

THE OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE GERING CITY COUNCIL, May 12, 2014

A regular meeting of the City Council of Gering, Nebraska was held in open session on May 12, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at Gering City Hall at 1025 P Street, Gering, NE. Present were Mayor Mayo and Councilmembers Smith, Christensen, Gibbs, Allred, Shields, Morrison and Cowan. Also present were City Administrator Lane Danielzuk, City Clerk Kathy Welfl and City Attorney Jim Ellison. Absent was Councilmember McFarland. Notice of the meeting was given in advance by publication in the Gering Citizen, the designated method of giving notice. All proceedings hereafter were taken while the meeting was open to the attendance of the public except as otherwise indicated.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Mayo called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The Mayor noted that there was a quorum of the Council and City business could be conducted.

1. Recital of the Pledge of Allegiance and Prayer by Pastor Gary Hashley
2. Roll Call
3. Excuse Councilmember absence (None)

Motion by Councilmember Gibbs to excuse Councilmember Shields from the April 28, 2014 City Council meeting and Councilmember McFarland from the May 12, 2014 Council meeting. Second by Councilmember Morrison. There was no discussion. The Mayor called the vote. "AYES": Smith, Christensen, Gibbs, Allred, Shields, Morrison, Cowan. "NAYS": None. Absent: McFarland. Abstaining: None. Motion Carried.

OPEN MEETINGS ACT - NEB.REV.STAT. CHAPTER 84, ARTICLE 14

(As required by State Law, public bodies shall make available at least one current copy of the Open Meetings Act posted in the meeting room). Agenda items may be moved up or down on the agenda at the discretion of the Mayor.

CORRESPONDENCE AND CITIZENS WITH BUSINESS NOT SCHEDULED ON THE AGENDA. None

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. Approve minutes of the April 28, 2014 Regular City Council Meeting
2. Approve Claims
3. Memorandum of Understanding between the NRD, the City of Gering, Scottsbluff and other entities

Claims:

4-23-14 to 5-6-14

2 SQUARED ART & FRAMING \$85.00 FRAMING FOR BISON PRINT, 3M \$4,715.00 TRAFFIC TAPE, ADAMS ELECTRIC SRV. \$4,767.43 ELECTRIC TRIM, ADVERTISING SPECIALTIES I \$980.92 POCKET NOTEBOOKS, AHLERS BAKING INC. \$21.98 FOOD FOR STAFF/SCADA, ALAMAR UNIFORMS \$105.86 NAME BADGE COLLAR BRASS STARS, AMAZON \$197.37 BOOKS, BENZEL PEST CONTROL \$49.90 PEST CONTROL, BIG MACK \$756.30 INSTALL FURNACE, BLUFFS SANITARY SUPPLY \$338.84 RESTROOM SUPP., BOMGAARS \$156.22 TOOLS/HITCH, BRIDGESTONE GOLF INC. \$1,518.90 GOLF BALLS, BROADWAY OFFICE CENTRE \$191.37 SUPP., CADDIES \$1,350.00 MEALS FOR MENS LEAGUE, CALLAWAY GOLF CO. \$37.50 HATS, CARD SRV. \$4,837.63 CREDIT CARD PYMT., CENEX I-80 \$45.10 GAS FOR OMAHA TRAINING, CITY OF GERING \$175.00 WELLNESS GOLF, CITY OF GERING – GENERAL AC. \$65,000.00 TRANSFER FUNDS TO COVER ACH, CITY OF SCOTTSBLUFF \$2,038.01 EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT FEES, CITY PAYROLL TRUST \$3,694.67 FSA MEDICAL 125, CLEMENT CONSTRUCTION \$5,748.24 DAILY GRIND BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS, CLEVELAND GOLF \$495.84 GOLF BALLS – GHS, CNA SURETY \$175.00 BOND FOR KATHY, CONNECTING POINT \$358.00 TONER, CONTRACTORS MATERIALS \$110.70 SQUEEGEE FOR BALER BLDG., CORNHUSKER C STORES INC. \$23.61 GAS FOR K-9 TRAINING, COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT \$312.16 SALES/USE TAX TRAINING, CRESCENT ELECTRIC SUPPLY \$601.05 WIRE CONNECTOR, CULLIGAN WATER CONDITIONING \$39.30 SALT, DALE'S TIRE/RETREADING \$50.00 TIRE RPR. FOR G1, DANKO EMERGENCY EQUIPMENT \$44.78 PRESSURE SWITCH SHORELINE PUMP, DARRELL VANCE \$141.00 SWNA, DISCOVER BANK \$374.41 GARNISHMENT, DOLLAR GENERAL STORE #077 \$6.50 LUNCH FOR REC. COMM. MEETING, DOOLEY OIL INC. \$905.20 OIL/BRAKES FOR TRUCK, DOUG PARKER \$209.00 MEALS, DUTTON-LAINSON CO. \$1,021.12 MOUNT/PLUG, ECOLAB \$236.50 RODENT CONTROL, ELECTRIC PUMP \$2,838.47 WWTP PUMP RPR., ENERGY LABORATORIES INC. \$456.00 WATER LAB, ENTENMANN-ROVIN CO. \$194.00 CAP PIECE, ENVIRO SRV. INC. \$1,005.00 WW LAB, FANTASYS 66 \$35.82 GAS FOR OMAHA TRAINING, FARMERS COOP \$54.24 GAS, FASTENAL CO. \$800.89 RPRS. , FAT BOYS TIRE/AUTO \$869.92 TRUCK TIRES, FEDEX \$86.74 WATER LAB, FIRST STATE BANK \$355.32 IBEW UNION DUES, FLOYD'S SALES/SRV. \$1,102.65 WORK ON G1, FOOTJOY \$367.69 GOLF GLOVES, FRESH FOODS \$94.03 WELLNESS PROGRAM, FURST MCNESS CO. \$83.89 SUPP., GALE \$206.17 BOOKS, GALL'S INC. \$103.56 UNIFORM SUPP. ELBOW/KNEE, GERING CITIZEN \$24.35 PLANNING COMM. MTG. NOTICE, GERING CONVENTION/VISITOR \$3,000.00 ROGER BROOKS SEMINAR, GERING

VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPT. \$774.00 NWCG S-290 CLASS EXPENSE, GOODWIN PRINTERS \$64.00 WARNING BOOKS FOR TRAFFIC STOP, GREASE N GO \$35.14 OIL CHANGE FOR GRAY TAURUS, HD SUPPLY WATERWORKS LTD. \$2,280.00 METER PURCHASE, HEALTH \$19.97 MAGAZINE SUBSCRIPTION, HEILBRUN \$1,047.07 RPRS., HILTON \$624.00 ROOMS FOR SCHOOL, HOLIDAY INN \$256.68 HOTEL STAY FOR OMAHA TRAINING, HOME DEPOT \$923.26 FLOORING, HONEY-WAGON EXPRESS \$120.00 CLEAN GREASE TRAPS, ICMA ELECTRONIC RETIREMENT \$540.30 ICMA CITY ADMIN., IDEAL LINEN SUPPLY INC. \$337.73 MAINTENANCE/SUPPLIES, INGRAM LIBRARY SRV. \$1,509.92 BOOKS/PERIODICALS, INLAND POTABLE SERVICES \$5,109.00 TANK CLEANING, INTER. CODE COUNCIL INC. \$32.90 RESIDENTIAL INSPECTORS GUIDE, INTERNAL REVENUE SRV. \$36,757.15 FED/FICA TAX, INTRALINKS TECHNICAL SOLUTIONS \$2,173.80 COMPUTER SUPPORT, IRBY TOOL/SAFETY \$102.42 BB TESTING CHARGE/BLANKET, JACK KELLER \$209.00 MEALS, JC GOLF ACCESS. \$82.19 GOLF TEES, JIRDON AGRI. CHEMICALS \$4,499.65 HERBICIDE WEED CONTROL, JOHN HANCOCK USA \$12,773.11 JH RETIRE 6%, JOHN MEJIA \$698.40 SALES/USE TAX TRAINING, JOHNSON CORROSION ENGINEE \$610.00 TANK MAINTENANCE, JOHNSON CASHWAY CO. \$9,624.22 KITCHEN CABINETS, KARENS CLEANING \$425.00 JANITORIAL SVRS. , KASSEBURG CANINE TRAINING \$7,500.00 REPLACEMENT DOG FOR PD., KATHLEEN A LAUGHLIN \$165.00 GARNISHMENT 2, KNEB \$393.50 RADIO ADS, KRIZ-DAVIS CO. \$2,571.56 CT, LL JOHNSON DISTRIBUTING \$3,500.00 USED MOWER, LANE DANIELZUK \$1,032.16 NCMA CONFERENCE, LATSCH'S OFFICE PRODUCTS \$189.02 FIRE DEPT. BADGES, LEAGUE OF NE MUNICIPALITIES \$140.00 REGISTRATION FEE, LOVE'S TRAVEL STOPS STORE \$62.58 GAS, MARLOW WHITE \$93.10 WHITE GLOVES, HONOR GD TABS, MARRIOTT HOTELS/RESORTS \$292.00 ICC HOTEL CHARGES, MATHESON TRI-GAS INC. \$90.84 WELDING ROD, MCDONALDS \$27.04 MEALS FOR VOLUNTEERS, MEAT SHOPPE \$8,880.30 MANAGEMENT CONTRACT, MENARDS \$228.20 SHOP SUPP., MESA HOTLINE SCHOOL \$500.00 MESA HOTLINE SCHOOL, MG TRUST CO. LLC \$5,099.33 MG-T POLICE, MICHAEL TODD & CO., I \$1,045.53 STROBE LIGHTS, MICROSURVEY SOFTWARE INC. \$395.00 ANNUAL MAINTENANCE SUB. , MONEY WISE OFFICE SUPPLY \$48.05 BLANK BUSINESS CARDS, MOTOR FUELS DIVISION \$1,571.00 FUEL TAX, MUNICIPAL ENERGY AGENCY O \$375,193.25 ELECTRIC COSTS, MURDOCH'S RANCH/HOME \$235.38 GATES FOR POND BY CENTRAL PLANT, NDEQ - FISCAL SRV. \$7,067.11 WASTE DISPOSAL QUARTERLY PAYMENT, NDOR - LODGING \$1,992.51 COUNTY LODGING TAX, NDOR - LOTTERY \$100.00 FEE FOR LOTTERY LICENSE RENEWAL, NE CHILD SUPPORT PAYMENT \$796.72 CHILD SUPPORT 1, NE DOR GAMING DIVISION \$10,946.00 QUARTERLY LOTTERY TAX RETURN, NE ECONOMIC DEVELOPERS \$125.00 NEDA SPRING CONFERENCE, NE PLANING/ZONING ASSOCIATION \$350.00 NPZA 2014 