

The Hartington City Council met on July 27, 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, and Bartling; City Clerk – Treasurer Schaecher, Deputy Clerk Carlson, and Legal Advisor Pier. Councilman Christensen was absent.

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 July 13, 2020 meeting was made by Peitz and seconded by Sudbeck. A roll call vote was taken. Bartling – yes, Sudbeck – yes, and Peitz – yes. Motion carried.

Councilman Peitz discussed the new Volunteer Fire Department Appointments for Aaron Wiechelman and John Brodersen. Peitz stated the appointments were voted on during the Department's July 06, 2020 meeting. Councilman Peitz made a motion to accept the appointments and this was seconded by Councilman Bartling. A roll call vote was taken. Bartling – yes, Sudbeck – yes, and Peitz – yes. Motion carried.

Chris Miller approached the Council to discuss the 2020-2021 Hartington, Nebraska Economic Development Plan. Miller stated it is basically the same plan with some changes in verbiage. The major change would be an increase in the city sales tax amount from 1% to 1.5%. Mayor Becker stated he spoke to Miranda Becker, Economic Development Coordinator, and the trend is that other communities are increasing their sales tax amounts. Miller stated the increase in sales tax and the economic development plan need to get on the ballot before September 01, 2020. Miller reported that the reason it is going on the ballot at year 13 instead of year 15 is to be able to try again before expiration if it does not pass. If the plan and the sales tax increase pass, it will go into effect in October of 2021. Legal Advisor Pier stated he had looked over the plan and had assisted with the changes. Councilman Sudbeck made a motion to approve the Economic Development Plan and this was seconded by Councilman Bartling. A roll call vote was taken. Bartling –yes, Sudbeck – yes, and Peitz – yes. Motion carried.

#### Department Reports:

Park – Councilman Peitz: None

Pool/Interim Gun Range – Councilman Bartling: The pool's tentative closing date is August 12, 2020. There was nothing to report on the gun range.

Complex/Auditorium – Councilman Sudbeck: Concrete at the practice football field may be poured within the next month at the complex. US Cellular has agreed to pay \$5,000 in repairs for the auditorium fire escape in preparation for the lease.

Fire/Ambulance-Councilman Christensen: None

General – Mayor Becker: The lease with LaVerle Heimes is in the works, so he was given permission to begin dirt work.

Steve Pier: The lease for LaVerle Heimes will be done this week.

Clerk Schaecher: None

Deputy Clerk Carlson: None

Public Comments: Councilman Sudbeck stated Pat Guy, Utility Superintendent, has taken 2 water samples from the water tower and will take 1 more, which will be driven down to Lincoln to speed up the testing process.

The following bills were presented for payment:

General: Kennedy, Pier, Loftus, & Reynolds 400.00 and Usable Life 72.50

Streets: Blue Cross/Blue Shield 2,843.86, Black Hills Energy 110.19, Bomgaars 35.98, Franklin Templeton Investor Services 595.82, Overhead Door Company 252.50, and Team Lab 2,710.50

Water: Blue Cross/Blue Shield 2,862.83. Franklin Templeton Investor Services 554.94, Maguire Iron 84,900.00, Nebraska Public Health 554.70, Nebraska Rural Water Association 200.00

Sewer: Black Hills Energy 47.40 and Cummins Central Power 7,898.12

Sanitation: Blue Cross/Blue Shield 1,594.94 and Franklin Templeton Investor Services 795.03

Fire: Black Hills Energy 15.48, Bomgaars 59.97, Dearborn National Life 174.24, Danko Emergency Equipment 2,689.16, and Koch-Tramp Plumbing & Heating 149.00

Ambulance: Avera Sacred Heart Hospital 15.74, Black Hills Energy 15.47, Emergency Medical Products 201.96, and Northeast Community College 120.00

Cemetery: Bomgaars 179.98, Cedar Knox Rural Water 207.90, and T. Albers 1,800.00

Recreation: Diamond Vogel Paints 295.90

Pool: H. Becker 40.00, Black Hills Energy 570.34, Hawkins 3,605.12, and Recreonics 425.46

Parks: Bomgaars 256.86, Diane's Greenhouse 229.97, and Floor Maintenance 250.15

Complex: Bomgaars 14.99 and X-Pert Lawn and Landscaping 1,500.00

Library: T. Anderson 150.00, Blue Cross/Blue Shield 4,360.11, Black Hills Energy 36.43, Franklin Templeton Investor Services 437.28, Hometown Leasing 48.40, and Koch-Tramp Plumbing & Heating 114.56

City Hall: Black Hills Energy 30.95, Franklin Templeton Investor Services 354.24, and International Institute of Municipal Clerks 170.00

Auditorium: Black Hills Energy 156.22 and C. Folkers 59.02

Economic Development: Franklin Templeton Investor Services 258.66

Transfer Station: JEO 358.75, Overhead Door Company 332.50, and Virgil Kathol Trucking 636.00

A motion to pay the bills except for JEO was made by Councilman Bartling and seconded by Councilman Sudbeck. A roll call vote was taken. Bartling – yes, Sudbeck – yes, and Peitz - yes. Motion carried. A motion to pay the JEO bill 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 Bartling and seconded by Peitz. A roll call vote was taken. Bartling – yes, Sudbeck – yes, and Peitz – yes. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:16 P.M. The next scheduled meeting is for August 10, 2020.

Respectfully submitted,

Natalie Schaecher  
City Clerk - Treasurer