

**CITY OF YUTAN
P.O. BOX 215 - 112 VINE ST.
YUTAN, NE 68073
(402) 625-2112**

EXTRACT FROM MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YUTAN, IN THE COUNTY OF SAUNDERS, STATE OF NEBRASKA HELD AT THE CITY OFFICE IN SAID CITY ON THE 21ST DAY OF JULY 2020, AT 7:00 P.M.

Notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by posting notice, a designated method for giving notice, as shown by the Affidavit of Publication and Certificate of Posting Notice attached to these minutes. Notice of this meeting was given to Mayor Egr and all members of the Yutan City Council, and a copy of their acknowledgment of receipt of notice and the agenda is attached to these minutes. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Egr. Council Members Beck, McLaughlin, Peterson, and Thompson were present. Mayor Egr opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. Egr then informed all of the individuals present of the online location of the Open Meetings Act and Code of Conduct.

- 1) **Consent Agenda:** A motion was made by Peterson and seconded by Thompson to approve minutes from June 16, 2020 regular council meeting. Upon roll call, vote was as follows: YEA: Beck, McLaughlin, Peterson, and Thompson. NO: None. Motion carried. A motion was made by Thompson and seconded by McLaughlin to approve the June Treasurer's Report. Upon roll call, vote was as follows: YEA: Beck, McLaughlin, Peterson, and Thompson. NO: None. Motion carried. A motion was made by Thompson and seconded by McLaughlin to approve the submitted claims except for the claim to Roger Stiefel. Upon roll call, vote was as follows: YEA: McLaughlin, Peterson, and Thompson. NO: Beck. Motion carried. Claims: Badger Meter 256.32; Biblionix 800.00; Bromm Lindahl 1,015.00; Canon Financial 212.00; Cardmember Services 2,240.94; Cole Bockelmann 1,045.44; Companion Life 219.72; Cubbys 406.85; Dept of Treasury 9.80; Egan Supply 126.50; Fair-Play 820.00; Ferguson Enterprises 161.49; Frontier Coop 766.50; Gretna Sani 150.00; Int Rev 8,910.82; Jarrod Miller 150.00; Katy Neukirch 146.22; Laurie Van Ackeren 68.16; Lowes 573.56; Menards 343.21; Midwest Labs 71.80; MUD 85.58; NE Dept of Rev 5,106.92; NE UC Fund 114.61; Nebr Public Health 318.00; NMC 54.85; Odeys 358.00; Omaha World-Herald 450.16; One Call 36.89; OPPD 4,737.16; Payroll 33,314.61; SENDD 1,575.00; SYNCB/AMAZON 1,469.88; Thayer's Mudjacking 390.00; The Sherwin Williams Co 2,010.74; Tys Outdoor Power 635.81; U.S.P.O. 154.00; U.S. Cellular 149.46; Wahoo-Waverly-Ashland Newspaper 316.71; Wahoo Concrete 248.00; Wahoo Newspapers 50.75; Insuf Chk 60.14
- 2) **Open Discussion from Public:** Randy Jensen asked the council to reconsider the ordinance proposed last month that would allow the legal harboring of chickens. Mayor Egr explained that the council cannot take action on anything that is not on the agenda

and would need to address it at a later meeting. Council Member Peterson mentioned that her understanding was that, because no action was taken at the prior meeting, this matter was considered closed. The clerk was instructed to ask the City's legal counsel whether an ordinance could be revisited without any revisions after failing at a prior meeting.

3) Presentation from Guests

- a) None

5) Ordinances and Public Hearings

- a) City Clerk-Treasurer Neukirch stated that the council member's concerns noted at the last meeting are addressed by Section 3-218 (D) of the Yutan Municipal Code. A motion to waive the three readings and approve Ordinance 764 was made by McLaughlin and seconded by Thompson. Upon roll call, vote was as follows: YEA: Beck, McLaughlin, Peterson, and Thompson. NO: None. Motion carried.

