIAL REPORT. Moved by Barry and seconded by Gobar to approve the consent agenda as presented. Roll call: Ayes: Barry, Parker, Jay, Gobar. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2 – ONE- & SIX- YEAR STREET PLAN – OVERVIEW AND DISCUSSION ON THE ONE- & SIX- YEAR STREET PLAN. Terry Mead with JEO was unable to attend the meeting to present the One- & Six- Year Street Plan. Moved by Gobar and seconded by Barry to table Agenda Item No. 2. Roll call: Ayes: Barry, Parker, Jay, Gobar. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3 – WISNER CARE CENTER – REVIEW OF FY 2023-2024 BUDGET. Councilman Barry had few questions regarding the budget. Some questions were regarding the hospice revenues. This needed to be split out due to this revenue is coming from the hospice agency. Council also questioned some funding that the Care Center received and what it was for. Some of the salaries went down due to the contract with Stanton ending. Equipment cost went up due to a new call light system and kitchen updates. Food purchases have gone down due to some good budgeting. When the Care Center purchases scrubs, the Care Center pays for them then the employees reimburse the Care Center back through payroll. All questions were answered by Jon Brandow, Care Center Administrator. No action was taken.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4 – ORDINANCE NO. 2023-1177 – DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING INCREASE IN WATER RATES. Councilman Barry asked about Section 1 Letter A, were the first 6,000 gallons always given free. Randy Woldt, City Administrator/ Utility Superintendent stated that the first 6,000 gallons of water is covered in the base rate. It is being questioned if we need to keep section letter A and B. It is a little confusing. Mr. Woldt said that we will get it cleaned up and bring it back to the next meeting. Moved by Gobar and seconded by Jay to table Agenda Item No. 4. Roll call: Ayes: Parker, Jay, Barry, Gobar. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5 – DINKLAGE GRANT – DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING WISNER RESCUE'S DINKLAGE GRANT APPLICATION. Councilman Barry Said that this grant is a redo from the churches getting the defibrillators. The Dinklage Board denied the grant application and asked if Barry would talk to the Fire Department to see if they would go through the grant application process to get the churches the defibrillators. Moved by Parker and seconded by Barry to approve the Dinklage application and to forward it onto the Dinklage Foundation for final approval. Roll call: Ayes: Jay, Barry, Parker, Gobar. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 6 – AUTHORIZE CLERK/TREASURER TO RENEW CD #1928 GENERATOR BOND AND #1929 GENERAL SINKING. Moved by Barry and seconded by Jay to stay at Midwest Bank for six months at the interest rate of 4.62%. Roll call: Ayes: Barry, Parker, Jay, Gobar. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7 – POOL EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK – DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING ADOPTION OF HANDBOOK. Councilwoman Gobar stated that we have always had a handbook for the pool. It was in the drawer with previous managers and was redone when Gwen became manager. One change that was made was the type of swimsuit the guards could wear. Mr. Woldt said that he has a change on page thirteen under closing procedures. It states, check outside bathrooms and lock them. Mr. Woldt said that they are open for public use. They need to stay open. Councilwoman Gobar said that she will take that back to Gwen to have her fix. Councilwoman Gobar asked if the guards are responsible for cleaning the outside restrooms and Mr. Woldt stated that they are responsible to clean them. Moved by Parker and seconded by Barry to approve the Wisner Pool Employee Handbook with the changes stated. Roll call: Ayes: Barry, Parker, Jay, Gobar. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 8 – FLY BY NIGHT FIREWORKS – TO APPROVE SALE OF FIREWORKS IN CITY LIMITS. Stephanie James stated that Eric Sanders could not make it to tonight's meeting and said that everything will be the same as last year except for the person that will be in the stand selling the fireworks. Moved by Gobar and seconded by Jay to approve the sale of fireworks in city limits. Roll call: Ayes: Parker, Jay, Barry, Gobar. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 9 – MONTHLY POLICE REPORT – D. SALMEN. Doug Salmen, Chief of Police, made available the monthly police activities report to the mayor and council.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 10 - BUILDING PERMITS. Randy Woldt, City Administrator/Utility Superintendent, stated he has three building permits at this time. The first one is at 512 16 St. to install a driveway and sidewalks. Next is at 916 12 St. to install a fence in the back yard. The last one is at 1309 Ave J to replace the deck on the south side of the house.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 11 - COMMUNICATIONS, REPORTS, COMMENTS BY COUNCIL, CITY OFFICIALS AND GENERAL PUBLIC.

- A. Councilman Parker was curious on how many surveys were returned. Councilman Barry stated that 144 were returned.
- B. Councilwoman Gobar asked about the crosswalk light. Mr. Woldt said that equipment is in and an email sent to see when the contractor can come in to fix it. No answer has been returned as of tonight's meeting. Councilwoman Gobar took this time to thank the city guys for manning the generators this last weekend. We are very lucky to have the generators otherwise we would of be without electricity for a day. Councilwoman Gobar also mentioned there are some yards with tall grass but need to give residents time to get it mowed since it has been wet for a few days.
- C. Mr. Woldt said that council should have received a punch list for the water tower. He received word this morning that the water samples have passed and asking permission from the State of Nebraska to put the water tower in service. The next step will be to switch out the controllers at the booster station at the old water tower to the new water tower. Mr. Woldt is waiting to hear from the contractor on when they will be coming to finish up the connections at the intersections.
- D. Dave Brown had a question of the One- & Six- Year Street Plan. The alley between Ninth and Tenth Street between Avenue E and F is getting pretty bad. Mr. Brown is getting water in his basement and has talked to the businesses along there and each has some water issues. Mr. Brown thinks that this alley is more of a priority than some of the other street projects. Mr. Woldt stated that, truthfully, that as long as a project is included on the One- & Six- Year Street Plan, it can be done at any time. They would look into fixing the alley like they did the alley between Tenth and Eleventh Street. That alley was a great change and fix.
- E. Officer McLean asked about the surveys, and if they would be made public. They will not be made public. Councilman Barry stated that they will be used for guidance. Mr. Brown stated that you're offering a police department, a service and what happens when there is no one to follow up with that service. That is opening the city up to a liability. Same with the fire and rescue. Councilman Barry said that he is not sure why that was brought up, we are not letting anyone go. Mr. Brown said you have two officers, one is out of town and the other one is off, who is going to handle the call if one comes in. If there would be a third officer, we would not have that issue.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 12 - MOTION TO ADJOURN TO MEET IN REGULAR SESSION ON MONDAY, JUNE 5, 2023, AT 7:00 PM. At 7:37 PM moved by Gobar and seconded by Jay that the City Council adjourn to meet in regular session on June 5, 2023 at 7:00 PM, in the Council Chambers at the City Office. Roll call: Ayes: Jay, Barry, Parker, Gobar. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

Mayor

Attest:

City Clerk/Treasurer