

The Hartington City Council met on May 09, 2022 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 Bartling, Christensen, and Sudbeck; City Clerk-Treasurer Schaecher; Deputy Clerk de Waal; and Legal Advisor Pier. Councilman Peitz was absent.

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 April 25, 2022 meeting and the April 2022 Treasurer's Report was made by Christensen and seconded by Sudbeck. A roll call vote was taken. Bartling – yes, Christensen – yes, and Sudbeck – yes. Motion carried.

The April 2022 Cedar County Sheriff's report was distributed by Deputy Greiner. There were 382 ¼ hours patrolled. School traffic was 5 ½ hours. Calls of service were 2 EMS assists, 2 welfare checks, 6 disturbances, and 1 animal complaint. Traffic stops were 3 verbal warnings, 0 written warnings and 2 citations. There were 0 arrests.

A building permit was presented and reviewed from Preston Leise – Storage Shed. A motion was made by Christensen and seconded by Bartling to approve the permit. A roll call vote was taken. Bartling – yes, Christensen – yes, and Sudbeck – yes. Motion carried.

Peg Anderson from Anderson & Anderson Insurance was unable to be present, but wanted the Council to receive the dividend check from EMC Insurance in the amount of \$31,411.44. The check was the amount of the City's share of the EMC Nebraska Municipality Safety Group Dividend Program. This was the largest dividend in history of the program, which started over 25 years ago.

The X-Pert Lawn & Landscaping Complex Maintenance Agreement was presented and discussed. The cost of their services stayed the same as last year, which is the sum of \$10,200.00, payable in \$1,700.00 monthly installments from June to November. A motion to approve the agreement was made by Christensen and seconded by Sudbeck. A roll call vote was taken. Bartling – yes, Christensen – yes, and Sudbeck – yes. Motion carried.

A fireworks permit from Fly By Night Fireworks, LLC was next on the agenda. The permit did not arrive in time for the meeting, so Clerk Schaecher stated the item needed to be tabled. Councilman Christensen made a motion to table the permit and this was seconded by Sudbeck. A roll call vote was taken. Bartling –yes, Christensen – yes, and Sudbeck – yes. Motion carried.

The resignation from the Library Board and Library Foundation letter from Kristi Wintz was presented to the Mayor and Council. Kristi has been on the Library Board since June of 1998. Councilman Bartling made the motion to accept the resignation and this was seconded by Councilman Christensen. A roll call vote was taken. Bartling – yes, Christensen – yes, and Sudbeck – yes. Motion carried.

A nomination letter, appointing Lisa Becker to the Library Board was presented. Councilman Bartling made a motion to approve the appointment and this was seconded by Councilman Christensen. A roll call vote was taken. Bartling – yes, Christensen – yes, and Sudbeck – yes. Motion carried.

Resolution 20220411 – Establishing Rates for Water, Sewer, and Garbage Services was introduced by Councilman Sudbeck. A motion to adopt the resolution was made by Sudbeck and seconded by Christensen. A roll call vote was taken. Bartling – yes, Christensen –yes, and Sudbeck – yes. Motion carried.

Mayor Becker discussed the sewer camera request from Corey Kramer, Utility Superintendent. Becker stated it will be a useful tool and Pat Guy, former Utility Superintendent, had also requested a similar tool for the sewer lines. The cost of the camera is \$618.99. A motion to approve the camera purchase was made by Councilman Bartling and was seconded by Councilman Christensen. A roll call vote was taken. Bartling – yes, Christensen – yes, and Sudbeck – yes. Motion carried.

Mayor Becker discussed a water treatment studies that were performed by JEO and Stockwell. Mayor Becker stated Roger Protzman from JEO met with the current and former utility superintendents, along with a couple of council members. The City is able to submit the report from JEO to apply for grant funding. The City should know by October what type of funding could be received if the study is submitted soon. Becker stated the collection system is failing, so upgrades are needed, and we would still be able to operate the system while the new system is being built. A motion was made by Councilman Sudbeck to approve the study being submitted for grant funding with the understanding that the City will not be charged until a plan is agreed upon and this was seconded by Councilman Christensen. A roll call vote was taken. Bartling – yes, Christensen – yes, and Sudbeck – yes. Motion carried.

Mayor Becker discussed the sewer line install for the new Security Bank site. Becker stated he spoke to Pat Guy, former Utility Superintendent, and the City has usually brought the sewer line to the lot and then the customer has to tie in at their cost. Councilman Sudbeck made a motion to table the subject until the cost amount could be presented and this was seconded by Councilman Christensen. A roll call vote was taken. Bartling – yes, Christensen – yes, and Sudbeck – yes. Motion carried.

Clerk Schaecher stated Leo Woods from KCAU came into the office and requested the City purchase an ad for the Cedar County Fair. The cost is \$250.00. Councilman Bartling stated this request would be more fitting for the Chamber of Commerce. A motion to decline the purchase, but to pass on the information to the Chamber of Commerce was made by Councilman Bartling and was seconded by Councilman Christensen. A roll call vote was taken. Bartling – yes, Christensen – yes, and Sudbeck – yes. Motion carried.

Department Reports:

Park – Councilman Peitz: Absent

Pool/Interim Gun Range – Councilman Bartling: The pool is getting prepped to open with a possible opening day of May 27, 2022.

