REGULAR MEETING
CITY COUNCIL – YORK, NEBRAKSA
December 19, 2024
5:30 PM

A meeting of the Mayor and City Council of the City of York, Nebraska, was convened in open and public session at 5:30 o'clock p.m. in the Council Chambers.

The Mayor announced that the Open Meetings Act was posted on the East Wall of the Council Chambers.

Mayor: Barry Redfern: Present. Councilmembers: Jeff McGregor: Present, Tony North: Present, Vicki Northrop: Absent, Jeff Pieper: Present, Stephen Postier: Present, Jennifer Sheppard: Present, Scott Van Esch: Present, Jerry Wilkinson: Present. The following City Officials were present: City Administrator Dr. Sue Crawford, Police Chief Ed Tjaden, Public Works Director James Paul, Planning Director Dan Aude, Parks and Rec Director Cheree Folts, Treasure Pellie Thomas, Human Resource Director Denise Pfeifer, Convention Center Director Terri Carlson, Library Director Deb Robertson and City Clerk Amanda Ring.

Notice of this meeting was given in advance thereof by publication in the York News Times on December 12, 2024, the City's designated method for giving notice, a copy of the proof of publication being attached to these minutes. Notice of this meeting was given to the Mayor and all members of the City Council and a copy of their acknowledgment and receipt of notice and the agenda is attached to these minutes. Availability of the agenda was communicated in advance notice to the Mayor and City Council for this meeting. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

Reorganization of the Council

Motion to appoint Jeff Pieper as President of the York City Council. Ayes with a motion by Scott Van Esch and a second by Jerry Wilkinson. Vicki Northrop: Absent, Stephen Postier: Yea, Jerry Wilkinson: Yea, Jeff McGregor: Yea, Jeff Pieper: Yea, Scott Van Esch: Yea, Tony North: Yea, Jennifer Sheppard: Yea.

Motion to appoint Scott Van Esch as the Vice President for the York City Council. Ayes with a motion by Tony North and a second by Jeff Pieper. Vicki Northrop: Absent, Stephen Postier: Nay, Jerry Wilkinson: Yea, Jeff McGregor: Yea, Jeff Pieper: Yea, Scott Van Esch: Yea, Tony North: Yea, Jennifer Sheppard: Yea.

Council Committee Appointments

Motion to appoint the following Council committees: Asset Management Committee including the following council members of Tony North, Jeff Pieper, Jerry Wilkinson and Jennifer Sheppard; Finance Committee with the following council members of Jeff McGregor, Vicki Northrop, Stephen Postier and Jerry Wilkinson; Ordinance and Judiciary Committee including Tony North, Jeff Pieper, Jennifer Sheppard and Scott Van Esch; Insurance and Benefit Committee with Jeff McGregor, Vicki Northrop, Stephen Postier and Scott Van Esch; the Community Infrastructure and Education Committee (LB357) including Tony North, Stephen Postier, Jennifer Sheppard and Scott Van Esch; and the York County Communications Board including council member Jeff McGregor. Ayes with a motion by Jeff Pieper and a second by Stephen Postier. Vicki Northrop: Absent, Stephen Postier: Yea, Jerry Wilkinson: Yea, Jeff McGregor: Yea, Jeff Pieper: Yea, Scott Van Esch: Yea, Tony North: Yea, Jennifer Sheppard: Yea.

Appointment of Department Heads

Motion to appoint the department heads for the City of York as follows: Dr. Sue Crawford as City Administrator, Charles Campbell as City Attorney, James Paul as Public Works Director, Edward Tjaden as Police Chief, Tony Bestwick as Fire Chief, Denise Pfeifer as Human Resources Director, Deb Robertson as Library Director, Cheree Folts as Director of Parks and Recreation, Terri Carlson as Convention Center Director, Pellie Thomas as City Treasurer, Amanda Ring as City Clerk and Joseph Erwin, MD as City Physician. Ayes with a motion by Scott Van Esch and a second by Jennifer Sheppard. Vicki Northrop: Absent, Stephen Postier: Yea, Jerry Wilkinson: Yea, Jeff McGregor: Yea, Jeff Pieper: Yea, Scott Van Esch: Yea, Tony North: Yea, Jennifer Sheppard: Yea.

