

MINUTES-April 21, 2025
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, April 21, 2025, at 6:00 P.M. according to the notice published in the Wisner News Chronicle issue of April 17, 2025, 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. The mayor 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, Andrew Schweers, LJ Parker, and Mayor Terry Soden.

Staff present: Randy Woldt, City Administrator/Utility Superintendent, Stephanie James, City Clerk/ Treasurer, Sammye Nyman, Care Center Administrator, and Doug Salmen, Chief of Police.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1 – CONSENT AGENDA – AGENDA, MINUTES OF THE APRIL 7, 2025 REGULAR MEETING, CARE CENTER, CITY, & CITY/RURAL FIRE BOARD MARCH 2025 FINANCIAL REPORT, AND SPECIAL DESIGNATED LICENSE – BRU'S PACKAGE & LOUNGE – 05/24/2025 – WISNER-PILGER ALUMNI BANQUET – WISNER CITY AUDITORIUM – 10:00 AM TO 11:30 PM. Moved by Meyer and seconded by Parker to approve the consent agenda as presented. Roll call: Ayes: Meyer, Parker, Schweers, Gobar. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2 – ORDINANCE NO. 2025-1193 – TO ESTABLISH HOURLY WAGE SCALE FOR CITY POOL EMPLOYEES. Councilwoman Gobar introduced Ordinance No. 2025-1193, entitled: AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WISNER, NEBRASKA TO ESTABLISH AN HOURLY PAY SCHEDULE FOR EMPLOYEES AT THE MUNICIPAL SWIMMING POOL; PROVISION FOR COMPENSATION FOR ATTAINING WATER SAFETY INSTRUCTOR CERTIFICATION; PROVISION FOR ATTAINING POOL OPERATOR CERTIFICATION; REPEAL OF ALL ORDINANCES AND PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ORDINANCE; AND TO ESTABLISH AN EFFECTIVE DATE. Moved by Councilman Parker that the statutory rule requiring readings on three different days be suspended. Councilman Schweers second said motion. Roll call: Ayes: Parker, Schweers, Meyer, Gobar. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion carried. The motion to

suspend the rule was adopted by the Council and the statutory rule was declared suspended for consideration of said ordinance. Ordinance No 2025-1193 was then read by title. Mayor Soden then stated the question: "Shall Ordinance No. 2025-1193 be passed and adopted?", and thereafter Councilwoman Gobar moved for final passage and Councilman Meyer second said motion. Roll call: Ayes: Schweers, Meyer, Gobar. Abstain: Parker. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

The passage and adoption having been approved by the Council, the Mayor declared Ordinance No. 2025-1193 adopted and in the presence of the Council signed and approved the Ordinance. The Clerk attested the passage and approval of the same and affixed her signature thereto. A true, correct, and complete copy of said ordinance is as follows: Copy attached hereto becomes part of these minutes.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3 – DINKLAGE GRANT – DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE WISNER MAIN ST. FLOWER BASKET'S DINKLAGE GRANT APPLICATION. Councilman Barry stated that the grant is to late and that there is not a Dinklage Foundation meeting until July. Stephanie James, Clerk/Treasurer stated that there might be some funds budgeted in a Beautification fund that could be used since the grant is to late for the Dinklage Foundation Meeting. Councilman Meyer said he has not issue with using the funds for the Main Street flower pots. City Administrator/Utility Superintendent, Randy Woldt asked if any knew if the potting soil was going to be different this year. Last year the water went straight through. Councilwoman Gobar said that would be something to discuss with Wade Overturf out at the school. This was asked if this needs to be put on the next agenda. Mrs. James stated it does not have to be and that it will be approved through the claims. No action taken.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4 – FLY BY NIGHT FIREWORKS – TO APPROVE SALE OF FIREWORKS IN CITY LIMITS. Eric Sanders with Fly by Night Fireworks told Mrs. James over the phone that everything will be the same as last year. Moved by Meyer and seconded by Schweers to approve the sale of fireworks in city limits. Roll call: Ayes: Meyer, Parker, Schweers, Gobar. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5 – WISNER SWIMMING POOL – DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING FLOOR MATS. Mr. Woldt was asked by the pool manage Jamie Parker if the floor mats at the pool could be replaced. To replace those mats its roughly just over seven hundred square feet to cover what they have cover currently and to get the material that the state approves around pools will cost \$7,224.00. There is a rubberized coating the state allows and has to be on in a two-part epoxy. Mr. Woldt stated that we are running out of time to get that done for this pool season. The material alone for the epoxy option is a little over \$3,000.00. Councilman Meyer asked if the mats are completely shot. Mr. Woldt stated that they could be pressured washed. The way they sit in there, they can be somewhat of a trip hazard. Councilwoman Gobar stated that the pool employees are having a hard time keeping the mold off of them. Mr. Woldt stated to pressure wash them for this pool season and then when the pool closes this fall to look into doing the rubber coating. The city employees could do the coating. The coating is like ground up erasers. Councilwoman Gobar asked if there is a problem with the floor in the men's side of

the bathhouse being off center. Mr. Woldt stated yes there are a few spots that could use some floor leveler before the coating goes on. Councilman Schweers asked if the state allowed the garage floor epoxy with the flakes. Mr. Woldt stated that they did something similar to that a few years back but had the sand so it was not slick and the state made the city sand blast it off. The state said that it could not be sanitized. After talking to JEO engineers that specialize in pools, that is what they do to them all of the time. This will be discussed after this pool season is over. No action taken.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 6 – MONTHLY POLICE REPORT – D. SALMEN. Doug Salmen, Chief of Police made available the monthly police activities report to the mayor and council.

