

The Hartington City Council met on April 12, 2021 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 Peitz, Sudbeck, and Bartling; City Clerk – Treasurer Schaecher; and Deputy Clerk Carlson. Councilman Christensen was absent. Legal Advisor Pier was present via Zoom.

Mayor Becker called the meeting to order at 7:00 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 March 22, 2021 meeting and March 2021 Treasurer's Report was made by Peitz and seconded by Sudbeck. A roll call vote was taken. Bartling – yes, Peitz – yes, and Sudbeck – yes. Motion carried.

No one from the Cedar County Sheriff's Department was present to discuss the March 2021 Sheriff's Report.

The Arbor Day Proclamation was read by Mayor Becker. The City of Hartington has been recognized as a Tree City USA by the National Arbor Day Foundation.

A building permit for Rich Pedersen – Deck was presented and reviewed. Councilman Peitz made a motion to approve the permit and this was seconded by Bartling. A roll call vote was taken. Bartling – yes, Peitz – yes, and Sudbeck – yes. Motion carried.

A sign permit for Reinvented Mercantile was presented and reviewed. Councilman Bartling made a motion to approve the permit and this was seconded by Sudbeck. A roll call vote was taken. Bartling – yes, Peitz – yes, and Sudbeck – yes. Motion carried.

Chad Cattau, representing Cedar Catholic High School, approached the Council to discuss a request to expand the press box at the complex. Blair Kalin was unable to attend to represent Hartington-Newcastle Public School, as he was still at a track meet. Cattau stated there is a need for a larger press box in order to accommodate for radio and TV crews. Cattau stated that TV crews do not like to attend events when the weather is cold, so our schools are missing out on these events being televised. Cattau stated they did not yet have a cost estimation, so Councilman Sudbeck stated he would work with Trent at Radek for a projection. Since there was not yet a developed plan or cost estimate, Councilman Peitz made a motion to allow the schools to pursue the expansion and this was seconded by Councilman Bartling. A roll call vote was taken. Bartling – yes, Sudbeck – yes, and Peitz – yes. Motion carried.

Ordinance No. 873 – Nebraska Public Power District Franchise Agreement was introduced by Councilman Sudbeck. A motion to dispense with the readings on three separate days was made by Councilman Sudbeck and seconded by Peitz. A roll call vote was taken. Sudbeck – yes, Peitz – yes, and Becker – yes. Motion carried. Bartling abstained. A motion to adopt Ordinance No. 873 was made by Peitz and seconded by Sudbeck. A roll call vote was taken. Peitz – yes, Sudbeck – yes, and Becker – yes. Motion carried. Bartling abstained. A motion was made to publish the ordinance in The Cedar County News by Councilman Peitz and this was seconded by Councilman Bartling. A roll call vote was taken. Bartling – yes, Peitz – yes, and Sudbeck – yes. Motion carried.

Dan Kathol approached the Council to discuss sidewalk replacement, surrounding the Veterans Memorial site. Kathol stated there is approximately 240 square feet of sidewalk that was already in disrepair prior to the start of the project. Kathol requested this portion to be at the City's expense. Kathol had a dollar amount prepared for the City's portion, but Councilman Bartling made a suggestion to not set a dollar amount due to price fluctuation. A motion to approve the City's portion of the repairs was made by Councilman Sudbeck and seconded by Councilman Bartling. A roll call vote was taken. Bartling – yes, Peitz – yes, and Sudbeck – yes. Motion carried.

Department Reports:

Park – Councilman Peitz: None

Pool/Interim Gun Range – Councilman Bartling: The new pool filter installation is almost complete.

Complex/Auditorium – Councilman Sudbeck: None for the auditorium. Ryan Heimes is working on the little league baseball fields and rock was brought into the shot put area.

Fire/Ambulance-Councilman Christensen: Absent

General – Mayor Becker: Shelly Story has been hired, along with another employee to work at our parks. Interviews are being scheduled for the City Superintendent’s position and also for Bob Hamilton’s position.

Steve Pier: None

Clerk Schaecher: Peg Anderson was unable to attend this meeting, but wanted to make sure the City received our dividend check from EMC Insurance. The check is in the amount of \$29,728.30.

