

MINUTES OF MEETING

A meeting of the Mayor and City Council of the City of West Point, Nebraska was convened in open and public session at 7:00 o'clock PM on June 4, 2019 in the Council Chambers at the Municipal Building in West Point, Nebraska.

Present were: Mayor Schlecht; Councilmembers: Stokely, Ell, Swenson, Buse, Hugo, and Smith. Absent: None.

The Mayor called the meeting to order and stated that in accordance with State Statute Section 84-1412 the Open Meetings Act is posted on the north wall in the Council Chambers for public information. The Pledge of Allegiance was then recited.

Moved by Swenson, seconded by Ell, to approve the following consent agenda:

1. City appointed volunteer boards and commissions: Board of Adjustment -- reappointment of Jackie Blocher and Jim Perry (3 year terms).
2. Fire & rescue departments – accept the membership of Karsten Schuetze to West Point Volunteer Fire Department Company #2.
3. Approval of minutes of previous meeting.
4. Treasurer's report.
5. Claims.

Voting Yea: Stokely, Ell, Swenson, Buse, Hugo, and Smith. Nay: None. Motion carried.

<u>CLAIMS</u>		
Payroll		155,068.34
Hugo Plumbing & Heating	Serv/Supplies	10,789.57
City of West Point Payroll Tax Fund	Employer FICA	5,823.37
First National Bank Fremont	Retirement Contributions	3,523.68
Central Valley Ag	Service	287.30
Wagner Tire & Repair	Service	368.14
West Point Travel Plaza	Service	2,237.19
Sapp Bros.	Service	1,662.69
Black Hills Energy	Service	74.55
Chamber of Commerce	Fireworks Contribution	5,000.00
Road Gems	Car Show Contribution	5,000.00
NE Department of Revenue	Sales Tax	29,555.69
PetroMart	Service	75.75
MEAN/NMPP	Power	294,095.83

Madison National Life Ins.	Life Ins.	190.83
City of West Point Payroll Tax Fund	Employer FICA	6,212.28
First National Bank Fremont	Retirement Contributions	3,531.57
United Healthcare	Health Ins.	52,739.41
Companion Life	Life Ins.	266.55
Aqua Chem, Inc.	Supplies	1,883.81
Auto Value Parts	Supplies	828.43
Barco Municipal Products	Supplies	809.65
Black Hills Energy	Service	521.65
Bomgaars Supply	Supplies	566.55
Border States Industries	Supplies	1,954.33
Bracht Law	Recording Expense	48.00
Cardmember Service	Service	228.72
Century Link	Service	1,013.58
Constellation NewEnergy	Service	1,320.96
Core & Main	Supplies	15,303.14
Cuming County Public Power	Wheeling Service	5,620.30
Danko Emergency Equipment	Supplies	575.36
Dinslage Small Engine	Serv/Supplies	261.81
Dutton Lainson Co.	Supplies	1,178.92
EMS Billing Service	Prof Services	1,289.15
Express Distribution	Supplies	234.20
Floor Maintenance	Supplies	2,032.84
Gale/Cengage Learning	Books	138.33
Gall's Inc.	Supplies	166.52
L. P. Gill Inc.	Tipping Fee	12,021.88
Gill Hauling	Hauling Fee	4,739.42
Graybeal's Food	Supplies	126.87
Hawkins Inc.	Supplies	558.23
Hiland Dairy	Supplies	488.76
Ingram Library Service	Books	939.22
Jackson Services	Uniform Service	1,117.72
John A Stahl Library	Cash Adv	36.51
Kaup Seed & Fertilizer	Supplies	315.00
Logemann Auto Parts	Supplies	99.87
Lou's Sporting Goods	Supplies	360.00
Mahaska	Supplies	615.10
Mail Finance	Service	397.14
Matheson Tri-Gas	Supplies	31.57
MicroMarketing LLC	Books	635.87
Midwest Labs	Service	161.90
Midwest Tape	Supplies	24.37
Nebr. Public Health Environmental Lab	Service	45.00
Nebraska Public Power District	Service	67.50

