**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF PERU, NEBRASKA ON January 19, 2021 AT 6:00 P.M.**

Mayor Dave Pease called the meeting to order and informed the public of the location of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act.

Present were: Mayor Dave Pease, and Council Members Jason Jones, Ethan Coatney, Spencer Vogt, and Quentin Kieler. Upon roll call by the City Clerk, a quorum was declared.

The Council reviewed the minutes from the December 21, 2020 regular Council meeting. Council Member Coatney made motion to approve the minutes. Council Member Vogt seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote indicated; “AYE” – Vogt, Coatney, Kieler. “ABSTAINED” – Jones. Motion Carried.

Council Member Vogt made the motion to approve the claims already paid pursuant to Resolution No. 2018-01. Motion was seconded by Council Member Jones, Roll Call Vote indicated; “AYE” All present. Motion Carried.

Council Member Coatney made motion to approve the claims still needing paid. Motion was seconded by Council Member Vogt. Roll Call Vote indicated; “AYE” All present. Motion Carried.

NMC Rental - $1,101.28 (wtr); WesTech - $15,750.00 (wtr); JEO - $7,477.50(wtr); OPPD - $2,972.82 (Gen,sts,wtr,fr,rurfr,res); Windstream - $553.96 (gen,wtr,fr,rurfr,res); Verizon - $40.01 (wtr); Casey’s - $482.15(sts,fr,rurfr,res); Card Services - $151.97(gen,wtr); Black Hills Energy - $58.15(gen); Access Systems - $144.16 (gen); American Recycling and Sanitation - $2,197.00 (gen); Macqueen Emergency - $44.82 (fr); HOA Solutions, Inc. -$319.50 (wtr); United Life Insurance - $67.62 (gen); Neb. Public Health Enviro. Lab -$219.00 (wtr); SUEZ - $23,197.00 (wtr); Schmidts Trucking - $23,030.00 (wtr); W.S. Darley & Co. - $4,860.02 (fr,rurfr); Electric Pump - $6.055.80 (wtr); Concrete Industries, Inc. - $1,493.28(sts); Hawkins - $491.44 (wtr); Board of Public - $6,181.74 (wtr); Kirsten Reeves - $145.75 (res); One Call Concepts - $0.77 (wtr,swr); Brent Lottman - $109.99 (res,fr,rurfr); Ligouri Law Office - $2,737.98 (gen); Mount Farm Drainage - $2,500.00 (sts); 1st Class Plumbing and Heating - $94.88 (gen); Auburn Newspaper - $134.16 (gen); Eggers Bros. Inc - $175.47 (fr,rurfr); Westlake Hardware - $48.44 (sts); Bound Tree - $299.48 (res); Emergency Medical Products - $71.27 (res)

General(gen), Streets(sts), Water(wtr), Sewer(swr), Parks & Rec(p&r), City Fire(fr), Rural Fire(rurfr), Rescue(res), Grant(grnt)

The City Clerk reported that January 2021 Highway Allocation was $7,929.99. The October 2020 City Sales Tax was $4,255.11 and that the 2nd District Municipal Equalization totaled $22,752.17.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Mayor Pease stated the water report can be found in the Clerk’s office. Water usage has been down since the repair to the pump.

Mayor Pease stated that there was no Mayor’s Report.

**Item 1.** Planning and Zoning will need to be reviewed at the next regular Council Meeting. Mayor Pease will be reaching out to individuals to see if they have any interest to be a part of the Planning Commission. The City Clerk will also post a notice on the City Facebook page to see if anyone would be willing to volunteer for the Commission.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Item 1.** Disaster Recovery Coordinator, Deborah Solie, informed the public and council that FEMA corrected an error on their end, and the initial cost for trucking water while the temporary water treatment plant was being installed will be covered. The grant for the streets is currently being set up in the new program called Amplifund and is moving forward. NEMA let the City know that the next steps for the Hazard Mitigation Grant will be to have the qualified properties assessed. NEMA is currently working through that paperwork. After review of the grocery store survey, it shows that a large percentage of people feel that a grocery store is strongly needed in Peru. Solie has taken the next steps in applying for funds that would assist in the cost of a feasibility study for a future grocery store. Last, Solie is working on the pre-application for NRD Funding that could go toward outdoor space.

**Item 2.** Council discussed the rental of City Hall for the month of February. Mayor Pease stated that COVID-19 is still on the rise so continuing not renting City Hall might be best. Council Member Kieler made motion to continue not renting out the City Hall for the month of February and to readdress this topic at the regular February Council Meeting. Council Member Jones seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote indicated; “AYE” All present. Motion Carried.

**Item 3.** Council Member Coatney made motion to approve Resolution 2021-01 City of Peru, NE Adopting the Nemaha Natural Resources Hazard Mitigation Plan 2020. Council Member Kieler seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote indicated; “AYE” All present. Motion Carried.

**Item 4.** Council member Kieler led discussion on what steps should be taken to correct water loss in the system. He would like the City to investigate what percentage of water is being lost and meter anything that might be currently unmetered. While this may cause unexpected expenses right now, it will save the City in the long run. Mayor Pease noted that this is something the maintenance employees would be able to start working on. No action was requested or taken on this item by Council.

**Item 5.** Council discussed looking into a water rate study. Council Member Kieler feels this is something the City should investigate and base it off future cost. The Mayor would like to investigate a company that could assist in the water rate study.

**Item 6.** Council Member Kieler discussed a potential water agreement with Peru State College. President Hanson asked if there is a more formal example that could be reviewed. After further discussion it was noted that this would be something that would need further consideration at a later point.

**Item 7.** Council Member Coatney made motion to approve the volunteer fire application for Sarah Baldwin. Motion was seconded by Council Member Kieler. Roll Call Vote indicated; “AYE” All present. Motion Carried.

**Item 8.**  With there being no further business, Council Member Coatney made a motion to adjourn. Council Member Vogt seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote indicated; “AYE” All present. Motion Carried.

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Dave Pease, Mayor

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Charlotte Carpenter, City Clerk - Treasurer