

The Hartington City Council met on June 08, 2020 at the city hall for their regular meeting beginning at 7:00 P.M. Notice of time and place of the meeting was given in the advance notice by posting. Notice of time and place of the meeting was communicated in the advance notice to the mayor and council.

Present were Mayor Becker; Councilmen Sudbeck, Peitz, Christensen, and Bartling; City Clerk – Treasurer Schaecher, and Legal Advisor Pier.

Mayor Becker called the meeting to order at 7:02 P.M., followed by all present reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. He announced that the open meeting law poster was on the back wall of the council room and reminded all present to silence their cell phones.

A motion to approve the minutes of the May 26 and May 29, 2020 meetings and the May 2020 Treasurer's Report was made by Sudbeck and seconded by Bartling. A roll call vote was taken. Bartling – yes, Christensen – yes, Sudbeck – yes, and Peitz – yes. Motion carried.

The May 2020 Cedar County Sheriff's report was distributed by Deputy Thoene. There were 399 ¼ hours patrolled. School traffic was 0 hours. Calls of service were 1 EMS assist, 3 accidents, 2 coroner calls, 1 assault, 1 abandoned vehicle, 1 disturbance, 1 suspicious vehicle, and 1 animal complaint. Traffic stops were 3 verbal warnings, 0 written warnings, and 0 citations. There were 0 arrests.

Building permits were presented and reviewed from Brandon Eickhoff – Building Addition and Dean Dowling - Deck. A motion was made by Christensen and seconded by Sudbeck to approve the permits. A roll call vote was taken. Bartling – yes, Christensen – yes, Sudbeck – yes, and Peitz – yes. Motion carried.

Peg Anderson from Anderson & Anderson Insurance presented a dividend check from EMC Insurance in the amount of \$27,042.92. The check was the amount of the City's share of the EMC Nebraska Municipality Safety Group Dividend Program. This was the second largest dividend in history of the program, which started 26 years ago.

Chris Miller spoke to the Council regarding a release of easement request near his property in which he purchased from Pizza Hut. Miller would like to eliminate the route through the Pizza Hut parking lot. There will still be an open entry by the Cobblestone Inn. Legal Advisor Pier stated he will work on getting a description of the easement and reference the original survey.

The opening of the swimming pool was the next topic on the agenda. Councilman Bartling stated the lifeguards are all aware of the Covid 19 guidelines and are comfortable with opening. There is a capacity of 250, so with the regulations, the pools can be at 25% capacity. Councilman Bartling made a motion to open the swimming pool for the season and this was seconded by Councilman Sudbeck. A roll call vote was taken. Bartling – yes, Christensen – yes, Sudbeck – yes, and Peitz – yes. Motion carried.

Resolution 2020608 – Covid 19 and Use of Municipal Swimming Pool was introduced by Councilman Sudbeck. A motion was made by Councilman Christensen to adopt the resolution and this was seconded by Councilman Bartling. A roll call vote was taken. Bartling – yes, Christensen – yes, Sudbeck – yes, and Peitz – yes. Motion carried.

Clerk Schaecher discussed the transfer station permit renewal with the Council, which is due to expire in February of 2021. Clerk Schaecher explained that she was not employed during the last renewal process, so was unsure on even how to begin. Schaecher stated the Program Specialist from the Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy has been very intimidating during phone conversations and has threatened to shut down the transfer station if the permit is not done correctly. Due to these concerns, Clerk Schaecher told the Council that she contacted Roger Protzman from JEO Consulting to assist the City with the permit process. Roger has submitted a proposal of \$5,000-\$7,500. After further discussion, Councilman Christensen made a motion to allow JEO to complete the transfer station renewal and this was seconded by Councilman Sudbeck. A roll call vote was taken. Bartling – yes, Christensen – yes, Sudbeck – yes, and Peitz – yes. Motion carried.

Councilman Christensen explained the service agreement from Groundwater Solutions Group. Christensen stated that the City had already budgeted to replace one of the wells and this might be a better solution. Christensen stated this is the oldest well and the nitrate level is always high. Groundwater Solutions will augment the grout seal of the well in hopes to save the well and get better water from deeper in the ground. The project total is \$16,820.00. Councilman Bartling made a motion to approve the service agreement from Groundwater Solutions Group and this was seconded by

Councilman Sudbeck. A roll call vote was taken. Bartling – yes, Christensen – yes, Sudbeck – yes, and Peitz – yes. Motion carried.

