

# MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NELIGH, NEBRASKA

April 10, 2018

The regular meeting of the Mayor and City Council of the City of Neligh was held at the Council Chambers on Tuesday, April 10, 2018 at 7:00 P.M. Present were Mayor Joe Hartz and Council members Dale Wilkinson, Ted Hughes, Steph Wanek and Leonard Miller. Also in attendance were City Attorney Jim McNally, Generation Supervisor Josh Capler, City Supt. Dean Bly, Economic Development Director Gabriel Steinmeyer, Police Chief Mike Wright, City Clerk Danielle Klabenes, News Reporters Olivia Wondercheck and Carrie Pitzer, Tom Nelson, Brent Pickrel, Roy & Lisa Urbanec, Kenny Reinke, Steve Simonsen and Lyle Juracek. Notice of this meeting was given in advance thereof by publication in the Neligh News and Leader on April 4, 2018. Notice of this meeting was given to the Mayor and all members of the Council and a copy of their acknowledgment of receipt of notice and the agenda is attached to the minutes. Availability of the agenda was communicated in the advance notice and in the notice to the Council of this meeting. Mayor Hartz offered a prayer before opening the meeting. All proceedings thereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public. Mayor Hartz presided over the meeting and noted that a copy of the Open Meetings Law, located on the east wall of the Council Chambers, is available to the public. City Clerk Klabenes recorded the minutes.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

*Wanek moved to approve the March 13<sup>th</sup> regular meeting minutes as submitted. Seconded by Wilkinson. Roll call votes in favor were Wanek, Wilkinson, Miller, Hughes. Opposed: None. Motion carried.*

## **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Clerk Klabenes presented the March 2018 treasurer's report. She reported on the different revenue sources between the LB840 Economic Development account and the LB840 savings account. Discussion was held for the LB840 funds committed to the Rural Workforce Housing Grant and the minimum fund balance for future business loans. *Hughes moved to accept the March treasurer report as submitted. Seconded by Wanek. Roll call votes in favor were Wanek, Hughes, Wilkinson, Miller. Opposed: None. Motion carried.*

## **TILDEN AMERICAN LEGION SPECIAL DESIGNATED LIQUOR LICENSE**

*Wilkinson moved to approve the American Legion Heninger Post 170 special designated liquor license for a May 19<sup>th</sup> and June 23<sup>rd</sup> wedding receptions at the Antelope County Ag Society building. Seconded by Hughes. Roll call votes in favor were Miller, Hughes, Wanek, Wilkinson. Opposed: None. Motion carried.*

## **ANTELOPE COUNTY AG SOCEITY SPECIAL DESIGNATED LIQUOR LICENSE**

*Hughes moved to approve the Antelope County Ag Society special designated liquor license for August 2<sup>nd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> for Antelope County Fair at Riverside Park. Seconded by Miller. Roll call votes in favor were Wanek, Wilkinson, Miller, Hughes. Opposed: None. Motion carried.*

## **NELIGH YOUNG MEN'S CLUB STREET CLOSURE FOR JULY 7<sup>TH</sup>**

NYMC member Steve Simonsen reported a new event was planned for the Old Mill Festivities this year. He reported the NYMC would like to hold a bean bag toss tournament, also known as a cornhole tournament, on Saturday, July 7<sup>th</sup> and requested a street closure on 3<sup>rd</sup> Street from Main Street to the alley in front of the Dew Drop. He reported the American Legion recently had a tournament with a great turnout. He reported that with the 4<sup>th</sup> of July holiday in the middle of the week this year and many folks travel out of town for the day that the NYMC were looking to attract the weekend traffic on the following Saturday after the holiday. He reported Bob Hanson was in the process of applying for a special designated liquor license for the event which would be presented at a later meeting. Discussion was held for discussing the street closure with Heritage Bank for

advance notice of the event which would begin after banking hours on July 7<sup>th</sup>. *Wilkinson moved to approve the street closure on 3<sup>rd</sup> Street from Main Street to the alley on July 7<sup>th</sup> at 1:00P.M. for the Neligh Young Men's Club corn hole tournament.* Seconded by Miller. Roll call votes in favor were Hughes, Wanek, Miller, Wilkinson. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