Councilwoman Gobar stated that it was nice seeing him out at 11:00 PM when she got back to town and that people are talking about him in the bar. Chief Salmen stated that he is doing really well and has caught on and loves the job.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7 - BUILDING PERMITS. Randy Woldt, City Administrator/Utility Superintendent, stated he has three building permits at this time. The first one is at 714 14 St. to fix garage roof and then put on a screen porch, the next one is at 1712 Hillcrest Rd to put up a storage shed, and the last one is at 1201 Ave E for the coffee shop. They decided to move the coffee shop from one spot to the other.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 8 - COMMUNICATIONS, REPORTS, COMMENTS BY COUNCIL, CITY OFFICIALS AND GENERAL PUBLIC.

- A. Mr. Woldt stated that if any council would like to attend on the 24th of April, the city will be planting a tree at the pool park for Arbor Day. Mr. Woldt also mention that they had a sewer back up at 708 12 St. Tree roots was the problem. Pollard was called down to help to get through enough for the sewer to drain. Then Johnson's will be down sometime to get the roots out and possibly trunk line it. Insurance company has been informed.
- B. Mrs. James stated that Councilman Meyer stopped in the office and asked about a way to help fund the Care Center. Mrs. James talked to the city attorney and he reviewed the levy statues and, in his opinion, the special levy of up to \$0.07 for nursing homes is permitted. It would be included in the \$0.45 levy. The city attorney went on to say the limitations on tax levies provided in this section are to include all general or special levies provided by law. So, if the city council wants to look at using the special levy of up to \$0.07 for the Care Center, it will need to be approved at an election to the extent that special levy takes us over the \$0.45 overall limit. If we remain under the \$0.45 levy this will not need to be voted on. Councilman Meyer said that this is being done all over the state. Mrs. James said that the election would need to be held prior to October 10th of the fiscal year which is to be the first to exceed the \$0.45 limit. The election is triggered by passage of a resolution and delivered to the county clerk and most importantly the excess levy authority shall have not a duration greater than five years. Mrs. James said that the city attorney will help with the resolution and verbiage for the ballot question if an election is needed.
- C. Councilman Schweers asked when the water treatment plant is completed will that eliminate the purchase of water for residents through Arvid's. Mr. Woldt said that it would. Councilman Schweers then asked if all of the sewer runs down to the lift station at the corner of 18th Street and Avenue E. Mr. Woldt said it does. Councilman Schweers asked about the splashpad project. Mr. Woldt said that the

bathrooms have not been started yet, landscaping is complete, and on the 28th will be training on how to operate the splashpad. Mr. Woldt is hoping to open the splashpad up on the same date as the pool.

- D. Councilman Meyer asked if the playground equipment would be up before the Lions Club Rodeo in the later part of June. Mr. Woldt said that they are supposed to be coming and they were told that it needs to be done before the 1st of June.
- E. Jean McCormick thanked the council for attending the meeting and would like to ask some question. Ms. McCormick asked exactly where the coffee shop will be located on that lot. Councilman Schweers stated that it will be on the property line. Ms. McCormick said she knows where it will be but not exactly. Councilman Schweers said that he does not know exactly where it will be located yet. Ms. McCormick asked if the building will hinder the visibility of my barber shop from people coming from the east. Will they be able to see my barber pole. In a commercial area they can go right up to the property line. The side walk is the property line basically. Ms. McCormick stated that if the coffee shop goes right up to the side walk that it would block her barber pole because her house sits back from the sidewalk. Councilman Schweers asked how many people she thinks come in when driving through town. She does not know that answer and said that she does get people from out of town for customers. Ms. McCormick has a concern with parking. With her handicap customers they would have to park in the driveway so they can use the ramp, when they leave, she is concerned when they have to back out when leaving. Ms. McCormick asked if Councilman Schweers knew what the flow of traffic would be. She understands that he may not be able to answer that but is worried about it. Councilman Meyer asked if she had a lawn in the front and she does not have much of a lawn in the front. Ms. McCormick is concerned about her customers back out and them getting hit. Should she have to post as a business owner when backing out of her driveway. Councilwoman Gobar asked Councilman Schweers to explain if the coffee shop will be a drive through. Will they come in from Railroad Avenue or from the highway. Councilman Schweers thinks they will come from the avenue. Ms. McCormick asked so what if the building blocks the view of her barber pole. Councilman Meyer suggested to move her barber pole. Ms. McCormick ask where she should put her barber pole. Councilman Meyer suggested an extension to the barber pole. Councilman Schweers thought that the best location would have been on the other side of Ms. McCormick's barber shop but she was not comfortable with having the coffee shop's sewer tapped into hers. Ms. McCormick asked if Councilman Schweers would work with her and that she would really appreciate that.
- F. Mayor Soden had the students that are in attendance at tonight's meeting introduce themselves. Callie Oswald and Landree Loseke were the students present.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 9 - MOTION TO ADJOURN TO MEET IN REGULAR SESSION ON MONDAY, MAY 5, 2025, AT 6:00 PM. At 6:32 PM moved by Gobar and seconded by Meyer that the City Council adjourn to meet in regular session on May 5, 2025 at 6:00 PM, in the Council Chambers at the City Office. Roll call: Ayes: Parker, Schweers, Meyer Gobar. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

Mayor

Attest:

City Clerk/Treasurer