

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF PERU,
NEBRASKA ON MARCH 18, 2019 AT 6:00 P.M.**

Mayor Reeves called the meeting to order and informed the public of the location of the Nebraska Open Meeting Act posting.

Present were: Mayor Darrin Reeves and Council Members: Dave Pease, Ethan Coatney, Bill Hunter and Jason Jones. Upon roll call by the Deputy Clerk, a quorum was declared.

The Council reviewed the minutes from the February 20, 2019 regular Council meeting. Council Member Pease made motion to approve the minutes; Council Member Jones seconded the motion; no further disc.; Roll-Call Vote indicated: "AYE" All.

The Deputy Clerk reported the payment for \$500.00 was received by the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services for the Water Treatment Plant Improvements Project. Also reported was March Highway Allocation was received in the amount of \$6,849.95 and City Sales Tax in the amount of \$2,662.88.

Council Member Pease made motion to approve the claims. Motion was seconded by Council Member Jones; no further disc.; Roll-Call Vote indicated: "AYE" All. Motion: Carried.

OPPD-\$3,456.43 (gen,sts,p&r,rurfr,wtr); Windstream-\$723.13(gen,wtr,fr,rurfr); Black Hill Energy-\$475.51(gen,wtr,fr,rurfr); Aue & Company-\$450.00(gen); Casey's-\$193.35(sts,fr,rurfr); AT&T-\$97.20(gen); Card Services-\$281.00(gen); Decker's Food Center-\$36.22(gen); Purchase Power-\$108.99(gen); Napa Auto Parts-\$5.98(sts); Suez-\$15,171.00(wtr); Auburn Newspaper-\$105.27(gen); One Call Concepts-\$8.44(wtr); Ace Hardware-\$107.90(sts); Hawkins-\$508.26(wtr); American Recycling & Sanitation-\$2,150.00(gen,sts); Auburn Board of Public Works-\$7,079.24(wtr); Municipal Supply Inc.-\$634.99(gen); OK Tire Store-\$37.00(sts); Eakes Office Solutions-\$130.33(gen); Stutheit Implement-\$44.55(gen); Access Systems-\$132.19(gen); JEO-\$12,825.00(wtr); Corporate Warehouse Supply-\$459.85(gen); Nebraska Public Healthy Environmental lab-\$163.00(wtr); Midwest Medical-\$100.00(res); First Wireless-\$331.00(fr,rurfr); Interstate Battery-\$57.60(fr,rurfr); Emergency Medical Products-\$114.79(res); Grainger-\$699.60(sts); J.P. Cooke-\$84.98(gen); Stutheit Implement-\$8,900.00(p&r); Pitney Bowes-\$140.55(gen); Midwest Laboratories-\$17.89(wtr); EMS Billing Services-\$95.97(res); Feld Fire-\$465.65(fr,rurfr).

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

Mayor Reeves stated the water report is available at city hall for public inspection and stated there is no Mayor report.

OLD BUSINESS

1. A request tabled from February 20, 2019 Council meeting, Auburn Optimist Club is seeking donation for "Personal Safety" books given to students grades 4th, 5th and 6th. Pease stated he would like to use fundraising activities. No motion was made at this time.

2. Council Member requested a bid for a Rhino Shredded compared to the John Deere Shredder. Request was tabled to April 15, 2019 council meeting.
3. Devon Adams has previously requested maintenance work be done to the curb-stops by her home. It was discussed that now that the weather is getting better an agreement will be in place.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Tom Bliss with SENDD came to introduce himself and explained different projects and plans that are and can be available to the City such as grants and revitalization projects for improving the City. Council Members discussed we will be in touch with Tom for future endeavors.
2. Accountant Jamie Aue came to discuss Allocation of wages of city employee's and where daily hours and tasks are being allocated between general, streets, sewer, parks & recreation, and water. Discussion between council members that city employees will keep track of where hours are dispersed for 6 months and then re-evaluate if a percentage amount can be used when entering hours for payroll. Aue stated she will use actual hours were she from past and current reporting on allocation of time.
3. Cindy DeLaCruz approached the council members about the parking issues on 6th, 7th and 8th streets exclaiming she has been dealing with people parking in no parking zones for many years and would like to have something done like a city ordinance put in place. There was much discussion, no further action was taken by Council at this time.
4. Dr. Dan Hansen gave the Council Members an update on the Imperuving As One program discussing how they are trying to focus on communication and relationships. No Action was taken.
5. The discussion for Sponsorship of Oldman River Days from May 31,2019-June 2, 2019 for the amount of \$600.00 was approved. A Motion was made by Council Member Pease and seconded by Jones; disc was had, Roll-Call Vote indicated: "AYE" All. Motion: Carried.
6. Blocking 5th street for Oldman River Days and using the City lot for vendors June 1, 2019 from 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. was approved. Motion was made by Council Member Jones and seconded by Pease; disc was had, Roll-Call Vote indicated: "AYE" All. Motion: Carried.
7. Council Member Jones made the motion to approve waiving the peddler permit for the vendors on June 1, 2019 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. for Oldman River Days. Pease seconded the motion. Vote indicated: "AYE" All. Motion: Carried.
8. Sponsorship of the Bee Statue and pollinator garden was discussed by Vanessa Sherman. Leslie Clark was unable to attend the meeting so further discussion will be necessary. No Action was taken.
9. Vanessa Sherman updated the Council Members on the ball field. They are setting goals for this coming year and looking into grants and other resources. No Action was taken.
10. Tammie Hart with Peru State College came to discuss a Community Garden by the water treatment plant. With the current circumstances she asked to table this item until next City Council meeting on April 15, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. No Action was taken.
11. Council Member Jones made the motion to approve Payton Armstrong for the Peru Fire Department. Council Member Hunter seconded the motion. Vote indicated: "AYE" All. Motion: Carried.