Appointment of Board of Health

Motion to approve the appointment of Board of Health consisting of the Mayor, Police Chief, City Administrator, City Physician and Council President for a four-year term. Ayes with a motion by Stephen Postier and a second by Jerry Wilkinson. Vicki Northrop: Absent, Stephen Postier: Yea, Jerry Wilkinson: Yea, Jeff McGregor: Yea, Jeff Pieper: Yea, Scott Van Esch: Yea, Tony North: Yea, Jennifer Sheppard: Yea.

Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes of the December 5, 2024 meeting. Ayes with a motion by Jerry Wilkinson and a second by Scott Van Esch. Vicki Northrop: Absent, Stephen Postier: Yea, Jerry Wilkinson: Yea, Jeff McGregor: Yea, Jeff Pieper: Yea, Scott Van Esch: Yea, Tony North: Yea, Jennifer Sheppard: Yea.

Claims of Elected Officials

Motion to approve the claim for Tony North of North Printing and Office Supply in the amount of $1,776.36. Ayes with a motion by Jerry Wilkinson and a second by Stephen Postier. Vicki Northrop: Absent, Stephen Postier: Yea, Jerry Wilkinson: Yea, Jeff McGregor: Yea, Jeff Pieper: Yea, Scott Van Esch: Yea, Tony North: Abstain (With Conflict), Jennifer Sheppard: Yea.

Claims

Motion to approve the claims for December 6, 2024 through December 19, 2024. Ayes with a motion by Jerry Wilkinson and a second by Stephen Postier. Vicki Northrop: Absent, Stephen Postier: Yea, Jerry Wilkinson: Yea, Jeff McGregor: Yea, Jeff Pieper: Yea, Scott Van Esch: Yea, Tony North: Yea, Jennifer Sheppard: Yea.

Department Activities for November 2024

Motion to approve the departmental activities reports for the month of November 2024. Ayes with a motion by Scott Van Esch and a second by Tony North. Vicki Northrop: Absent, Stephen Postier: Yea, Jerry Wilkinson: Yea, Jeff McGregor: Yea, Jeff Pieper: Yea, Scott Van Esch: Yea, Tony North: Yea, Jennifer Sheppard: Yea.

Preliminary Cash Balances for September 2024

Motion to approve the preliminary cash balances for the month of September 2024. Ayes with a motion by Jerry Wilkinson and a second by Jeff Pieper. Vicki Northrop: Absent, Stephen Postier: Yea, Jerry Wilkinson: Yea, Jeff McGregor: Yea, Jeff Pieper: Yea, Scott Van Esch: Yea, Tony North: Yea, Jennifer Sheppard: Yea.

City Administrator Report

Dr. Crawford thanked the Council for her reappointment and the reappointment of all the department heads, stating that it's a great team to work with. She reported to Council on the projects that were completed with ARPA funding. The first half was received in July 2021 and the second half was received in August 2022. The total dollars received were $1,388,645.86. This strategy for this money was used for one-time purchases with a focus on digital literacy, public safety and water projects. Some projects completed with this funding were floodplain mapping update, replacing an ambulance, replacement of the library roof, a digital literacy program, the reception window at the Holthus Convention Center, a tornado siren and lead-line replacement for water lines. The lead-line replacement project replaced both the city-owned and privately owned water lines in each house in the city. Fifty-four percent of the ARPA dollars were used for the lead-line project and 143 lines were replaced. Dr. Crawford thanked Brandon Osentowski for his contributions to this project. ARPA funds needed to be obligated by December 30, 2024, and all funds have been obligated.

EPA Update 5th Street and N. Platte Ave

Brad Johnson, Lenexa, KS, spoke on behalf of the EPA project located on 5th Street and N. Platte Avenue. He stated that the project has been successful at removing 125 pounds of PCE from the ground. That's equivalent to nine pure gallons of solvent that has been removed from the soil which prevents it from leeching into the groundwater. He stated that ground levels of 12 feet and deeper have been completed, and they are now focusing on the upper portions from 10–12 feet deep to ground level. There will be a soil sample done in the first week of February and if it returns with favorable results, restoration will start immediately. They will decommission the wells and fill in any holes, so the street is drivable. Dependent on temperature, the street will be recovered properly then or at a later date. Equipment will then be moved to 7th Street and N. Platte Avenue to start this process on that lot. Mr. Johnson stated he has been in continued contact with the business owners around so they are informed.

City Auditorium Sound System

Cheree Folts shared there was $55,000 budgeted for this project. It was put out to bid and only one bid was received. She completed background checks for this company with other municipalities. This new system will allow multiple ways to control the volume throughout the auditorium, making it more feasible for big events such as dance productions, CRC basketball and graduation each year.

