**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF PERU, NEBRASKA ON NOVEMBER 15, 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 at 6:00 p.m.: Mayor Dave Pease, and Council Members Ethan Coatney, Spencer Vogt, Quentin Kieler, and Marty Peregoy. Upon roll call by the City Clerk, a quorum was declared.

The Council reviewed the minutes from the October 18, 2021 regular council meeting. Council Member Peregoy made motion to approve the minutes. Council Member Kieler seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote as follows, Councilmember S. Vogt: AYE; Councilmember Peregoy: AYE; Councilmember E. Coatney: AYE; Councilmember Q. Kieler: AYE; Motion Carried 4-0.

Council Member Vogt made the motion to approve the claims already paid pursuant to Resolution No. 2018-01. Motion was seconded by Council Member Coatney; Discussion, Roll Call Vote as follows, Councilmember Peregoy: AYE; Councilmember E. Coatney: AYE; Councilmember Q. Kieler: AYE; Councilmember S. Vogt: AYE; Motion Carried 4-0.

Council Member Peregoy made motion to approve the claims still needing paid. Motion was seconded by Council Member Coatney; Discussion, Roll Call Vote Councilmember E. Coatney: AYE; Councilmember Q. Kieler: AYE; Councilmember S. Vogt: AYE; Councilmember Peregoy: AYE; Motion Carried 4-0.

NMC Rental - $1,101.28 (wtr); WesTech - $16,750.00 (wtr); JEO-$109,730.00(wtr,swr, sts); OPPD-$3,005.82(gen,wtr,p&r,sts,rurfr,fr,res);Windstream-$591.03gen,wtr,p&r,sts,rurfr,fr,res); Verizon-$40.01(wtr); Casey’s-$663.82(sts,res,fr); Card Services-$384.73(gen); Black Hills Energey-$58.29(gen,fr,rurfr,res); Access Systems-$144.16(gen); Heather Pemberton, CPA-$540.91(gen);Xpress Bill Pay-$64.00(wtr,swr); Miller Monroe Farrell Insurance-$7,742.00(general); Quick Med Claims-$213.71(res); Southeast Community College-$498.00(res); Auburn Newspaper-$170.28(gen); Eakes Office Solutions-$98.36(gen); Frontier Cooperative-$108.00(P&R); Board of Public Works-$5,327.27(wtr,swr); One Call Concepts-$10.77(wtr,swr); Brent Lottman-$25.00(res); Sandry Fire Supply-$712.99(fr,rurfr); American Recycling & Sanitation-$4,722.07(san); Grainger-$48.15(gen); Nebraska Public Health Enviro. Lab-$204.00(wtr); Heiman-$285.95(fr,rurfr); Bound Tree-$196.90(res)

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

The City Clerk reported that the November 2021 Highway Allocation was $5,627.71 and the August 2021City Sales Tax totaled $4,289.98.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Mayor Pease noted that the iron and manganese levels are still performing well. Usage was up in the month of October but the college is working on repairing leaks.

Mayor Pease stated there wasn’t a mayor’s report.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Item 1.** Deborah Solie, Disaster Recovery Coordinator updated the council and public on various topics. Solie stated FEMA/NEMA have approved the appeal on one of the flood projects. This approval means the City will receive an additional $45,000.00. The Northeast Nemaha County Long Term Recovery Group will be hosting a town hall on December 16th at the Performing Arts Center on campus. This town hall touches on all topics of recovery. The conversation with the DED about the Purchase, Rehab, Resale grant is still taking place. The recommendation presented to the DED would allow the city to raise the cost of rehab and complete 2 homes instead of 4. SENDD would like to see potential buyers in place for these homes. The City and College will work together to promote the homes for any incoming faculty and staff.

**Item 2.** Council reviewed Resolution 2021-15 Memorandum of Understanding between City of Peru and Peru State College for care of Park Avenue. Discussion was had about visibility issues and what the state requirements are for traffic signs. It was requested that another meeting take place with the college to further discuss the responsibilities of both parties. No formal action was taken by council.