12. Council Member Hunter made the motion to approve Jenika Mullins for the Peru Fire Department. Council member Jones seconded the motion. Vote indicated: "AYE" All. Motion: Carried.
13. Council Member Jones made the motion to approve Jeffrey Bestwick to attend the Summer Mosquito Control Workshop in Lincoln, Nebraska on June 4th for \$35.00. Council Member Hunter seconded the motion. Vote indicated: "AYE" All. Motion: Carried.
14. Council Member Hunter made motion to table Agenda Item #14 involving the water bill policy/raising of initial deposit of \$100.00 to the April 15, 2019 meeting at 6:00 p.m. Council Member Jones seconded the motion; disc was heard, Roll-Call Vote indicated: "AYE" All. Motion: Carried.
15. Council Member Pease made motion to Table the discussion/approval involving Gerald Stukenholtz requesting to lower each of his farm rent installments by \$4,000.00 therefore making each installment \$20,000.00. Mayor Darrin Reeves also requested the City Attorney review the lease agreement. Council Member Jones seconded the motion; disc was heard, Roll-Call Vote indicated: "AYE" All. Motion: Carried.
16. Council Member Ethan Coatney requested a discussion on a better understanding on what steps need to be taken and who needs to be called when a water leak takes place. Discussion was made, no further action was taken by Council at this meeting.
17. Council Member Ethan Coatney requested discussion on the Borrow site on Mulberry Street. Contact was made with John Risetto, preservation Archeologist, who had sent a letter stating the site was not to be disturbed. Coatney stated that John would allow them to give him some more information including core samples and survey the actual dig site. Discussion was heard, No motion or further action was taken.
18. Council Member Bill Hunter requested that the City purchase chest waders for the City Maintenance workers in the event of a water main break. The Clerks have been instructed to get quotes on waders for City Employees.
19. There was Discussion on the City of Peru Comprehensive Plan & Housing Study. Estimated cost \$35,000-\$37,000.00 from JEO Consulting Group. JEO will make out the application at no cost for a Community Development Block funding for 75% and a Nebraska Investment Finance Authority to cover the remainder. Council Member Hunter exclaimed this would be instrumental in order to receiving grants and other funding. We will contact JEO when we are ready to proceed.
20. Council Members discussed the City of Peru Street Study. The First point was on the Condition Study- Estimated Cost \$25,000-\$28,000.00. This type of Study would be necessary to compete for a CDBG funding up to a maximum of \$350,000 for street, curb, sidewalks, etc. The Public Works Category of CDBG funding is 75% with a minimum of 25% local match. Public Works Category CDBG of funding is very competitive. Communities enhance their chances of receiving funding by Increasing the local match. The other study was for the 5th street corridor study and condition study- Estimated cost \$12,000-\$14,000. The study would be a more detailed study on 5th Street only but be less likely to receive CDBG funding. The study would focus on the particular areas where improvements are necessary. Council Members did not take further action on the discussion at this meeting, due to the current flooding.

21. Backwash Discharge Memorandum was shut down. Due to the certain circumstances there is no need for this at this time. The advertisements will be taken out of the paper. No action taken.
22. In Open Discussion, due to the recent flooding Dr. Dan Hansen approached the councilmen about when it would be ok to bring the students back for classes. After a long discussion everyone came to a conclusion that Wednesday 3/20/19 would work to bring them back under strict water conservation since the water trucks are on a constant schedule to keep the water tower filled. It will be a work in progress until a better plan is formed.

With there being no further business, Council Member Jones made motion to adjourn. Motion was seconded by Council Member Hunter. Vote indicated: "AYE" All. Motion: Carried.

Darrin Reeves
Darrin Reeves, Mayor

Charlotte Carpenter
Charlotte Carpenter, City Clerk - Treasurer