#### **ADVANCED CONSULTING ENGINEERING SERVICES CONTRACT FOR SEWER AND PAVING OF ALLEY**

Clerk Klabenes reported on the contract for the city engineer to do topography, design, bidding and construction of the paving and sewer improvements of the alley between 3<sup>rd</sup> Street and 4<sup>th</sup> Street west of the ESU #8 building. She reported the City Engineer was in contact with the ESU General Contractor who stated construction could begin after July 1<sup>st</sup>. *Wanek moved to approve a contract with Advanced Consulting Engineering Services for sewer and paving improvements for the alley between 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Street and Main and N Street for \$8,000.* Seconded by Wilkinson. Roll call votes in favor were Hughes, Wilkinson, Miller, Wanek. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

#### **PLANS, SPECS AND COST ESTIMATE FOR SEWER AND PAVING OF ALLEY**

*Wilkinson moved to authorize Advanced Consulting Engineering Services to prepare plans, specs and a cost estimate for the sewer and paving improvements in the alley between 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Street and Main and N Street.* Seconded by Hughes. Roll call votes in favor were Wanek, Hughes, Miller, Wilkinson. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

#### **BOY SCOUT CABIN REPAIRS**

Mike Wright reported the septic backup and bathroom flood had contributed to the repairs of the Boy Scout Cabin in Penn Park. He reported that the west end of the building had incurred some damage where the concrete pad did not extend as far as the foundation. He reported gutters were installed and about 4 foot of sheeting was being replaced with new siding and a furnace. He reported after seeking public donations and exploring some grants, about \$5,000 in expenses was still needed. Discussion was held for applying for the County Lodging funds and Thrivent grant. Discussion was held for lottery funds as a community betterment project. *Hughes moved to approve a \$5,000 donation from the lottery funds to the Boy Scouts for the cabin repairs in Penn Park.* Seconded by Miller. Roll call votes in favor were Wilkinson, Hughes, Wanek, Miller. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

#### **PROCLAMATION FOR MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS**

Mayor Hartz proudly declared a proclamation for Mental Health Awareness for the month of May in Neligh. In the proclamation, the Mayor called upon citizens, government agencies, public and private institutions, business and schools in Neligh to recommit our community to increasing awareness and understanding of mental health, the steps our citizens can take to protect their mental health, and the need for appropriate and accessible services for all people with mental illnesses at all stages, and especially before Stage Four.

#### **APPOINTMENTS**

Tabled to next month.

#### **ECONOMIC DIRECTOR REPORT**

Economic Development Director Steinmeyer thanked everyone for attending the Neligh Care & Rehab fundraiser earlier that evening. He reported on three business DTR applications with the first one from Urbanec Furniture who had applied for a Fix-the-Bones grant to replace the roof on 502 Main Street for \$17,432.50 as a 50% match. He reported Smitty's Super Clean had applied for a Façade Improvement grant to replace the entrance and exit overhead doors on the automatic car wash bay for \$7,200 for a 50% match. He reported Big Red Motorsports had applied for a Façade Improvement grant to place new siding on two exterior walls of 106 East 3<sup>rd</sup> Street for \$4,525 as a 50% match. He reported the review committee had recommended approval for

the three applications totaling \$25,157.50 in DTR Funds. Discussion was held for future application requests to be available in council packets prior to the meeting. *Hughes moved to approve the Fix-the-Bones and Façade Improvement applications as recommended by the application committee for Urbanec Furniture, Smittys Super Clean and Big Red Motorsports totaling \$29,157.50 in DTR funds.* Seconded by Wanek. Roll call votes in favor were Wanek, Miller, Wilkinson, Hughes. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