Motion to approve the bid from Kansas City Audio Visual for the City Auditorium Sound System and Speakers in the amount of $54,979.00. Ayes with a motion by Jeff Pieper and a second by Tony North. Vicki Northrop: Absent, Stephen Postier: Yea, Jerry Wilkinson: Yea, Jeff McGregor: Yea, Jeff Pieper: Yea, Scott Van Esch: Yea, Tony North: Yea, Jennifer Sheppard: Yea.

Replat Lot 9, Nienhueser 1st Addition

The Mayor announced this is the time and place for a public hearing on the Replat of Lot 9, Nienhueser 1st Addition, City of York, York County, Nebraska. Dan Aude, Planning Director, stated that this plat met all the city's guidelines, and it was recommended by the planning commission. This request to divide the lot is due to the construction of a duplex and dividing the parcel, so each duplex has its own legal description. The division line is along the common wall of the duplex.

Motion to approve the preliminary and final plat for the Replat of Lot 9, Nienhueser 1st Addition, City of York, York County, Nebraska. Ayes with a motion by Jerry Wilkinson and a second by Jeff McGregor. Vicki Northrop: Absent, Stephen Postier: Yea, Jerry Wilkinson: Yea, Jeff McGregor: Yea, Jeff Pieper: Yea, Scott Van Esch: Yea, Tony North: Yea, Jennifer Sheppard: Yea.

Mayor Appointments

Motion to approve the reappointment of Bre Egr and Cindi Nickel to the Planning Commission for a term ending January 1, 2028. Ayes with a motion by Stephen Postier and a second by Tony North. Vicki Northrop: Absent, Stephen Postier: Yea, Jerry Wilkinson: Yea, Jeff McGregor: Yea, Jeff Pieper: Yea, Scott Van Esch: Yea, Tony North: Yea, Jennifer Sheppard: Yea.

Resolution 2024-36 - to declare certain city property surplus

RESOLUTION 2024-36
A RESOLUTION DECLARING CERTAIN CITY PROPERTY SURPLUS AND AUTHORIZING DISPOSITION OF SURPLUS PROPERTY

WHEREAS, there are certain items of City property and equipment surplus to City needs; NOW, THEREFORE,

THE CITY COUNCILOF THE CITY OF YORK, NEBRASKA, hereby resolves as follows:

SECTION 1: The items of City property and equipment listed in Exhibit A, attached hereto, are declared surplus property, and the City staff at the direction of the Mayor, is authorized to sell such property at a price that is in the best interest of the City.

SECTION 2: The City staff is hereby authorized to dispose of said surplus property through one of the following methods:

a) By transfer to a governmental agency.
b) In trade as credit toward the purchase of a like article.
c) By sale through competitive sealed bid, public or private sale, consignment or internet auction.

For any surplus property that is not sold, the City may sell the surplus property for salvage or dispose of the surplus property that cannot be sold.

EXHIBIT A

UNIT #	YEAR	DESCRIPTION	DEPARTMENT	VALUATION	SERIAL #
N/A	1970s	Weight Room Weight Equipment (exception of squat press & 1 smith machine to be transferred to YFD)	Community Center	$1500	N/A
		Weight Room Treadmill (2)	Community Center	$200	N/A
		Sod Cutter	Ballpark Complex	$20	
		Grills (3)	Ballpark Complex	$10/each	
		Motorized Edger	Ballpark Complex	$50	
		Golf Cart	Soccer Complex	$100	
		Cascade system with cylinders **	Fire Dept	$500	

**This was never on any of the YFD trucks. YFD would like to donate this equipment to the Bradshaw Volunteer Fire Department. They are building a cascade trailer to benefit all York County Mutual Aid Fire District.

Motion to approve Resolution 2024-36, to declare certain city property surplus and authorize the disposition of surplus property. Ayes with a motion by Scott Van Esch and a second by Jennifer Sheppard. Vicki Northrop: Absent, Stephen Postier: Yea, Jerry Wilkinson: Yea, Jeff McGregor: Yea, Jeff Pieper: Yea, Scott Van Esch: Yea, Tony North: Yea, Jennifer Sheppard: Yea.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Council, the Mayor adjourned the meeting, the time being 6:00 o'clock p.m.

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Amanda Ring, City Clerk Barry Redfern, Mayor