



SPRINGFIELD

NEBRASKA

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA

Tuesday, June 18, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.
Springfield City Hall
170 North 3rd Street

CALL TO ORDER

- Public announcement that a copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Law is posted in the entry to the meeting room
- Roll call
- Pledge of Allegiance

CONSENT AGENDA

All consent agenda items are approved in one motion unless removed by a Council Member. Removed items will be placed under the Regular Agenda for consideration and action by the Council.

1. Approve Minutes of the June 4, 2024, Council Meeting
2. Approve Claims and Payroll
3. Treasurer's Report
4. Consider a request from Jeff Kreifels, 425 Chestnut Street, for a street closure on July 27, 2024, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. for a block party on Chestnut Street from Elm Street to 3rd Street
5. Consider approval of the health insurance policy renewal with BlueCross BlueShield

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Ben Cohoon with Pink Gorilla Events – Review Market to Market Relay event; Request to allow Market-to-Market Relay to use the city's vacant lot at 1st and Main Streets for event parking/staging and block streets as necessary
2. Members of the Springfield Business Association – Discuss WiFi and PA system project for downtown Main Street
3. Lyn Erhart, 140 N. 8th Street – Discuss sewer back up issues at 140 N. 8th Street
4. David and Jane Jensen, 710 Main Street – Discuss sewer back up issues at 385 Elm Street

5. **Tabled June 4, 2024.** Consider approval of Barb Henninger’s annual review and proposed merit increase
6. Consider offering employment to a candidate(s) for the part-time seasonal maintenance position

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

1. Water & Sewer Department – Mike Neitzel
2. Library & Community Building – Michael Herzog
3. Parks Department – Kacie Murtha
4. Street Department – Dan Craney
5. Mayor’s Report – Bob Roseland
6. City Staff Reports

The Mayor and City Council reserve the right to adjourn into executive session per Section 84-1410 of the Nebraska Revised Statutes.

ADJOURNMENT

MINUTES

A regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the City of Springfield, Nebraska was held at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, June 18, 2024, at City Hall. Present were Mayor Bob Roseland; Council Members: Mike Neitzel, Michael Herzog, Kacie Murtha, Dan Craney. Notice of this meeting was given in advance by posting in three public places, one of the designated methods of giving notice. Notice of this meeting was given in advance to the Mayor and all Council Members and a copy of their receipt of notice is attached to these Minutes. Availability of the agenda was communicated in the advance notice and in the notice to the Mayor and Council of this meeting. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the public. The Mayor publicly stated to all in attendance that a current copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act was available for review and indicated the location of such copy posted in the room where the meeting was being held.

Consent Agenda

Motion by Herzog, seconded by Craney, to approve the consent Agenda. AYES: Neitzel, Herzog, Murtha, Craney. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

Check #	Account ID	Account Description	Debit Amount	Name
General				
48462	7455-10-10	Internet-Gen	139.98	Charter Communications
48463	7030-10-10	Prof Svcs-Planning-Gen	12,967.69	Confluence, Inc

48466	8010-10-10	Office Supplies-Gen	4,000.00	J&M Displays, Inc
EFTPS	7270-10-10	Insurance-Gen	158.18	Travelers
		Total	17,265.85	
Sales Tax				
48464	9089-15-10	Community Events-Sales Tax	4,786.00	Construction Containers & Excavating
		Total	4,786.00	
Library				
EFTPS	7270-20-10	Insurance-Lib	69.09	Travelers
48465	8060-21-10	Books/Videos/Maps-Lib Rest	51.73	Cengage Learning Inc/Gale
48468	7350-21-10	Rental-Lib Rest	100.00	Postmaster
		Total	220.82	
Parks				
EFTPS	7270-30-10	Insurance-Park	101.82	Travelers
		Total	101.82	
Comm Bldg				
48470	8130-40-10	R&M Building-Comm Bldg	192.00	KeyinCloud LLP
EFTPS	7270-40-10	Insurance-Comm Bldg	53.64	Travelers
		Total	245.64	
Water				
48469	9155-50-20	GIS-Water	15.01	Verizon Wireless
EFTPS	7270-50-20	Insurance-Water	169.09	Travelers
48469	7330-50-20	Telephone-Water	15.08	Verizon Wireless
		Total	199.18	
Sewer				
48467	8160-60-30	R&M Grounds-Sewer	4,966.40	Utilities Service Group
48469	9155-60-30	GIS-Sewer	15.01	Verizon Wireless
48469	7330-60-30	Telephone-Sewer	15.08	Verizon Wireless
EFTPS	7270-60-30	Insurance-Sewer	127.27	Travelers
		Total	5,123.76	
Streets				
48462	7455-70-40	Internet-Street	109.99	Charter Communications
48469	9155-70-40	GIS-Street	15.00	Verizon Wireless
48469	7330-70-40	Telephone-Street	15.07	Verizon Wireless
EFTPS	7270-70-40	Insurance-Street	229.98	Travelers
		Total	370.04	
		Grand Total	28,313.11	