Director Steinmeyer reported both Wanek Pharmacy and Neligh Family Dentistry had applied for a Design Planning Grant for \$250 each from local matching funds for a professional firm to provide design renderings for planned building restoration. *Wanek moved to approve the Design Planning Grant applications as recommended by the application committee for Wanek Pharmacy and Neligh Family Dentistry totaling \$500 in local match funds.* Seconded by Hughes. Roll call votes in favor were Wilkinson, Miller, Hughes, Wanek. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

Steinmeyer provided an update on DTR Funds with \$102,208 in Façade Improvement funds, \$82,461 in Fix-The-Bones funds totaling \$184,669 committed to downtown businesses from the \$350,000 DTR grant. He reported approximately 12 businesses were working to submit grant applications. He reported the ED Board had discussed the DTR guidelines and at this time would not recommend an amendment.

He also reported 3 LB840 loans were recommended by the LB840 Loan Committee. He reported interest rate and terms of the loans coincide with 5 year term increments. He reported Urbanec Furniture requested a loan for \$20,500 on a total project cost of \$60,500 for the purchase and upgrade of the former CVA Ag Coop facility. *Wanek moved to approve the LB840 Loan to Urbanec Furniture for \$20,500 for a 15 year term and 3.5% interest as recommended by the LB840 Loan Committee.* Seconded by Hughes. Roll call votes in favor were Miller, Wanek, Hughes, Wilkinson. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

ED Director Steinmeyer reported Learn As You Grow Childcare requested a loan for \$9,600 on a total project cost of \$48,000 for a turn-key daycare at 509 West 8<sup>th</sup> Street, which is located across the street from the Westward Elementary school. He reported the current owner of two daycares was selling the business to two separate entities and the clientele would remain unchanged. *Wanek moved to approve the LB840 Loan to Learn As You Grow Childcare for \$9,600 for a 5 year term and 2.5% interest as recommended by the LB840 Loan Committee.* Seconded by Wilkinson. Roll call votes in favor were Wilkinson, Wanek, Miller, Hughes. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

He also reported Bobbi's Busy Bees Childcare requested a loan for \$7,600 on a total project cost of \$30,400 for a turn-key daycare at 607 West 7<sup>th</sup> Street. *Wanek moved to approve the LB840 Loan to Bobbi's Busy Bees Childcare for \$7,600 for a 10 year term and 3% interest as recommended by the LB840 Loan Committee.* Seconded by Miller. Roll call votes in favor were Miller, Wilkinson, Wanek, Hughes. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

Steinmeyer provided an update on the Rural Workforce Housing Grant application with Neligh's total including LB840 \$50,000, Electric funds of \$25,000 and local donations of \$26,000. He reported both Clearwater and Plainview had committed \$100,000 each. He reported the NIFA funds must be available in a general pool for all three communities to access based on priority of project and approval by CORE, where CORE would be the administrator for the Rural Workforce Housing Grant revolving Loan. He reported the funds could be used for home rehab or for a developer to use for gap financing. Discussion was held for members of CORE and community representation. The ED Director reported the Rural Workforce Housing Grant application incurred a \$3,000 fee and CORE was asking each community to cost share in the application fee. He reported the ED Board recommended \$750 with the balance shared with Plainview, Clearwater and CORE each contributing \$750. *Wanek moved to approve a \$750 cost share for the Rural Workforce Housing Grant application fee from LB840 funds.* Seconded by Hughes. Roll call votes in favor were Wilkinson, Hughes, Miller, Wanek. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

Discussion was held for a review of the 6 month financials on meetings, mileage and technology expenses. Discussion was held for the Director to help the council understand the Rural Workforce Housing Grant with a summary sheet for the housing projects. *Wanek moved to approve the March ED Director's report.* Seconded by Miller. Roll call votes in favor were Miller, Hughes, Wilkinson, Wanek. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