Deputy Clerk Carlson: None

Public Comments: Eric Sanders from Fly By Night Fireworks approached the Council to discuss the upcoming fireworks season. Megan Becker is going to run the stand again and the placement will either be by the Cobblestone Inn or the former Pizza Hut parking lot. Cheryl Holm approached the Council to discuss the need for a “No Outlet” sign for Dooley Drive and a Stop sign at the intersection of Oak and Bow. Holm stated a vehicle blocked the outlet of Dooley Drive one day, causing her mother to miss an appointment. This vehicle was a business truck, doing tree removal, and no one was in the truck to address the issue. Holm stated that she has witnessed drivers driving over the speed limit and not slowing down for the Yield sign at Oak and Bow. Councilman Bartling stated he has driven down Oak for several years and never noticed a problem. Councilman Peitz also stated he has driven down Oak for several years and had not noticed a problem, but did talk with the Sheriff’s Office after Holm’s initial complaint. Councilman Bartling asked Holm if she knew the name of the business who had blocked Dooley Drive, as communicating with workers makes a huge difference. Holm reported that she had taken a photo with her phone, but did not have the photo with her. Mayor Becker requested that Holm contact the Council with the name of the business so follow-up can be done. There were no other public comments.

The following bills were presented for payment:

- General: Cedar County Register of Deeds 28.00, EMC Insurance 13,006.41, Great America Financial Services 105.00, Hartelco 291.99, Kennedy, Pier, Loftus, & Reynolds 400.00, and Northeast Nebraska News Company 281.18
- Streets: Appera 45.59, Bank of Hartington 2,353.56, Bomgaars 102.94, Carhart Lumber 5.99, D&J Variety 5.99, Farmers Union Coop 696.20, Grossenburg Implement 1,176.49, Hartington Shopper 49.00, JEO 2,052.90, Kruse True Value 47.98, Leise Concrete 8,680.00, NPPD 3,438.71, Northeast Nebraska News Company 18.40, US Cellular 63.42, an US Able Life 14.50
- Water: Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Nebraska 2,585.08, Bank of Hartington 166.67, E. Becker 73.52, Burnell’s Foodtown 68.04, Carhart Lumber 1.49, Hartington Shopper 49.00, Municipal Supply 571.90, NPPD 429.21, A. Newton 66.54, Northeast Nebraska News Company 18.40, One Call Concepts 10.70, Peitz Service 51.39, Plumbing & Electric 8,642.26, US Cellular 31.78, and US Able Life 14.50
- Sewer: Bomgaars 3.69, D&J Variety 12.84, Hartington Shopper 49.00, JEO 990.00, Midwest Laboratories 1,262.00, NPPD 2,667.00, Northeast Nebraska News Company 18.40, and One Call Concepts 10.70
- Sanitation: Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Nebraska 1,745.40, Bank of Hartington 166.66, E. Becker 70.00, Bomgaars 53.94, Colonial Life 237.50, T. Klug 23.19, L.P. Gill 2,501.10, and US Able Life 29.00
- Fire: Dearborn National Life 107.68, Ed. M. Feld Equipment 1,091.70, Hartelco 46.01, Hartington Shopper 147.00, Heiman 3,006.00, Kruse True Value 2.58, NPPD 120.32, Peitz Service 2,200.33, Rural Fire Board 7,177.75, and US Cellular 63.56
- Police: Cedar County Sheriff 13,265.91
- Ambulance: Farmers Union Coop 73.28, Hartelco 46.00, Kruse True Value 6.99, NPPD 88.75, and US Cellular 163.44

Cemetery: Cedar Knox Rural Water 50.00 and Plumbing & Electric 200.00

Recreation: NPPD 63.16

Pool: Bomgaars 15.21, Carhart Lumber 129.98, NPPD 47.37, and Recreonics 983.54

Parks: Hartington Tree 600.00, Hartington Shopper 98.00, NPPD 326.11, and Northeast Nebraska News Company 41.40

Complex: Hartelco 44.61, Kruse True Value 65.88, NPPD 107.37, and Plumbing & Electric 195.58

Library: T. Anderson 154.35, Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Nebraska 4,720.78, Bank of Hartington 333.34, Hartelco 170.23, NPPD 155.03, and US Able Life 29.00

City Hall: Colonial Life 72.68, D&J Variety 34.99, Eakes Office Solutions 169.19, P. Guy 100.00, NPPD 403.77, and US Able Life 29.00

Auditorium: Appeara 115.40, Kruse True Value 6.99, and NPPD 100.31

Economic
Development: Eakes Office Solutions 84.59 and Hartelco 53.98

Transfer
Station: Bomgaars 93.92, D&J Variety 8.76, Deere Credit 461.28, Farmers Union Coop 757.72, Hartelco 47.21, Steffen Electric 275.36, and Wiechelman's Repair Shop 14.76

Total Payroll for the month of March 2021 was \$48,664.32.

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

A motion to adjourn was made by Sudbeck and seconded by Peitz. A roll call vote was taken. Bartling – yes, Peitz – yes, and Sudbeck – yes. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 P.M. The next scheduled meeting is for April 26, 2021.

Respectfully submitted,

Natalie Schaecher
City Clerk - Treasurer