

**MINUTES-February 20, 2024**  
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 Tuesday, February 20, 2024, at 7:00 P.M. according to the notice published in the Wisner News Chronicle issue of February 15, 2024, 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, Sammye Nyman, Wisner Care Center Administrator, and Doug Salmen, Chief of Police.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1 – CONSENT AGENDA – AGENDA, MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 5, 2024 REGULAR MEETING, CARE CENTER, CITY, & CITY/RURAL FIRE BOARD JANUARY 2024 FINANCIAL REPORT, SPECIAL DESIGNATED LICENSE – TORNADO ALLEY – 03/30/2024 – FUNDRAISER – WISNER CITY AUDITORIUM – 11:00 AM TO 10:00 PM., & SPECIAL DESIGNATED LICENSE – BRU'S PACKAGE & LOUNGE – 03/09/2024 – PHEASANTS FOREVER BANQUET – WISNER CITY AUDITORIUM – 3:00 TO 12:00 AM. Moved by Gobar and seconded by Parker to approve the consent agenda as presented. Roll call: Ayes: Barry, Parker, Jay, Gobar. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2 – WATER TREATMENT PLANT – PROGRESS UPDATE – ROGER PROTZMAN, JEO. Mr. Protzman stated that the plans that are in front of the council are the sixty percent completed plans. Mr. Protzman said, instead of looking at the paper copy, JEO did a 3-D design and has it displayed on the TV for everyone to see. Mr. Protzman went through each room of the Water Treatment Plant and explained what each room would do and how the treatment plant would work. There is a holding tank under the building in the ground that is twelve by eleven feet and is twelve feet deep that will hold the clean water and then be pumped to the water tower. Councilman Barry asked where the waste water will drain. Mr. Protzman said that the waste water from the RO System will come out of the south side of the plant and into the storm sewer. Mr. Protzman explained the soil sampling that was done and some soil issues that need to be fixed that are not hard to fix. It is called loss soils which is wind deposited soil that if you put a load on the soil, the soil particles tend to collapse. The soil will

be excavated and just needs to be recompacted. Dirt will be brought in as well to get the site up to grade. Mr. Protzman also handed out a sixty percent engineer's opinion for probable cost. Mr. Protzman went through some highlighted costs that were different from when the study was done. The sixty percent cost is at \$5,173,260.00. Mr. Protzman explained that the contractor will need a staging site and will utilize the city's property across the road on Avenue H and Avenue H will be closed during this project between the alley to Seventeenth Street. Part of the cost of the project will be to repair the street where it will be closed. There is some damage that will probably happen while construction is going on. The schedule going forward is Mr. Protzman will attend the second meeting in March for ninety-nine percent completed plans, from then the setting of the bid schedule will be done for April, bids back in May, and getting contracts executed in June. Mr. Protzman said that the main thing to get done is trees getting marked and cut down before the first of April due to the federal funding and the migratory bird act. JEO has started on some of the permitting that needs to be done for this project. No action taken.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3 – ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT – DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING APPROVAL OF THE QUOTE FOR SUBSTATION TRANSFORMER REPAIRS. Mr. Woldt explained that the two substation transformers have and are starting to have oil leaks on them. To have them repaired will cost \$27,370.00 apiece. To have them replaced would cost \$259,000.00 apiece. In 2009 one was replaced for \$68,000.00, that shows how much of a price increase there has been over the years. Moved by Barry and seconded by Parker to approve the repairs for the two substation transformers for \$27,370.00 each. Mr. Woldt said that repairs would probably be done in March. Roll call: Ayes: Parker, Jay, Barry, Gobar. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4 – RIVER PARK – DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING APPROVAL OF THE CUMING COUNTY VISITORS BUREAU GRANT APPLICATION FOR PARK IMPROVEMENTS. Councilman Barry stated that he has been helping on getting sources of funding for the project. The banks are helping fund the project, along with the Livestock Show and Lions Club. A couple more grants will be filled out and sent in to also possibly help with funding. Councilman Barry stated that the Livestock Show Committee would like the building to be steel. The hopes and plans are to have the building done by the middle of June so that it can be used during this year's Livestock Show. Moved by Gobar and seconded by Barry to approve the signing of the the grant application to the Cuming County Visitor's Bureau for \$20,000.00 for River Park Improvements. Roll call: Ayes: Jay, Barry, Parker, Gobar. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5 – 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. 6 - BUILDING PERMITS. Randy Woldt, City Administrator/Utility Superintendent, stated he has no building permits at this time.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7 - COMMUNICATIONS, REPORTS, COMMENTS BY COUNCIL, CITY OFFICIALS AND GENERAL PUBLIC.

- A. Councilman Parker said that he had a couple of citizens approach him about the police surveys that were mailed out to see if any of the results were going to be made public. Mr. Parker said at this time we really didn't have any plans for them. Mr. Parker said that after discussing this more with the citizens that more help would come from the public if some results were shared. Mayor Soden stated that he has no problem with totals.
- B. Councilwoman Gobar asked if David Branch approached anyone about tiny homes that would be build down by Woodland Circle. The city does own a lot down there. Mayor Soden stated that Mr. Branch has a possible contractor interested in building six small homes that are about six hundred square feet. Mr. Woldt said that our obligation would be for this is possibly donating the land to build them on. More discussion will take place when this gets brought up at a later meeting.
- C. Mr. Woldt stated that the public hearing for the land purchase will be at the next regular city council meeting on March 4<sup>th</sup> for the water treatment plant.
- D. Councilman Jay asked about the S2 garbage trucks, do they come to town empty. Mr. Woldt stated that they are supposed to be empty when they come to town. They weigh and then dump out at our transfer station. Councilman Jay wanted to know if anyone checks them to make sure. Councilman Jay thinks someone should check them. Mr. Woldt stated that either way they are charged \$20.00 a ton as a tipping fee.
- E. Casey Rathke was asked if he had anything he would like to discuss and he stated that his mom was out of town and seen that the water treatment plant was going to be discussed tonight. Mr. Rathke did have a question. Mr. Rathke stated that he worked in the ethanol business and was saying that when Mr. Protzman brought up the CIP process in the treatment plant, where would that waste water go. Mr. Rathke said that should be a question that should be asked to the engineers and then Mr. Rathke explained how the process works in the ethanol side. Councilman Barry said that they will figure that out when Mr. Protzman attends the next meeting.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 8 - MOTION TO ADJOURN TO MEET IN REGULAR SESSION ON MONDAY, MARCH 4, 2024, AT 7:00 PM. At 7:37 PM moved by Gobar and seconded by Barry that the City Council adjourn to meet in regular session on March 4, 2024 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.

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Mayor

Attest:

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City Clerk/Treasurer