

The Mayor and Council of the City of Fairbury met in the Council Chambers located at 612 D Street, Fairbury, Nebraska, on the 16th day of February 2021, at 7:30 PM. Mayor Brown called the meeting to order.

Notice of meeting was given in advance thereof, and the Open Meetings Act was posted in the meeting room and pointed out by Mayor Brown as required by law.

Roll call found the following Council Members present- Doug Brown, Tim Polson, Phil Rogge, Brian Schmidt, Rick Carmichael, John Ebke, Bradley Kuzelka, and Kelly Davis. Absent: None

Mayor Brown called for the submittal of forms to request future agenda items. No forms were submitted during the meeting.

Mayor Brown read the Consent Agenda:

1. Approval of the minutes of the regular meeting of February 2, 2021
2. Approval of Claims \$368,059.04

Rogge moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of Council on February 2, 2021 and \$368,059.04 in claims. Motion was seconded by Schmidt. On roll call vote: Carmichael, Rogge, Polson, Ebke, Kuzelka, Davis, Brown, and Schmidt voting “yes.” Motion carried.

Next item of business: **Public Hearings/Presentations**

Presentation: Tom Bliss with SENDD presented to Council the LB840 Semi Annual Review (July 1, 2020 - December 31, 2020) via zoom. He informed Council that the Citizens Advisory Review Committee (CAR) had met on February 1, 2020 in which they approved the review. During the July – December timeline \$26,543.10 was distributed as part of the gift multiplier program. Belle’ Rose (412 E & 412 ½ E) was distributed \$6000 as part of the Downtown Design Challenge Grant. SENND was distributed \$7,587.59 for administration costs for January 2019-June 2020 and a distribution of \$50,000 was made to Blue Valley Community Action as part of a grant match. Remaining projects in progress include: Gift Card Multiplier Program, Lady Bug Landing (518 E Street) Downtown Design Challenge Grant and Belle’ Rose (412 E Street) Downtown Design Challenge Grant. There were no projects written off during this time or denied.

Presentation: Deb Aden with the City of Fairbury, Library, presented her annual library report. She informed council that the library like other businesses faced the COVID-19 pandemic head on. The library closed their doors to the public on March 20, 2020 through the end of May. During the closure they were able to offer curbside pickup, printing/faxing services via email, and were able to weed through inventory. They re-opened June 1 with modifications including socially distanced computers, masks, and other precautionary services. They began holding in-person book discussions in June and children’s story time resumed in September. No major repairs or changes were made to the building

during the year. Total operating revenue for the year was \$239,605 and total expenditures were \$197,610. Overall, circulation of books was down this year while E-books and Video materials saw an increase. Councilperson Rogge added that he enjoyed the monthly online newsletter, in which Aden has been offering for about a year now.

Next item of business: **Current Business**

Mayor Brown introduced the first item of current business, “Consider approval of pay certificate #1- Chemical Feed System Improvements, Bid Sections 4, 4A & 4B in the amount of \$64,973.00 to JR Stelzer Co, eligible for DWSRF reimbursement.” Administrator Renn advised Council that this pay certificate is for the chemical feed at the East wells, with the original amount of the bid at \$81,216.25. The project has been completed satisfactorily. The amount requested is less retainage. With no further questions, Schmidt motioned to approve pay certificate #1- Chemical Feed System Improvements, Bid Sections 4, 4A & 4B in the amount of \$64,973.00 to JR Stelzer Co, eligible for DWSRF reimbursement. Motion was seconded by Ebke. On a roll call vote: Polson, Carmichael, Kuzelka, Brown, Rogge, Ebke, Davis, and Schmidt voting “yes.” Motion carried.

