

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 5:30 PM. on January 4, 2022 in the Council Chambers at the Municipal Building, 444 S. Main Street, West Point, Nebraska.

Present were: Mayor Bruce A. Schlecht; Councilmembers: Emma Stokely, Ryan Penrose, Tom Swenson, Mark Buse, Jerry Hugo, and Rusty 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 west wall of the Council Chambers for public information. The Pledge of Allegiance was then recited.

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

1. City appointed volunteer boards and commissions: Appointment of Police Chief Adams to the E-911 Operating Committee.
2. Fire & rescue departments – accept memberships and resignations – none.
3. Approval of minutes of previous meeting.
4. Treasurer's report.
5. Claims.

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

<u>CLAIMS</u>		
Vendor		Amount
PAYROLL		286,298.67
CITY PAYROLL TAX FUND	EMPLOYER FICA	8,713.31
ASCENSUS LLC	RETIREMENT	5,249.32
WESTERN AREA POWER ADMINI	ELEC POWER	8,442.44
USED IN NOVEMBER		
INSURO INSURANCE	INSURANCE	3,147.00
EMC INSURANCE COMPANY	INSURANCE	274,229.00
HUGO PLUMBING & HEATING	SERVICE/SUPPLIES	1,480.39
ASCENSUS LLC	RETIREMENT	3,662.86
CITY PAYROLL TAX FUND	EMPLOYER FICA	6,190.35
CUMING COUNTY PUBLIC POWER	ELEC POWER	83.41
NEBRASKA DEPT. OF REVENUE	PARK SALES TAX	13.16
NEBRASKA DEPT. OF REVENUE	SALES TAX	21,321.27
PETROMART	FUEL	62.10
WAGNER TIRE & REPAIR LLC	FUEL	2,894.47
CENTRAL VALLEY AG	FUEL	891.16
ELKHORN PAVING	TRAILS & PATHWAYS PYMNTS	74,258.76
MUNICIPAL ENERGY AGENCY O	ELEC POWER	298,939.34
SBT, INC.	FUEL	438.72
BCBS OF NEBRASKA	HEALTH INSURANCE	49,091.67
CITY PAYROLL TAX FUND	EMPLOYER FICA	372.84
MUTUAL OF OMAHA	EMPLOYEE INSURANCE	1,612.46

CITY PAYROLL TAX FUND	EMPLOYER FICA	7,126.83
ASCENSUS LLC	RETIREMENT	3,779.11
ADVANCED CONSULTING	REIMBUR. PUBLIC.ATION FEE	139.88
AUTO VALUE PARTS	REPAIR/SUPPLIES	895.80
BOMGAARS SUPPLY	REPAIR/SUPPLIES	679.50
BORDER STATES INDUSTRIES	SUPPLIES	7,996.42
CARDMEMBER SERVICE	SERVICE	304.51
CENTURY LINK	PHONE SERVICE	1,032.28
CONSTELLATION NEWENERGY	GAS SERVICE	2,116.26
CREATIVE XPRESSIONS	UNIFORM/SUPPLIES	108.85
CUMING COUNTY PUBLIC POWER	ELEC WHEELING FEE	5,648.72
DAVE'S DRYCLEANING	COMM CNTR SERVICE	16.00
DUTTON LAINSON CO.	SUPPLIES	3,013.64
ELITE COMPUTERS	SUPPLIES	36.00
ENGELMEYER REPAIR LLC	SUPPLIES	67.42
GALL'S INC.	POLICE UNIFORMS	280.48
L. P. GILL INC.	SAN TIPPING FEE	9,781.20
GILL HAULING	SAN HAULING FEE	3,856.07
GRAYBEAL'S FOOD	SUPPLIES	23.01
GWORKS	SERVICE	1,000.00
HAWKINS INC.	SUPPLIES	1,814.59
HOME DEPOT PRO	SUPPLIES	1,327.74
INGRAM	LIBRARY BOOKS	938.17
JACKSON SERVICES INC.	UNIFORM/SERVICE	1,112.84
JOHN A. STAHL LIBRARY	CASH ADV.	167.05
LEAGUE OF NE MUNICIPALITIES	WATER DEPT.TRAINING	55.00
LEISURE LAWN CARE	SERVICE	67.50
LESLIE'S POOLMART INC.	SUPPLIES	3,928.23
LOGEMANN AUTO PARTS	SUPPLIES	81.12
MATHESON TRI-GAS INC.	RESCUE SUPPLIES	74.64
MICROMARKETING LLC	LIBRARY AUDIO BOOKS	802.82
MIDWEST LABORATORIES	SWR TRT SERVICES	99.35
MIDWEST SERVICE & SALES	STRT SUPPLIES	978.00
MIDWEST TAPE	LIBRARY DVDS	257.64
NEBRASKA PUBLIC HEALTH	WTR SERVICE	211.00
NEBRASKA VET SERVICES	POLICE SERVICE	200.00
ONE CALL CONCEPTS, INC.	SERVICE	85.26
OVERHEAD DOOR CO.	POLICE SERVICE	183.15
PRESTO X	LIBRARY SERVICE	71.00
QUALITY PRINTING & SUPPLIES	SUPPLIES	422.72
QUICK MED CLAIMS	RESCUE SERVICE	1,694.76
S2 ROLL-OFFS LLC	PARK SERVICE	528.00
S & W WELDING INC.	REPAIR/SUPPLIES	13,337.38
ST. JOSEPH'S HILLSIDE VILLA	SR CNTR MEAL SERVICE	3,731.00
SCANTRON	1ST QTR 2022 SERVICE	189.00
SCHMADER ELECTRIC	SERVICE	587.50
SEALS AND SERVICE INC.	REPAIR SUPPLIES	3,208.83
SKYWAVE WIRELESS INC.	SERVICE	154.05
SPECIAL ROADS FUND	MECHANIC CHGS	616.56
STALP GRAVEL	SUPPLIES	562.25
SUNRISE EXCAVATING CO.	SERVICE	12,867.09
VERIZON	PHONE SERVICE	82.00
VERIZON BROADBAND	POLICE BROADBAND	120.03
VERIZON WIRELESS	CELL PHONE SERVICE	297.27