## **POLICE REPORT**

Chief Wright reported he had purchased a heavy built speed trailer for \$6,800 and would pickup the trailer rather than shipping the unit to cut the expense closer to the \$6,000 budget. He reported Tilden had requested to borrow the existing trailer and he would continue to work with neighboring communities. *Hughes moved to approve the March Police report of 221 calls.* Seconded by Wanek. Roll call votes in favor were Hughes, Wilkinson, Miller, Wanek. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

## **CITY SUPT. REPORT**

Supt. Bly reported that recycling would begin working with a Laurel, Nebraska recycling hub. He reported the recycling hub will accept the current products of cardboard, tin, plastics and paper and the owner had visited Neligh's facility on site for a firsthand view of our collection and volume. He reported two minor changes would begin May 1<sup>st</sup> with labels removed from tin cans and separating plastics into three groups by separating #1 from #2 and grouping #3-#7. He reported educational flyers would begin with Thursday curbside pickup and also include media, social media and handouts at the compactor. Discussion was held for recycling magnets with curbside pickup date reminders to be available during community clean up weekend and distributed to the public. Discussion was held for watching a Hefty program with non-recyclable plastics if made available in more locations in Nebraska.

The City Supt also reported DEQ visited the sewer plant and was pleased with the plant inspections. He reported the concrete sidewalks would have a yellow warning painted on them later this year. He reported two employees would be taking the sewer test in North Platte and attending sewer school in Kansas after May 1<sup>st</sup>. He reported crews were patching holes in streets. Discussion was held for considering 5<sup>th</sup> Street in front of the Methodist church and 6<sup>th</sup> Street in front of the high school in future street projects.

Mayor Hartz read a complimenting letter from Heidi Rethmeier sharing her gratitude to Josh Capler and Scott Kester for their response to a water service call thanking the two gentlemen for their skills, service and integrity.

*Hughes moved to approve the Supt. Report.* Seconded by Miller. Roll call votes in favor were Wanek, Miller, Wilkinson, Hughes. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

## **ELECTRIC REPORT**

Generation Supervisor Capler reported no outages for the previous month. He reported the cement pad was poured at the sewer plant and the backup transformer was onsite. He reported that if the backup transformer was needed to put in use that Rutjens Construction could assist with moving and setting the transformer in place. He reported the electrical work in the alley behind ESU #8 would be completed later in the week. *Miller moved to approve the March electric operations report.* Seconded by Wanek. Roll call votes in favor were Miller, Wanek, Wilkinson, Hughes. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

City Attorney McNally reported he would be meeting with the attorneys and Power Review Board in the next couple of weeks to review the Supreme Courts opinion.

## **APPROVAL OF BILLS**

*Moved by Hughes to approve the bills as submitted.* Seconded by Wilkinson. Roll call votes in favor were Wanek, Wilkinson, Miller, Hughes. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

There being no further business to conduct, *Wanek moved to adjourn.* Seconded by Miller. Roll call votes in favor were Hughes, Wilkinson, Miller, Wanek. Opposed: None. Thereupon Mayor Hartz declared the meeting adjourned. Time 8:35 P.M.

City of Neligh

---

Joe Hartz, Mayor

ATTEST

---

Danielle Klabenes, City Clerk

## **CERTIFICATION**

I, the undersigned, City Clerk of the City of Neligh, Nebraska, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of proceedings had and done by the Mayor and City Council on April 10, 2018; that all of the subjects included in the foregoing proceedings were contained in the agenda for the meeting, kept continually current and readily available for public inspection at the office of the City Clerk; that such agenda items were sufficiently descriptive to give the public reasonable notice of the matters to be considered at the meeting; that such subjects were contained in said agenda for at least twenty-four hours prior to said meeting; that at least one copy of all reproducible material discussed at the meeting was available at the meeting for examination and copying by members of the public; that the said minutes 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 convened meeting of said body; that all news media requesting notification concerning meetings of said body were provided advance notification of the time and place of said meeting and the subjects to be discussed at said meeting; and that a current copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act was available and accessible to members of the public, posted during such meeting in the room in which such meeting was held.

---

City Clerk

(SEAL)