CONF. BRUNTZ/DANIELZUK, NE PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT \$1,367.90 UTILITIES, NE STATE FIRE MARSHAL \$50.00 BALER BUILDING PLAN REVIEW, NEBRASKA MACHINERY CO. \$171.23 PARTS FOR G6, NEBRASKA MUNICIPAL POWER \$2,317.08 DUES, NEFSMA \$125.00 NEFSMA ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION, NORTHWEST PIPE FITTINGS \$246.77 WELL RPR., OCLC INC. \$119.60 CATALOG SUBSCRIPTION, ONE CALL CONCEPTS INC. \$85.30 LOCATE FEES, PANHANDLE CLERKS ASSOCIATION \$10.00 DUES, PANHANDLE COOP ASSOCIATION \$11.82 RPRS., PETRO OF YORK \$62.11 GAS FOR MEETING, PING \$822.17 GOLF CLUBS, PITNEY BOWES \$87.54 POSTAGE METER MAIN ACCT., PIZZA HUT \$37.45 LUNCH FOR TRAINING, POSTMASTER \$19.20 POSTAGE ON REPORT ITEMS SENT, POWERPLAN OIB \$108.89 OIL, PRO CALIBER MOTORSPORT \$854.43 CLUTCH FOR MULE RPRS., PSI-DIGITAL IMAGING SOLUTION \$148.60 INJET BOND/PLOTTER PAPER, PUMP & PANTRY \$145.72 K-9 SCHOOL GAS, RAMADA INN \$648.00 ICC HOTEL CHRGS., RATLIFF CLINTON \$100.00 SAFETY BOOTS PURCHASE, RECOVERY SYSTEMS CO. \$343.64 PARTS BALER, ROBINSON ELECTRIC \$3,763.64 REPLACED BALER CONVEYOR DRIVE, ROOSEVELT PUBLIC POWER DIST. \$31.38 UTILITIES, RUNZA RESTAURANT \$21.04 FOOD FOR STAFF DURING SCADA, SAPP BROTHERS \$72.06 FUEL, SCHMIDT SALES \$800.00 DISK/CORRIGATOR, SCOTTS BLUFF CO. CLERK \$1,161.62 EMERGENCY I.D. CARD PRINTER, SCOTTS BLUFF CO. COURT \$200.30 GARNISHMENT 2, SCOTTSBLUFF TOWING SRV. \$225.00 94 MERCURY MARQUIS, SCOTTSBLUFF-GERING UNITED WAY \$10.00 UNITED WAY CONTRIBUTION, SCS ENGINEERS \$6,136.63 WORK ON NEW LANDFILL, SHELL \$167.31 FUEL, SHERWIN WILLIAMS \$5,133.00 TRAFFIC PAINT, SIMMONS OLSEN LAW FIRM \$1,500.00 CITY PROSECUTOR BILL, SIMON CONTRACTORS \$7,047.37 CRUSHED CONCRETE, SIMONSEN CONSTRUCTION INC. \$975.00 WALL RPR., SIRCHIE FINGER PRINT LAB. \$140.29 FINGERPRINT SUPP., SPEEDE MART \$50.32 NPZA CONFERENCE FUEL, STAPLES CREDIT PLAN \$58.83 PRINTER INK, STAR HERALD \$98.09 PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE ON, SUBWAY SANDWICHES/SALAD \$57.93 REC. COMM. MEETING, SUGAR VALLEY FEDERAL CREDIT \$1,268.08 CREDIT UNION, SUN MOUNTAIN SPORTS \$1,270.00 GOLF BAGS, TAYLOR MADE GOLF CO. \$1,680.16 OUTERWEAR/SHIRTS, TEAM CHEVROLET \$281.38 HEADLIGHT, TITLEIST \$1,571.34 WEDGES, UNITED CHAMBER OF COMMERCE \$385.00 CHAMBER MEMBERSHIP, UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA-LI \$60.00 PESTICIDE RECERTIFICATION, VALLEY BANK - POLICE \$300.00 PO UNION DUES, VALLEY BANK & TRUST CO. \$33,214.04 SINKING FUND, VERIZON WIRELESS \$1,110.63 IPAD FEES, WALMART COMMUNITY \$602.89 INK & BATTERIES, WESTCO \$9,070.53 DIESEL, WINCHELL CLEANING \$640.00 CLEANING, WINTER EQUIPMENT CO. INC. \$232.98 CURB GUARDS, YOUNG MENS CHRISTIAN \$5.00 YOUNG MEN'S CHR