The City Treasurer reported a balance on hand of \$4,369,471.71; in cash assets: Prestige Treasury, \$209,111.85; Prestige Bond, \$1,312,422.48; Keno Community Betterment, \$461,359.84; Keno Progressive Jackpot, \$50,338.41; Water Deposit Savings, \$4,248.76; Refundable Deposits Savings, \$1,240.45; Water Tower Savings, \$351,764.94; Sewer Restricted, \$356,514.87; Water Capital Facilities Fees, \$179,566.62; Sewer Capital Facilities Fees, \$1,193,918.48; City Sales Tax, \$9,555,879.21; Money Market Library Bricks, \$980.76; Government Securities, \$122,202.22; Library Savings-Snyder Estate Donation, \$1,651.07; Pinnacle Bank-ASIP, \$1,986,096.03; Time Certificates as follows: Bond, \$81,268.33; Tower, \$60,862.07; Water, \$133,659.69; Library Restricted CD, \$33,770.13. Cash Receipts, \$463,283.82; Cash Disbursements, \$131,339.74.

Regular Agenda

Agenda Item 1. Ben Cohoon with Pink Gorilla Events presented information on the Market to Market Relay event passing through Springfield on Saturday, September 28, 2024. Cohoon requested the use of the city's vacant lot at 1st and Main Streets for event parking/staging as well as permission to close Railroad Street from Main Street to Cedar Street. The first runner is anticipated through Springfield at 8:30 a.m. with the last one leaving at approximately 1:00 p.m. They will have police officers and volunteers to help monitor the traffic. Cohoon offered to rent the community building to secure the parking for the event. Motion by Neitzel, seconded by Herzog, to allow Pink Gorilla Events to use the city's vacant lot at 1st and Main Streets for Market to Market event parking/staging, contingent upon their rental of the community building, and to close Railroad Street from Main Street to Cedar Street on Saturday, September 28, 2024. AYES: Neitzel, Herzog, Murtha, Craney. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

Agenda Item 2. Shannon Sands, 512 S. 7th St., Springfield presented the Springfield Community Foundation's proposed project to install public Wi-Fi and a PA system for downtown Main Street. There would be three Wi-Fi antennas placed on rooftops to cover the downtown area. Craney asked if during the fair the service would slow down. Scott Wolcott with Country Mile Wireless stated although it is yet to be determined it should help the speed during the fair. The proposed plan would accommodate approximately 450 users, but an additional repeater could be installed further west if needed. The Springfield Community Foundation obtained a grant from Meta that would cover three years of Wi-Fi service. After three years, the foundation and city would need to determine how the service would be funded. Laura Osborn, 12510 Main St., Springfield added that Meta's grant would also cover the purchase of a PA system consisting of fourteen speakers and a microphone as well as the installation of the system along downtown Main Street. The control unit requires a climate-controlled storage area. This could be housed inside a nearby business or a stand-alone box. The PA system could be used during parades to include all parade goers in the introduction of participants and not just those in the vicinity of the announcer. It can also be used to stream seasonal music to add to the shopping experience of visitors. This may require a license. Motion by Craney, seconded by Murtha, to accept the Meta funds for the purchase and installation of three Wi-Fi antennas for public Wi-Fi on downtown Main Street along with three years of paid Wi-Fi service, as well as the purchase and installation of a PA system with the control unit to be temporarily stored in a nearby business until a permanent stand-alone box can be installed at Urban Park. AYES: Neitzel, Herzog, Murtha, Craney. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