WAGNER TIRE & REPAIR LLC	REPAIR/SUPPLIES	2,011.75
WEST POINT IMPLEMENT	REPAIR/SUPPLIES	758.46
WEST POINT LIBRARY FOUND	CASH ADV	533.67
WEST POINT LIGHT AND WATE	UTILITIES	33,274.77
WPLW OPERATING FUND	CASH ADV	1,954.30
WEST POINT NEWS	PUBLICATION/SUPPLIES	1,162.09
WEST POINT RESCUE	AMBULANCE/TRAINING	1,000.00
WEST POINT TRUE VALUE	SUPPLIES	1,511.99
WOERNER'S GARBAGE SERVICE	GARBAGE SERVICE	267.00
AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSN.	MEMBERSHIP DUES	228.00
BLUE360 MEDIA	POLICE LAW MANUAL	87.75
CUMING COUNTY COURT	POLICE COURT COSTS	17.00
ENVIROMENTAL SERVICES INC	SERVICE	6,852.00
F & M BANK	BOX RENT	54.00
FAITH TO LOVE PUBLISHING	LIBRARY BOOKS	15.00
FRANCISCAN HEALTHCARE	SUPPLIES	184.46
JACK'S UNIFORMS	POLICE UNIFORM EXPENSE	308.62
JOHNSEN CORROSION ENG	WTR DIST SERVICE	968.00
KREIKEMEIER CHRIS	TRAVEL EXPENSE	79.46
MACQUEEN EQUIPMENT	SUPPLIES	260.34
NORFOLK DAILY NEWS	POLICE AD	207.72
OMAHA WORLD HERALD	POLICE AD	1,040.65
PORT-A-JOHNS	SERVICE	1,000.00
RIEF BRENDAN	PARK SUPPLIES REIMB.	216.15
SIFFRING LANDSCAPING	LIBRARY SERVICE	279.98
STRATMAN TOM	FIRE/BARRICADE TAPE	406.58
STRYKER SALES CORP.	RESCUE SERVICE	249.00
THREE RIVERS LIBRARY SYSTEM	LIBRARY TRAINING	10.00

The Mayor then opened a public hearing on the application of Taylor Oil Company, Inc., dba Taylor Quik Pik 35 for a Class D liquor license at 1716 N. Lincoln Street (formerly West Point Travel Plaza). All parties were given an opportunity to be heard. No one appeared to speak in opposition of the liquor license application and no correspondence had been filed. The Mayor then closed the hearing. Moved by Smith, seconded by Stokely, to approve the application of Taylor Oil Company, Inc., dba Taylor Quik Pik 35 for a Class D liquor license and that the Nebraska Liquor Control Commission be notified of this action. Voting Yea: Stokely, Penrose, Swenson, Buse, Hugo, and Smith. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Christine Hutchinson and Amanda Hegy from Franciscan Healthcare Rehabilitation and Wellness gave an update on the Neligh Park Inclusive Playground Project. They reported the funds have been secured and the equipment was delivered and is being stored at the park. Demolition of the existing equipment is scheduled for April 1, 2022, except for the equipment to the north. Installation of the new equipment is to be completed by May 31, 2022. If additional funds are

received, items may be added such as swings or a sand box. Councilmember Swenson suggested that the City make a contribution towards the project. This will be placed on the February agenda.

