

**MINUTES-August 21, 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, August 21, 2023, at 7:00 P.M. according to the notice published in the Wisner News Chronicle issue of August 17, 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, and Sammye Nyman, Wisner Care Center Administrator.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1 – CONSENT AGENDA – AGENDA, MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 7, 2023 REGULAR MEETING, & CARE CENTER, CITY, & CITY/RURAL FIRE BOARD JULY 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 – REVIEW ONE- & SIX-YEAR STREET PLAN; AUTHORIZE PUBLIC HEARING FOR SEPTEMBER 5, 2023 AT 7:05 PM IN THE CITY OF WISNER COUNCIL CHAMBERS – 1111 AVE E. The alley between Ninth and Tenth Street behind Subway was added to the One- & Six-Year Street Plan. Councilman Barry is wondering if straightening out Eighteen Street should be looked at sooner. Mr. Woldt stated that the state has some grant opportunities. Mr. Woldt is going to check with the state to see if they would be interested in helping do the whole street. Mr. Woldt explained that it can be done at anytime than when it is listed on the One- & Six-Year Street Plan. Moved by Gobar and seconded by Parker to set the public hearing for the One- & Six-Year Street Plan for 7:05 PM on September 5, 2023. Roll call: Ayes: Parker, Jay, Barry, Gobar. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3 – COMPREHENSIVE PLAN – DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING LETTING OF BIDS FOR PROPOSAL. The plan has not been updated since 2007. Mr. Woldt explained that this plan helps the city get grant funding. Moved by Barry and seconded by Jay to put bids out for the updating of the Comprehensive Plan. Roll call: Ayes: Jay, Barry, Parker, Gobar. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 4 – DINKLAGE GRANT – DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING WISNER HERITAGE MUSEUM’S DINKLAGE GRANT APPLICATION.**

Councilman Barry stated that he is fine with the grant application but feels that the bid is way to high. Councilman Barry stated that a carpenter could go around and fill in the holes and then getting the bats out could cost a few hundreds of dollars. Councilman Barry stated that he will talk to a few local carpenters about looking at putting in a bid for this. Todd Leisy with the museum stated he has no problem at looking for other bids. Moved by Barry and seconded by Parker to table the Dinklage Grant for the Wisner Heritage Museum until next meeting when they collect a couple more bids from other local carpenters. Roll call: Ayes: Barry, Parker, Jay, Gobar. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 5 – DINKLAGE GRANT – DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING WISNER SENIOR CENTER’S DINKLAGE GRANT APPLICATION.** Moved by Barry and seconded by Gobar to approve the Dinklage Grant Application submitted by the Wisner Senior Center and to forward it onto the Dinklage Foundation for final approval. Roll call: Ayes: Barry, Parker, Jay, Gobar. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 6 – INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT – DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING ADOPTING AN INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH CUMING COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.** David Branch, Cuming County Economic Development Director stated that the interlocal agreement was adopted in 2022 and it goes until 2027. This is an annual update on what has happen through the year. Mr. Branch stated that they are waiting on the Game and Parks regarding the splash pad, there six different projects going on in Wisner with home owner occupied projects which consists of about \$100,000.00 worth of improvements to homes. Mr. Branch went on to explain the budget for this new year for the city’s share is less due to the Dinklage Grant refunding went into the new fiscal year. Mr. Branch shared some other projects that were going on in Cuming County. Moved by Gobar and seconded by Jay to approve the annual review presented by David Branch, Cuming County Economic Development Director. Roll call: Ayes: Parker, Jay, Barry, Gobar. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 7 – AUTHORIZE NEXT REGULAR MEETING TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2023 DUE TO THE LABOR DAY HOLIDAY.** Moved by Parker and seconded by Barry to authorize the next regular meeting to be held on Tuesday, September 5, 2023 due to the Labor Day holiday. Roll call: Ayes: Jay, Barry, Parker, Gobar. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 8 – 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. 9 - BUILDING PERMITS.** Randy Woldt, City Administrator/Utility Superintendent, stated he has one building permits at this time to build a pole shed at 1419 Ave D.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 10 - COMMUNICATIONS, REPORTS, COMMENTS BY COUNCIL, CITY OFFICIALS AND GENERAL PUBLIC.**

- A. Mr. Woldt stated that Al Vacanti's contract is coming due at the end of August. Mr. Woldt stated the different projects that Mr. Vacanti is working on. Mr. Vacanti will have a renewal contract for next meeting. The city's attorney is working on a resolution to be able to remove that car that has been sitting on Eighth Street. The Planning Commission met today at 5:00 PM and has approved a recommendation to approve a lot split submitted by Lee Heckman. This will be on the September 5, 2023 meeting agenda.
- B. Stephanie James, City Clerk/Treasurer explained to the council that with the lot splits that the city council has seen, the council can pass an ordinance that allows Mr. Woldt to approve them as long as they fit in city zoning. A copy of a draft ordinance was given to the council for their review if this is something that they would like to pass in the future. If passed then lot splits would not have to go through the planning commission or council as long as the lot split fits city zoning regulations.
- C. Councilman Barry stated that when he went over the budget a percentage was figured for salaries and would like to see a dollar amount instead of a percentage be figured because a percentage is not fair for the employees that have not been here very long. Councilman Barry wants to recommend that the police receive a 2% raise and the hourly employees get \$1.50 raise. Councilman Barry then went on to say that Mr. Woldt has a high enough salary right now and really can not see an increase for him right now. Mr. Woldt stated that he does not agree with that statement and has checked with some other communities that are in his same position and get paid way more. Mayor Soden has check with the county on what they did for raises. Mayor Soden explained how the county figured the raises. Councilman Barry feels that the hourly employees should all be making at least \$20.00 an hour.
- D. Mayor Soden had the high school kids introduce themselves.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 11 - MOTION TO ADJOURN TO MEET IN REGULAR SESSION ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2023, AT 7:00 PM. At 7:25 PM moved by Parker and seconded by Jay that the City Council adjourn to meet in regular session on September 5, 2023 at 7:00 PM, in the Council Chambers at the City Office. Roll call: Ayes: Barry, Parker, Jay, Gobar. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk/Treasurer