Councilman Christensen discussed 2 estimates from Christensen Well & Irrigation in relation to the project from Groundwater Solutions Group. There will be 2 monitoring wells and they will pull and reset the pump on the east airport well. The estimates total \$11,840.00. Councilman Bartling made a motion to approve the estimates and this was seconded by Councilman Sudbeck. A roll call vote was taken. Bartling – yes, Sudbeck – yes, and Peitz – yes. Motion carried. Christensen abstained and signed a Potential Conflict of Interest Statement.

Department Reports:

Park – Councilman Peitz: None. Councilman Sudbeck reported the baseball fence at Felber Park is complete and Marjorie Kathol’s swing is complete at the east park.

Pool/Interim Gun Range – Councilman Bartling: The pool was just approved to open and there was nothing recent to report on the gun range.

Complex/Auditorium – Councilman Sudbeck: Mulch has been added around the new playground equipment and there was nothing recent to report on the auditorium.

Fire/Ambulance-Councilman Christensen: None

General – Mayor Becker: None

Steve Pier: None

Clerk Schaecher: None

Public Comments: Rob Dump asked what needed to be done in order to open the pool. Councilman Bartling stated the pool needs filled and the chemicals need to be added. Chris Miller stated a Phase II study is being done on June 16, 2020 by JEO through a grant.

The following bills were presented for payment:

General: EMC Insurance 13,637.66, Great America Financial Services 105.00, Hartelco 291.04, Hartington Shopper 64.90, NPPD 12.00, Northeast Nebraska News Company 361.68, and US Able Life 232.00

Streets: Appera 23.19, Carhart Lumber 8.29, Cedar County Auto Parts 19.41, Colonial Life 180.68, Farmers Union Coop 654.66, Grossenburg Implement 1,426.11, US Cellular 62.83, Wiechelman’s Repair Shop 78.62, and Yankton Janitorial Supply 54.85

Water: Z. Bauman 13.30, Hartington Shopper 68.90, K. Shoemaker 73.57, One Call Concepts 21.40, Peitz Service 35.92, and US Cellular 31.19

Sewer: Farmers Union Coop 40.51, Hartington Shopper 68.90, Midwest Laboratories 409.00, One Call Concepts 21.40, and Wiechelman’s Repair Shop 28.42

Sanitation: Colonial Life 237.50, Hartington Shopper 68.90, K. Shoemaker 70.00, L.P. Gill 5,580.54, and Sanitation Products, Inc. 296.00

Fire: Dearborn National Life 105.44, Farmers Union Coop 101.39, Hartelco 45.17, Kruse True Value 79.95, Peitz Service 184.19, Rural Fire Board 6,623.45, Tri-State Communications 30.45, and US Cellular 62.38

Police: Cedar County Sheriff 13,134.56

Ambulance: Emergency Medical Products 272.51, Farmers Union Coop 126.19, Hartelco 45.16, Kruse True Value 76.77, Matheson Tri-Gas 94.86, R. Jueden 950.00, and US Cellular 141.40

Cemetery: Cedar Knox Rural Water 120.35 and T. Albers 1,800.00

Recreation: Carhart Lumber 565.24 and Kruse True Value 77.97

Pool: Kruse True Value 143.24

Parks: Farmers Union Coop 134.41, Grossenburg Implement 65.28, GameTime Company 3,287.46, Kruse True Value 179.82, Sheila's Country Gardens 133.89, and Yankton Janitorial Supply 117.80

Complex: Farmers Union Coop 54.90 and Hartelco 43.30

Library: T. Anderson 155.10, Carhart Lumber 39.16, D&J Variety 44.46, Dollar General 12.70, Hartelco 152.09, and Kruse True Value 51.15

City Hall: Burnell's Foodtown 34.11, Colonial Life 49.40, D&J Variety 56.89, Janer's Cakes 20.00, and Yankton Janitorial Supply 54.85

Economic
Development: Hartelco 57.71

Transfer
Station: Deere Credit 476.68, Farmers Union Coop 278.20, and Hartelco 45.53

Payroll for the month of May was \$40,813.95.

A motion to pay the bills except for Peitz Service was made by Councilman Bartling and seconded by Councilman Christensen. A roll call vote was taken. Bartling – yes, Christensen – yes, Sudbeck – yes, and Peitz - yes. Motion carried. A motion to pay the Peitz Service bill was made by Councilman Bartling and seconded by Councilman Christensen. A roll call vote was taken. Bartling –yes, Christensen – yes, and Sudbeck – yes. Motion carried. Peitz abstained and signed a Potential Conflict of Interest Statement.

A motion to adjourn was made by Christensen and seconded by Sudbeck. A roll call vote was taken. Bartling – yes, Christensen – yes, Sudbeck – yes, and Peitz – yes.. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:44 P.M. The next scheduled meeting is for June 22, 2020.

Respectfully submitted,

Natalie Schaecher
City Clerk - Treasurer