Next the Council considered the renewal of the City's health insurance plan which renewal is February 1st. Renewing the city's current plan with Blue Cross Blue Shield would result in a 5.78% increase in premium. Following discussion, it was moved by Smith, seconded by Penrose, to renew the contract with Blue Cross Blue Shield through Inspro Insurance for the City's health insurance coverage for 02/01/2022 to 01/31/2023. Voting Yea: Stokely, Penrose, Swenson, Buse, Hugo, and Smith. Nay: None. Motion carried.

The Council considered an agreement with the West Point Chamber of Commerce for economic development services for the City of West Point. The City has never had a written agreement with the Chamber but has provided funding for several years. Last year the City provided \$15,000 to the Chamber. The funding is paid out of the LB 840 Economic Development Funds. Councilmember Swenson felt the fee for this service was too much and suggested \$9,000 - \$12,000 and pointed out that the Chamber is provided an office. Councilmembers Stokely, Penrose and Smith thought the fee to be too low and that the City needed to invest in the economic development of the City. The Chamber Director, Tina Biteghe Bi Ndong, was present and reported on her activities and answered questions. Following discussion, it was moved by Penrose and seconded by Stokely to approve the agreement setting the fee at \$20,000 to be paid quarterly. Voting Yea: Stokely, Penrose, Buse, Hugo, and Smith. Nay: Swenson. Motion carried.

The City Administrator advised the Council that because the State mandates municipalities to use licensed animal control facilities, the City has contracted with Nebraska Veterinary Services to use their facility for the impounding of stray or abandoned animals. Under the contract, the Clinic charges a monthly fee which is applied towards boarding, euthanasia and disposal of impounded animals. If the impounded animal is claimed by the owner, all fees are paid by the owner. The current contract expired December 31, 2021. A new contract was presented to the Council for approval. Moved by Swenson, seconded by Buse, that the City accept the new contract with Nebraska Veterinary Services for a two-year term for the impounding of strayed animals and that the Mayor be authorized to sign said contract. Voting Yea: Stokely, Penrose, Swenson, Buse, Hugo,

and Smith. Nay: None. Motion carried.

The City Administrator informed the Council that he met with the Sunshine Center Board concerning the need to hire a full-time person as an assistant coordinator. The Board had provided funding of \$5,000 for the Office Assistance/Van Driver position and would provide \$7,500 for this new position. The pay plan would need to be amended to include this new position. Following discussion Smith introduced Ordinance No. 1426 entitled:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WEST POINT, NEBRASKA ADOPTING A PAY PLAN FOR CERTAIN OFFICERS AND ALL EMPLOYEES; REPEALING ORDINANCE NO. 1424 AND ALL OTHER MOTIONS, RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT WITH THIS ORDINANCE; PRESCRIBING THE TIME WHEN THIS ORDINANCE SHALL BE IN FORCE AND TAKE EFFECT; AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE PUBLICATION OF THIS ORDINANCE IN PAMPHLET FORM,

and moved that the statutory rule requiring reading on three different days be suspended. Swenson seconded the motion. Voting Yea: Stokely, Penrose, Swenson, Buse, Hugo, and Smith. Nay: None. Motion carried. Statutory rule suspended. Buse moved for final passage of the ordinance, which motion was seconded by Swenson. Voting Yea: Stokely, Penrose, Swenson, Buse, Hugo, and Smith. Nay: None. Ordinance adopted.

Moved by Smith, seconded by Buse, to approve the claim of Hugo Plumbing & Heating for services and supplies in the amount of \$5,643.27. Voting Yea: Stokely, Penrose, Swenson, Buse, and Smith. Nay: None. Abstaining: Hugo. Motion carried.

Police Chief Adams reported to the Council that the part-time officers have worked out well for filling in on a temporary basis. He hopefully will be hiring two officers by the end of February which will bring his department back to full staff.

Moved by Swenson, seconded by Smith, to adjourn at 6:10 PM. Voting Yea: Stokely, Penrose, Swenson, Buse, Hugo, and Smith. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Mary Kempf, MMC
City Clerk