Complex/Auditorium – Councilman Sudbeck: We are nearing the end of track season. The auditorium is set to close for the summer at the end of the month.

Fire/Ambulance – Councilman Christensen: None

General – Mayor Becker: None

Steve Pier: None

Clerk Schaecher: A request to have a light put on an NPPD pole across the street from Dean McGregor's was presented to see if this could be a possibility. Councilman Bartling stated that he already took a look at the pole and it is possible to put a bulb on the pole and will see about getting it done. Burnell Herbolsheimer had come into the office earlier in the month and asked if putting a stop sign at the bottom of the one-way on Broadway Avenue and Court Street, as it appears that the traffic is too fast. Mayor Becker stated he will talk to Sheriff Koranda about this and also about the sheriff's department making more random trips through the park areas.

Deputy Clerk de Waal: None

Public Comments: Rob Dump asked how the figure amounts were determined for the rate increases and Mayor Becker stated they were based on comparison studies of similar towns our size. Dump asked when the rates would come into effect and was told June 20, 2022 by Clerk Schaecher.

The following bills were presented for payments:

General: BOKF, NA 4,662.50, Cornhusker Press 38.50, EMC Insurance 7,959.66, and Northeast Nebraska News 392.50

Streets: Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Nebraska 702.21, Bank of Hartington 2,536.89, Bomgaars 210.24, Carhart Lumber 56.83, Colonial Life 27.22, EMC Insurance 1,213.95, Farmers Union Coop 200.14, Franklin Templeton Investor Services 558.84, Grossenburg Implement 600.00, Hartington Auto & Truck Parts 3.59, Kruse True Value 104.53, Plumbing & Electric 31.50, and US Cellular 75.24

Water: Bomgaars 147.93, EMC Insurance 910.46, Farmers Union Coop 98.73, Hartington Shopper 97.83, JEO 330.00, One Call Concepts 12.93, and Peitz Service 40.06

Sewer: Bomgaars 65.12, EMC Insurance 1,310.52, Farmers Union Coop 229.22, Hartington Shopper 97.83, Northeast Ag Consulting 150.00, One Call Concepts 12.92, Plumbing & Electric 50.00, and Wied-N-Ridge 3,870.00

Sanitation: Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Nebraska 1,947.64, Bank of Hartington 83.33, Bomgaars 29.99, Colonial Life 129.66, EMC Insurance 1,117.39, Farmers Union Coop 200.77, Franklin Templeton Investor Services 478.91, Hartington Shopper 97.84, and LP Gill, Inc. 4,697.14

Fire: Dearborn National Life 56.16, EMC Insurance 482.82, Farmers Union Coop 563.75, Hartelco 45.40, Hartelco Computers 49.98, Hartington Shopper 308.40, Kruse True Value 93.95, Leise Lawn Care 85.00, Northeast Nebraska News 73.27, Peitz Service 220.09, and Wiechelman's Repair Shop 380.00

Police: Cedar County Sheriff 13,398.56

Ambulance: Burnell's Foodtown 91.30, EMC Insurance 317.28, Farmers Union Coop 402.94, Hartelco 45.41, Hartelco Computers 25.01, Keith's Package Liquor 89.87, Matheson Tri-Gas 100.18, and US Cellular 186.34

Cemetery: Cedar Knox Rural Water 53.00

Recreation: Carhart Lumber 4,293.18

Parks: Bomgaars 6.58, Carhart Lumber 83.94, Farmers Union Coop 39.03, Grossenburg Implement 728.37, Kruse True Value 271.49, Martin's Flag Company 62.61, and Yankton Janitorial Supply 397.75

Complex: Bomgaars 65.41, Central Valley Ag 128.33, Farmers Union Coop 20.00, Hartelco 43.54, Plumbing & Electric 1,294.06, and Yankton Janitorial Supply 606.85

Library: Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Nebraska 5,770.82, Bank of Hartington 333.34, Burnell's Foodtown 12.09, D&J Variety 3.57, Franklin Templeton Investor Services 327.62, Hartelco 170.07, Kruse True Value 30.84, and Tri-State Turf & Irrigation 46.99

City Hall: Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Nebraska 529.97, Bank of Hartington 83.33, Burnell's Foodtown 9.79, Carhart Lumber 1.49, Colonial Life 142.48, D&J Variety 9.99, Eakes Office Solutions 219.14, Franklin Templeton Investor Services 206.62, Hartelco 340.51, Kruse True Value 11.99, and Premier Lawn & Landscaping 95.00

Economic Development: Franklin Templeton Investor Services 190.80, Hartelco 52.33, and M. Becker 217.41

Transfer Station: Deere Credit 461.28, EMC Insurance 482.82, Farmers Union Coop 798.17, Gill Hauling 1,006.83, and Hartelco 45.88

Total payroll for the month of April 2022 was \$37,841.95.

A motion to pay the bills was made by Councilman Bartling and seconded by Sudbeck. A roll call vote was taken. Bartling – yes, Christensen – yes, and Sudbeck – yes. Motion carried.

A motion to adjourn was made by Christensen and seconded by Sudbeck. A roll call vote was taken. Bartling – yes, Christensen – yes, and Sudbeck – yes. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:32 P.M. The next scheduled meeting is for May 23, 2022.

Respectfully submitted,

Natalie Schaecher
City Clerk - Treasurer