Mayor Brown introduced the next item of current business, “Consider approval of quote #72682 from Blue Valley Door Co. to raise and install a new door for the street building increasing clearance height from 12’ to 12’6” in the amount of \$5,135.00.” Councilman Davis questioned if the City would retain the old door in which Renn stated, yes. Councilman Polson asked if the 12’6” was the highest the door could be raised. Renn stated yes as there is currently less than 1 foot above the door. With no further questions, Schmidt moved to approve quote #72682 from Blue Valley Door Co. to raise and install a new door for the street building increasing clearance height from 12’ to 12’6” in the amount of \$5,135.00. Motion was seconded by Carmichael. On a roll call vote: Polson, Carmichael, Kuzelka, Brown, Rogge, Ebke, Davis, and Schmidt voting “yes.” Motion carried.

Mayor Brown introduced the next item of current business, “Consider approval of Public Works Committee recommendation of the 2021 waterpark season schedule and fees.” With no further questions, Rogge moved to approve the Public Works Committee recommendation of the 2021 waterpark season schedule and fees. Motion was seconded by Schmidt. On a roll call vote: Polson, Carmichael, Kuzelka, Brown, Rogge, Ebke, and Schmidt voting “yes.” Davis voting “no.” Motion carried.

Mayor Brown then introduced the next item of current business, “Consider approval of Drawdown #2- Downtown Planning Study Project #19-PP-006 in the amount of \$17,300.00 to Miller & Associates for planning services through December 2020, CDBG funded.” Renn stated our agreement with Miller and Associates is that when 50% of project completion has occurred, we would incur a bill for that portion, in which at this time has occurred. The City was awarded \$53,000 grant for this project. With no further questions, Brown moved to approve Drawdown #2- Downtown Planning Study Project #19-PP-006 in the amount of \$17,300.00 to Miller & Associates for planning services through December 2020, CDBG funded. Motion was seconded by Carmichael. On a roll call vote: Polson, Carmichael, Kuzelka, Brown, Rogge, Ebke, Davis, and Schmidt voting “yes.” Motion carried.

Mayor Brown then introduced the next item of current business, “Consider recommendation from the Public Works Committee regarding signage and painting of lines at the corner of 8th and H Street

designating a school crossing and addition of a crosswalk.” Public Works did not make a decision as more information was needed to move forward. Council took no action.

Mayor Brown then introduced the next item of current business, “Consider recommendation from the Public Works Committee regarding tree removal on the corner of 5th and E Streets near Heartland Bank.” Public Works did not make a decision as more information was needed to move forward. Council took no action.

RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES:

Resolution 1143 Providing for the placement of a crosswalk and appropriate signage within the municipality’s jurisdiction and repealing any resolutions in conflict herewith. No action taken as current business item, therefore no Council action on Resolution 1143.

Reports/Discussion:

City Administrator- Renn informed Council that the Southwest Power Pool needed to shed wattage due to the extreme cold that is affecting the country at this time. Rolling blackouts can be expected to continue. The City is currently trying to do our part to try and conserve energy. Renn has contacted businesses in town and we were able to move our usage from 21.1 megawatts (we are usually 16) back down to 16.5 this afternoon.

Mayor- Mayor Brown thank City Administrator Renn for handling the power situation. Mayor Brown also discussed the interest in the power plant was on his radar. He would like to know more information so he can have educated conversations with the community.

City Administrator Renn said that having backup generators at the E. wells should be further explored.

Councilman Davis questioned if there was a backup plan if the grid were to go down, what can be done as a City? Mayor Brown discussed that those with health issues are likely to have already contacted/made precautionary plans with the local hospital.

Councilman Polson inquired to if our billing issues are still occurring, in which Renn stated the last uploads were sent out 1 day late. Bill Flash continues to make progress on their updated module.

Mayor Brown then entertained a motion to adjourn. Rogge moved to adjourn. Motion seconded by Carmichael. On roll call vote: On a roll call vote: Polson, Carmichael, Kuzelka, Brown, Rogge, Ebke, Davis, and Schmidt voting “yes.” Motion carried

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Spencer Brown, Mayor

Date

Erin Reimer, City Clerk

Date