Motion by Councilmember Shields to approve the Consent Agenda, second by Councilmember Christensen. There was no discussion. The Mayor called the vote. "AYES": Smith, Christensen, Gibbs, Allred, Shields, Morrison, Cowan. "NAYS": None. Abstaining: None. Absent: McFarland. Motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARINGS: None

BIDS: None

CURRENT BUSINESS:

1. Consider approval of Administrative Secretary I and Administrative Secretary II Positions

Councilmember Christensen explained that the Personnel Committee held a meeting on May 5 and discussed the request from the City Clerk to approve the positions. The request is a matter of streamlining the job responsibilities of Carol and Brenda who are responsible for the work in the front office and should help eliminate some of the overlapping that has existed in the past.

Motion by Councilmember Christensen, second by Councilmember Morrison to approve the Administrative I and II positions. There was no discussion. The Mayor called the vote. "AYES": Smith, Christensen, Gibbs, Allred, Shields, Morrison, Cowan. "NAYS": None. Abstaining: None. Absent: McFarland. Motion carried.

2. Approve and authorize Mayor to sign Resolution 5-1-14, 1995 Comprehensive Plan Resolution of Adoption

Motion by Councilmember Morrison, second by Councilmember Christensen to approve and authorize Mayor to sign Resolution 5-1-14, 1995 Comprehensive Plan Resolution of Adoption.

Discussion: Administrator Danielzuk said this is some really old business clean up. At the time that the 1995 Comprehensive plan was going through the adoption process, there is a requirement from the State and in the plan to do a resolution of adoption. When he did the research looking at the plan for some other things he looked at that and it had never been done. The purpose tonight is to make that adjustment, clean up old business and adopt that 1995 plan and the 2001 amendment and then we can move on.

The Mayor called the vote. "AYES": Smith, Christensen, Gibbs, Allred, Shields, Morrison, Cowan. "NAYS": None. Abstaining: None. Absent: McFarland. Motion carried.

3. Approve and authorize Mayor to sign Resolution 5-2-14, 1995 Comprehensive Plan Amendment #1 Resolution of Adoption

Motion by Councilmember Morrison, second by Councilmember Gibbs to approve and authorize Mayor to sign Resolution 5-2-14, 1995 Comprehensive Plan Amendment #1 Resolution of Adoption. There was no discussion. The Mayor called the vote. "AYES": Smith, Christensen, Gibbs, Allred, Shields, Morrison, Cowan. "NAYS": None. Abstaining: None. Absent: McFarland. Motion carried.

4. Notice to Public of Settlement (Estate of Reuben Trevino)

Motion by Councilmember Morrison to file the notice of public settlement for the record. Seconded by Councilmember Smith.

Discussion: Councilmember Gibbs asked if the entire amount is paid by LARM. City Attorney, Jim Ellison, replied yes.

The Mayor called the vote. "AYES": Smith, Christensen, Gibbs, Allred, Shields, Morrison, Cowan. "NAYS": None. Abstaining: None. Absent: McFarland. Motion carried.

5. Approve and authorize Mayor to sign the State of Nebraska, Nebraska Power Review Board Amendment to the Retail Service Area Agreement 73

Motion by Councilmember Gibbs, second by Councilmember Smith to approve and authorize Mayor to sign the State of Nebraska, Nebraska Power Review Board Amendment to the Retail Service Area Agreement 73

Discussion: Administrator Danielzuk said he'd like to enter into the Administrative record the excerpt from the April 14, 2014 Public Works Committee meeting. "Paul said we'd pick up eight properties if we change the border. He tried to get zero salvage value on the poles; they wanted about \$5000 for the poles. Once we switch the transformers out we'll give them back. The disconnects would be ours. There's not that much value to them. Ron said he would have all of it underground anyway. Paul will go to the next RPPD Board meeting. He'd like to hit the \$25,000-\$26,000 range. We'd be squaring our territory up which is good; right now it's jagged. Larry said the City in general has some odd boundaries; it would be nice to square those up. We have potential to pick up more properties later on. The consensus is the committee is okay with moving forward. Paul said we'll deal with the underground later. Paul can negotiate with Roosevelt not to exceed \$30,000 per Larry and the committee". Mr. Danielzuk added that the negotiated amount is \$29,500 after Mr. Snarr went to the RPPD Board.