Nebraska Municipal Power Pool	Service	2,582.50
Overdrive, Inc.	Books	95.00
Presto X	Service	225.00
Quality Printing & Supplies	Supplies	427.26
Schmader Electric	Service	1,311.70
Seals and Service	Supplies	1,366.25
Skywave Wireless	Service	270.94
Smidt's Sanitation	Service	177.00
Special Roads Fund	Mechanic Chgs	1,209.30
Total Funds	Postage	600.00
Verizon Business	Service	89.90
Verizon Wireless	Service	251.35
Welch Law Firm	Prof Services	122.50
West Point Implement	Supplies	108.80
West Point Library Foundation	Cash Adv	638.59
WPLW	Service	29,137.15
WPLW Operating Fund	Cash Adv	1,311.04
West Point News	Publication Costs	238.12
West Point Rescue	Ambl Charges/Training	1,536.38
West Point Rural Fire District	Premium	2,534.00
Woerner's Garbage Service	Service	267.00
911 Custom	Supplies	151.80
Aqua Aerobic Systems	Supplies	752.50
Atlas Copco Compressors	Service	2,735.94
B & D Diamond Pro	Supplies	4,209.32
Center Point Large Print	Books	64.71
Cuming Co. Title & Abstract	Service	125.00
Cummins Sales & Service	Service	967.72
Elite Computers	Supplies	24.00
Elm USA	Supplies	129.95
Heiman Inc.	Supplies	426.85
JEO Consulting Group	Prof Services	3,412.50
Chris Kreikemeier	Travel Expense	52.63
Liquid Engineering	Service	6,610.00
Love Signs	Service	140.00
MC2, Inc.	Supplies	4,727.47
McGill Contracting	Service	258.85
North American Truck & Trailer	Service	804.52
Northeast NE Economic Dev	Membership Fees	4,305.92
OCLC, Inc.	Service	43.23
Ken Ortmeier	Supplies	100.00
Sandry Fire Supply	Supplies	7,600.40
Seed Enterprises	Supplies	116.00
Stan Houston Equipment Co.	Supplies	735.00

Swanson Landscape Design	Service	857.50
Uline	Supplies	244.21
USA Today	Subscription	340.14
Van Diest Supply Co.	Supplies	3,142.50
Watchguard Vido	Service	324.00
Dave Wimmer	Tree Planting Supplies	386.12
Zoll Medical Corp.	Supplies	114.34

The next agenda item was the water quality issue. John Zwingman of Advanced Consulting Engineering Services appeared before the Council and presented the following:

- Explained that what was sent to Chin Chew, engineering service manager for the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (NHHS), was schematic drawings, process description and process design along with pilot plant studies that Layne, a water management company, completed for the communities of Scribner and Pilger.
 - Scribner and Pilger were chosen because they have plants that were recently constructed to remedy water quality issues similar to the City of West Point.
 - Our Fe (1.19 – 2.61) Mn (1.6 – 2.2), there are a few outliers at 0.4 to 2.5
 - Scribner Fe (1.2 – 1.7) Mn (1.3 – 1.7)
 - Pilger Fe (1.7 – 2.2) Mn (1.5 – 2.1)
 - We were trying to avoid the cost and time of a pilot plant and pilot study to be completed on our own system.
 - What we wanted from Chew and NHHS was to get feedback and ultimately approval on the process rather than wasting 6+ weeks and thousands of dollars to model the plant and complete the full design, only to possibly have the process rejected.
 - Information was sent to Chew on March 28th after we received revisions of the schematic drawings, with the changes that were discussed with Layne when they were on site March 22nd.
 - When we heard back from Chew, he had some questions including what additional tests would Layne want in order to guarantee removal rates, along with other information like how would varying pre-treatment chemicals and filter loading rates effect the efficiency of the process and backwash times. These questions were posed to Layne for comment. Layne developed a list of parameters to be tested for at the wells and pre and post filter.
- After the Q & A session held on Tuesday, May 28th with NHHS, I received an email from Chew which stated that “given the situation in West Point, a pilot plant study is “strongly recommended”.
 - We are working with Layne to finalize the details for setting up a pilot plant. At this time, it looks like the plant would be set up and running for the week of June 17th – 21st at a cost to the City of \$13,900 plus tax. The City will also be responsible for the cost of the water quality testing that is to be sent to Midwest Labs, along with other incidental items that may be required to provide water to the pilot plant in a manner that they can run tests 24 hours per day.
- Discussions on additional testing as requested by Layne and by NHHS:

- After the session on May 28th, Chew suggested some additional testing that he would like to see on the system. These parameters have been combined with the additional information that Layne would like to see and we ordered and received test kits to complete the testing.
- Testing will be completed:
 - On each well,
 - After the holding tank (pre-filter),
 - After the filters (pre-chlorination),
 - Out of the clear well (post chlorination), and
 - At points throughout the system, these points were chosen with input from Rich Koenig, NHHS.
- It was decided by City officials and our office that we wanted to have a third party do the testing. Rich Koenig with NHHS is the person that has the proper licenses to do the testing and he understands our system and our current issues. This was brought to Sue Dempsey, Drinking Water Administrator of NHHS, and she liked the idea of having Koenig taking the samples. We have contacted or attempted to contact the persons where we will be sampling. Once they are all on board, we will finish up a protocol for the testing and this protocol will be given to Koenig. We will have a representative from the Water Department accompany Koenig to do the sampling and if anyone from the council wishes to accompany them, I am sure that will be fine.
 - As part of the protocol, there will be a chain of custody for each sample, and each bottle will be secured with a tamper proof label to protect its integrity.
 - Someone with the City will be responsible for taking the samples to Midwest Labs because some of the tests are time and temperature sensitive.
 - Testing would start Monday June 10th. We plan to test Monday, Wednesday and Thursday for 2 weeks.
- We are working in our office to compile all the information that we have on this project into a report form so that it can be easily read and followed by the NHHS and the general public. I am attempting to have that work completed by the end of the week.
 - The engineering report will be a living document and will be revised once samples from the tests that we are going to complete are available and will also be updated upon receipt of the pilot plant study.

After Mr. Zwingman's report, the following citizens came forward with questions: Earl Boston, Kathy Schlecht, Deb Schroedter, Lisa Eisenmenger, Ann Mueller, and Erv Eisenmenger. The Mayor then announced that a Communications Committee has been formed made up of Councilmember Hugo, Councilmember Smith, Councilmember Stokely, the City Administrator, the Mayor, and Advanced Consulting Engineering Services. This committee will meet on Friday, June 7th to discuss how the City can improve on getting information out to the public concerning the water issues. Leanne Ritter of Advanced Consulting Engineering Services stated to the Council that if any councilmembers have questions from the public and are not sure of the answer, their

door is always open to help figure out the answer and then relay factual information. Stokely then read a prepared statement concerning the lack of communications and transparency of the City that she has perceived.

At the last meeting, Stokely suggested live streaming the council meetings and she was going to gather more information to present to the Council. Stokely reported she had contacted the City of Norfolk concerning this matter and stated that the City of Norfolk is switching to a new company in Lincoln for this service. That they have four cameras positioned around the room along with microphones and that an employee needs to be present that would use a toggle switch to move from camera to camera. The City Administrator suggested that the City start with posting the audios of the meetings on the city's webpage and see how much interest is generated. The Council agreed to proceed with posting the audios.

Motion made by Swenson and seconded by Buse that the additional following assets to be pledged by Charter West Bank as security for all deposits in said bank be approved:

<u>Custody No.</u>	<u>Due Date</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Type of Security</u>
313378J77	03/13/2020	\$175,000.00	Federal Home Loan
363491CR0	04/01/2020	\$150,000.00	Galesville, WI School District

Voting Yea: Stokely, Ell, Swenson, Buse, Hugo, and Smith. Nay: None. Motion carried

Moved by Ell, seconded by Stokely, to approve the following applications for Special Designated Liquor Permits under the Nebraska Liquor Control Act:

- (a) Graybeal's Foods for the St. Paul Lutheran Church Fundraiser and Dance on Saturday, July 13, 2019.
- (b) Cuming County Ag Society for the annual Cuming County Fair on August 8, 9, 10, and 11, 2019.
- (c) Cuming County Ag Society for Cuming County Fair for events at the Nielsen Center on August 10 and 11, 2019.

Voting Yea: Stokely, Ell, Swenson, Buse, Hugo, and Smith. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Moved by Swenson, seconded by Smith, to approve the claim of Hugo Plumbing & Heating for services and supplies in the amount of \$5,798.03. Voting Yea: Stokely, Ell, Swenson, Buse, and Smith. Nay: None. Abstaining: Hugo. Motion carried.

The City Administrator reported on the Solar Energy Project in which six communities, including West Point, expressed an interest in the project in the hopes that on a volume basis it would be beneficial for the communities. After proposals were received, three communities have dropped out leaving only three remaining. So, at this time it is not feasible for the City to participate in this solar energy project

The City Administrator also reported that the City has now operated Mount Hope Cemetery for one year with income of \$8260.00 (sale of lots & columbarium, grave openings & donations) and expenses of \$23,426.09 (labor, insurance, utilities, fuel, supplies, equipment repairs, and a new mower).

Moved by Swenson, seconded by Smith, to adjourn at 8:15 PM. Voting Yea: Stokely, Ell, Swenson, Buse, Hugo, and Smith. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Mary Kempf, MMC
City Clerk