**Item 3.** Annual performance appraisals were reviewed and discussed. Councilmember Peregoy would like to see revisions to the scale at which employees are rated. Peregoy also discussed potential new job descriptions and then reviewing in 3 months to see how the changes are going. Councilmember Vogt feels this is something to address and apply to the annual performance appraisals next year. With no further discussion Councilmember Vogt made motion to approve the annual performance appraisals of all city employees. Councilmember Coatney seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote as follows, Councilmember Vogt: AYE; Councilmember Peregoy: AYE; Councilmember Coatney: AYE; Councilmember Kieler: AYE. Motion Carried 4-0

**Item 4.** Gus Krajcek spoke to the council about how he is interested in bringing a new business to town. Krajcek is a PSC alumni and Peru is where he always wanted to end up. He is considering 2 possible locations for a restaurant. Krajcek would like to see his restaurant offer specials, outdoor dining, and a pickle ball court. He is currently working with a company out of Lincoln that would install a top of line commercial kitchen. Krajcek stated that he does everything correctly and does not cut corners. He is excited for this new opportunity.

**Item 5.** Councilmember Peregoy led the discussion on the procedure for animals running at large. She has witnessed multiple dogs running at large and has received several complaints about the subject. She would like to see the animal control committee meet and come up with guidelines that can be put before council. No further discussion was had.

**Item 6.** Council discussed looking into having the city ordinances computerized and placed on the city website. This way they are easily accessible to the public. Councilmember Peregoy and the City Clerk will work on organizing this project.

**Item 7.** Councilmember Peregoy started the discussion about duties of employees. Peregoy and the clerk will work together in organizing duties by what is monthly and what is yearly. Peregoy asked if any other councilmember would be interested. Councilmember Vogt would like to see the initial list once it has been completed.

**Item 8.** Council reviewed the professional services agreement with SENDD for the CDBG-CV funds. These are the funds that will assist the new grocery store. With no further discussion Councilmember Peregoy made motion to approve the professional services agreement with SENDD. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Vogt. Roll Call Vote as follows, Councilmember Peregoy: AYE; Councilmember Coatney: AYE; Councilmember Kieler: AYE; Councilmember Vogt: AYE. Motion Carried 4-0

**Item 9.** Mayor Pease provided an update on the 5th Street improvement project. He stated that he met Evan Wickersham from JEO and went over the stages of the project. The first stage will repair 5th Street from the AWAC building on campus to the intersection of Washington Street. Currently JEO is working through timing issues and physical issues. The current curve does not meet sight requirements. They discussed the possibility of shaving the hill down but that comes with many other challenges. Currently the sidewalks have been removed from the project because of space issues and cost. Disaster Recovery Coordinator, Deborah Solie is currently looking into potential grants that would help the with repairing 5th Street all the way to downtown. No formal action was requested of Council.

**Item 10.** Resolution 2021-16 Year – End Certification of City Street Superintendent came before council. With no further discussion Councilmember Vogt made motion to approve Resolution 2021-16 Year – End Certification of City Street Superintendent. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Kieler. Roll Call Vote as follows, Councilmember Coatney: AYE; Councilmember Kieler: AYE; Councilmember Vogt: AYE; Councilmember Peregoy: AYE. Motion Carried 4-0

**Item 11.** Council briefly discussed giving out a holiday bonus to all city employees. Mayor feels we can keep it the same as last year and give each employee $200. Councilmember Kieler made motion to approve giving each city employee a $200.00 holiday bonus. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Peregoy. Roll Call Vote as follows, Councilmember Kieler: AYE; Councilmember Vogt: AYE; Councilmember Peregoy: AYE; Councilmember Coatney: AYE. Motion Carried 4-0

**Item 12.** Councilmember Kieler moved for Closed Session to strategy session for negotiating guidance by members of the public body to legal counsel, JEO, JCG, negotiators on the City's behalf, and the mayor on compensation for easements (temporary/permanent) and reimbursement for removal of property, structures, crops, landscaping, etc., Second by Vogt, motion approved 4/0 by roll call vote.

The City Attorney restated in open session that the City Council was now going into closed session for negotiating guidance by members of the public body to legal counsel, JEO, JCG, negotiators on the City's behalf, and the mayor on compensation for easements (temporary/permanent) and reimbursement for removal of property, structures, crops, landscaping, etc. Council went into closed session 8:04 p.m.  The mayor ended close session at 8:48 p.m. and the council reconvened in open session. No action was requested or taken by Council.

With there being no further business, Council Member Vogt made a motion to adjourn. Council Member Coatney seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote as follows, Councilmember M. Peregoy: AYE; Councilmember E. Coatney: AYE; Councilmember Q. Kieler: AYE; Councilmember S. Vogt: AYE; Motion Carried 4-0.

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 Dave Pease, Mayor

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Charlotte Carpenter, City Clerk &Treasurer