Electric Superintendent, Ron Doggett, said this area is on the west side of the RV Park up to the new addition of the City and over to the water tanks and back down to the east to Five Rocks and back to the north. We have it surrounded anyway; we'll basically square this up. We'll pick up future homes in the Fox Hill Addition. Councilmember Smith said the map shows the property on the east side of town too; Mr. Doggett said we're still working on that, this is strictly Roosevelt's.

The Mayor called the vote. "AYES": Smith, Christensen, Gibbs, Allred, Shields, Morrison, Cowan. "NAYS": None. Abstaining: None. Absent: McFarland. Motion carried.

6. Consider Monument Valley Adventure Pass Contract termination

Councilmember Smith made a motion to end the agreement with Scottsbluff at Scottsbluff's request to no longer offer the Monument Valley Adventure Pass. Second by Councilmember Allred.

Discussion: Councilmember Smith said the City of Scottsbluff has discontinued their agreement; it's under their request that we also end the agreement. They felt it was too burdensome for their staff. If you bought a pass you could go to any pool in Scottsbluff or Gering. Gering will still offer our family pass for \$120 and a single for \$65 that would only be used at our Gering pools. It was too hard for their staff to keep track of the money.

The Mayor called the vote. "AYES": Smith, Christensen, Gibbs, Allred, Shields, Morrison, Cowan. "NAYS": None. Abstaining: None. Absent: McFarland. Motion carried.

7. Set the green fees for the 2014 Member/Guest Golf Tournament at Monument Shadows Golf Course

Councilmember Smith moved to set the fees for the Member/Guest tournament green fees by waiving the green fees if you have a membership; if not you pay the full green fee price. Second by Councilmember Morrison.

Discussion: Councilmember Smith said we'll look at all the green fees as a committee for the golf course for tournaments at the end of this year. The Member/guest tournament is our tournament and the money stays at the golf course. The members already pay their fees so we didn't feel it was necessary to charge them again. We feel this is in line with our legal requirements. We don't want to do this with any other tournament as those monies don't come to our course; it stays with whatever organization is doing the tournament. There's a plan to do cart paths this year which is in the range of \$17,000; there's a considerable amount of money that will come back to the Gering golf course out of this.

The Mayor called the vote. "AYES": Smith, Christensen, Gibbs, Allred, Shields, Morrison, Cowan. "NAYS": None. Abstaining: None. Absent: McFarland. Motion carried.

8. Remove from table consideration of approving and authorizing the Mayor to sign a contract with Sports Facilities Advisory

Motion by Councilmember Smith, second by Councilmember Allred to remove from table consideration of approving and authorizing the Mayor to sign a contract with Sports Facilities Advisory. There was no discussion. The Mayor called the vote. "AYES": Smith, Christensen, Gibbs, Allred, Shields, Morrison, Cowan. "NAYS": None. Abstaining: None. Absent: McFarland. Motion carried.

9. Consider approving and authorizing the Mayor to sign a contract with Sports Facilities Advisory for a Regional Recreation and Leisure Services Master Plan

Motion by Councilmember Smith to approve and authorize the Mayor to sign a contract with Sports Facilities Advisory for a Regional Recreation and Leisure Services Master Plan, second by Councilmember Christensen.

Discussion: Councilmember Smith said the Recreation committee met and went over the changes to the RFP/RFQ and through Lane's negotiation they added a business plan on how we can increase use of the Five Rocks Amphitheater and there will also be more study into the aquatics center for Gering; with those changes they felt it was in the best interest of the City of Gering to move ahead with SFA.

The Mayor called the vote. "AYES": Smith, Christensen, Gibbs, Allred, Shields, Morrison, Cowan. "NAYS": None. Abstaining: None. Absent: McFarland. Motion carried.