Agenda Item 3 & 4. Dave Jensen, 710 Main St., Springfield presented photos and spoke of his discovery of a sewer backup at his mother-in-law's home at 385 Elm St., Springfield. Lyn Erhart, 140 N. 8th St., Springfield presented photos of her property and the sewer backup issues she discovered on May 20, 2024. Graham Waddell, 145 N. 8th St., Springfield stated his insurance company has denied his claim noting that it is a city issue. Waddell has applied for a permit to fix the damage at his residence from his sewer backup issues. Kathleen Gottsch, City Administrator, stated that the city hired a company to camera the sewer mains associated with the homes experiencing the backups. That company found some tree roots but nothing that would warrant sewer backups. She noted that the city submitted photos and findings of all the backups to the city's insurance company for review. Until their investigation is complete, the city has no additional information to provide at this time. William Seidler, Jr., City Attorney, stated that he cannot give the residents legal advice, but they have the right to consult an attorney if they wish to do so.

Agenda Item 5. Motion by Herzog, seconded by Neitzel, to move agenda item 5, regarding Barb Henninger's annual review and proposed merit increase, into executive session. AYES: Neitzel, Herzog, Murtha, Craney. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

Agenda Item 6. Motion by Herzog, seconded by Neitzel, to move agenda item 6, regarding offering employment to a candidate(s) for the part-time seasonal maintenance position, into executive session. AYES: Neitzel, Herzog, Murtha, Craney. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

Department Reports

Agenda Item 1. Neitzel reported Heath Shemek, Water/Sewer Operator, has ordered thirty more water meters. Shemek is working with Andie Ledenbach, Utility Billing Clerk, to update the list of non-working meters. Neitzel had a meeting with Shemek to discuss the progress of the lead pipe inventory. They will continue to meet throughout the project.

Agenda Item 2. No department report from Herzog.

Agenda Item 3. Murtha reported she met up with the field crew and watched the pot holing process. Tyler Holdorf, Parks Director, has received the correct clips for the turf at the batting cages and will move forward with installation. Holdorf informed Murtha that the auto toilet at City Park is broken. It will take an electrician to see if it can be fixed. Murtha suggested not using auto toilets when planning for the Buffalo Park restrooms.

Agenda Item 4. Craney reported Bryan Cherry, Street Commissioner, is moving forward with bids for concrete work. Craney suggested sidewalks on Main Street have no color and to set back the curb to make the parking spaces longer. Murtha questioned if the existing light poles will be in the way of longer parking spaces.

Agenda Item 5. No department report from Mayor Roseland.

Agenda Item 6. Ember Davis, Executive Assistant, will start her employment on Tuesday, June 25, 2024. The first farmers market will be Sunday, June 23, 2024.

Executive Session

Motion by Murtha, seconded by Neitzel, to enter executive session at 8:12 p.m. for the purpose of personnel matters. AYES: Neitzel, Herzog, Murtha, Craney. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Herzog, seconded by Murtha, to leave executive session at 8:30 p.m. AYES: Neitzel, Herzog, Murtha, Craney. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Neitzel, seconded by Herzog, to approve a 4% merit increase to Barb Henninger, City Clerk/Deputy Treasurer/Community Building Rental Coordinator. AYES: Neitzel, Herzog, Murtha, Craney. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Neitzel, seconded by Herzog, to offer employment to Caleb Woodman for the part-time seasonal maintenance worker position at the rate of \$15.00 per hour. AYES: Neitzel, Herzog, Murtha, Craney. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

Adjournment

Motion by Herzog, seconded by Neitzel, to adjourn. AYES: Neitzel, Herzog, Murtha, Craney. NAYS: None. Meeting adjourned at 8:32 p.m. Motion carried.

I, the undersigned, City Clerk for the City of Springfield, Nebraska, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of proceedings had and done by the Mayor and Council on June 18, 2024; that all of the subjects included in the foregoing proceedings were contained in the agenda for the meeting, kept continually current and readily available for public inspection at the office of the City Clerk; that such agenda items were sufficiently descriptive to give the public reasonable notice of the matters to be considered at the meeting; that such subjects were contained in said agenda for at least twenty-four hours prior to said meeting; that at least one copy of all reproducible material discussed at the meeting was available at the meeting for examination and copying by members of the public; that the said minutes from which the foregoing proceedings have been extracted were in written form and available for public inspection within ten working days and prior to the next convened meeting of said body; that all news media requesting notification concerning meetings of said body were provided advance notification of the time and place of said meeting and the subjects to be discussed at said meeting; and that a current copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act was available and accessible to members of the public, posted during such meeting in the room in which such meeting was held.

Barbara Henninger
City Clerk