6) Resolutions

- a) City Clerk-Treasurer explained that Utility Superintendent Wilke went through the town, as requested, to see whether any other sidewalks had been removed by homeowners in recent history, and while he found several missing sidewalks in older areas of town, none showed evidence of recent removal; staff also spoke with multiple long-term residents in those neighborhoods, who stated that sidewalks were never present in those locations. Allen Rowell, a resident of Yutan for approximately 50 years, confirmed that information to the council during the meeting. Mr. Rowell also expressed his position that council needs to make the sidewalks addressed in this resolution be replaced, as he feels there would be a liability on the City if sidewalks aren't replaced and someone gets hurt as a result. He advised the council to begin looking at missing and damaged sidewalks on a regular basis but to approve this resolution in the meantime, to which Council Member Peterson concurred. Council President McLaughlin suggested having the plan phased out over several years to reduce the potential burden to the City. Council Member Peterson then suggested prioritizing damaged and any recently removed sidewalks over sidewalks that have never been in place. A motion to approve Resolution 2020-8 was made by Peterson and seconded by McLaughlin. Upon roll call, vote was as follows: YEA: Beck, McLaughlin, and Peterson. NO: None. ABSTAIN: Thompson. Motion carried.

7) Other Action Items

- a) A motion to ratify all actions taken by the Yutan City Council during meetings held virtually via Zoom on April 21, 2020; May 19, 2020; May 27, 2020; June 2, 2020; June 8, 2020; and June 16, 2020, pursuant to Gov. Ricketts' Executive Orders No. 20-03 and No. 20-24 was made by Peterson and seconded by Thompson. Upon roll call vote was as follows: YEA: Beck, McLaughlin, Peterson, and Thompson. NO: None. Motion carried.
- b) City Clerk-Treasurer Neukirch explained that Yutan Public Schools Superintendent Mitch Hoffer requested that the previously approved license and management agreement be amended to extend the expiration of term from

September 30, 2020, to October 31, 2020. A motion to amend the agreement as proposed was made by McLaughlin and seconded by Thompson. Upon roll call vote was as follows: YEA: Beck, McLaughlin, Peterson, and Thompson. NO: None. Motion carried.

- c) Council members discussed the installation costs and whether maintenance staff could install the slide themselves. A motion to approve the bid from Cunningham Recreation for a slide at the train park for an amount not to exceed \$5,601.40 was made by Thompson and seconded by Peterson. Upon roll call, vote was as follows: YEA: Beck, McLaughlin, Peterson, and Thompson. NO: None. Motion carried.
- d) Council Member Thompson informed the council that he would like to donate his council salary of \$2,000.00 to purchase a new volleyball net system for City maintenance staff to install and is requesting that the City contribute the remaining \$600.00. A motion to approve a contribution of \$600.00 to Sport Construction Midwest was made by McLaughlin and seconded by Peterson. Upon roll call, vote was as follows: YEA: Beck, McLaughlin, Peterson, and Thompson. NO: None. Motion carried. Several council members thanked Council Member Thompson for his generosity in donating \$2,000.00 to this project.

8) Discussion Items

- a) The next budget workshop will be held on August 13th at 5:30 p.m.

9) Supervisor's Reports

- a) Library Director's report was submitted.
- b) Police Department's report was submitted.
- c) Maintenance Department's report was submitted.
- d) City Clerk's report was submitted.

- 10) Council Discussions:** Council Member Thompson asked the council whether they would reconsider the previous proposal to add health insurance to the City's benefits. He stated that he does not believe it would any more expensive than the currently offered Health Reimbursement Arrangement, and he clarified that he would not be in favor of offering a stipend to employees who choose not to enroll in the insurance. Council President McLaughlin agreed that no stipend should be paid in lieu of an offered benefit. Council Member Peterson questioned whether the insurance policy would offer favorable terms, given the low number of employees who would be eligible to enroll. She asked whether insurance would be as beneficial to employees as the HRA and whether employees who get insurance from a spouse would view this action as a benefit being taken away from them. This matter will be discussed further during the upcoming budget workshop. Council Member Thompson then brought up the increasing number of confirmed COVID-19 cases in Yutan and asked whether the council would consider closing the office to the public in order to minimize exposure for a pregnant staff member. Mayor Egr and Council Member Peterson voiced their support, and Council Member Peterson suggested having minimal open hours during the administrative assistant's shift during which City Clerk-Treasurer Neukirch could work from home. Council President McLaughlin pointed out that many public offices are only open by appointment, which is

another option they could consider. Ultimately, it was decided that the office would be closed to the public starting July 22nd except by appointment, which would include the requirement of masks and social distancing guidelines. Staff was also instructed to contact Three Rivers Public Health Department to ascertain how many confirmed, active cases of COVID-19 exist in Yutan each week and publicize that information, if allowed by the public health department.

Meeting adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

Next regular meeting of the Yutan City Council will be held August 18, 2020, at 7:00 p.m.

Darin Egr, Mayor

Katy Neukirch, City Clerk-Treasurer