10. Update from the Communications Center Advisory Board Representative, Ben Backus

Mr. Backus reported he has attended two meetings. He stated that the total cost they need for the upcoming year between all the interlocals is \$50,405; our share is \$13,433. They also need \$225,000; this would start a sinking fund for all the interlocals so we wouldn't have an issue like we did before. Our share would be \$51,750; it would be over two years. The console is very old and needs replaced and it would also replace the Sleuth system which turned out to be a terrible system. To replace those two systems it will be about \$500,000. There's a nationwide emergency management system so that someone in DC can be dispatched for emergencies here and that's mandated on a Federal level; that costs about \$12,000. There's an Even-Tide System but the analogue system has been locking up intermittently. The second Even-Tide they'd have as a second one; as a back-up. As a Board they're trying to make sure that all systems are redundant. His recommendation is to move forward with the \$51,750 figure. As much as he dislikes spending money we might as well make the best of the state of the art console. The add-on amount is \$13,433 which is included in the \$51,750 figure. Mr. Backus said they're having Ray make a list of equipment so they can look ahead. He added that if we had had this board in the last ten years we'd be in a lot better shape. We missed out on the 911 cell phone tax dollars for three or four years, but Mr. Backus has worked with Chance at the County to get that straightened out and it looks like this year they'll be getting that money. \$38,317.00 is the figure the City will be looking at this year. Mr. Ellison asked who told him the Sleuth system isn't the best system or can't be upgraded. Ben said it kicks out an error occasionally; he found a program error that causes that. The designers can't spend five minutes fixing it. He's going off of what Ray and the dispatchers are telling him also. They don't know what they'll replace it with yet; they're still receiving bids. Sleuth was state mandated and they paid for it.

11. Consider cancelling or rescheduling the May 26, 2014 City Council meeting

Councilmember Morrison moved to cancel the May 26, 2014 meeting unless there is an emergency and Council needs to schedule another meeting. Second by councilmember Gibbs. There was no discussion. The Mayor called the vote. "AYES": Smith, Christensen, Gibbs, Allred, Shields, Morrison, Cowan. "NAYS": None. Abstaining: None. Absent: McFarland. Motion carried.



REPORTS OF STAFF, BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS AND STANDING COMMITTEES:

1. Department/Staff Reports

2. Committee Reports & Council Member Comments

- **A brief report of the Regional Economic Development and Comprehensive Plan meeting at which members of Council participated along with consultants, the Cities of Scottsbluff, Gering, Terrytown and Scotts Bluff County.**

Councilmember Christensen said that he, Larry Gibbs and Dan Smith had an opportunity to meet with Tom West, Vice-President of Economic Competitiveness for the Thomas P. Miller Company which is conducting a Regional Economic Development study which is being funded by the City of Scottsbluff. He asked them what they'd like to see happen in Gering. They brought some general thoughts forward regarding industry, agriculture and tourism and how we can replace some of our big manufacturing companies. Councilmember Smith said he thinks there will be a lot of really good information on what industries to target and how to target them and he appreciates Scottsbluff conducting this study. Councilmember Gibbs said they had a good discussion of opportunities and problems we face trying to advance our economic position in the community.

- **Report on ADA at the ball diamonds (Recreation Committee)**

Councilmember Smith said he'd like to table this item until the next meeting.

- **Report on Street improvements (Public Works Committee)**

Councilmember Gibbs said Public Works met just before the meeting; there are streets in rough shape and they need attention in the near future. They include Country Club Road west of Five Rocks, 17th Street from Yucca Drive 405 foot south, Mark Drive from A Street to D Street and Third Street from T Street to U Street. We're getting behind on our street maintenance and improvements. The Street Superintendent and the City Administrator will come up with a list of all the streets that need repairs or replacement and we'll find some way to fund those; it will be discussed at a Public Works meeting in the not too distant future.

3. Administrator's Report: None

4. Mayor's Report

- **May 5th Reported U.S. Supreme Court ruling, Landfill sighting update, Council Chambers sound system update**

Supreme Court Ruling: The Mayor reported that the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that they reaffirmed the practice of prayer before legislative bodies is firmly embedded in the history of our nation. In 2008 people challenged this in courts throughout the country. It was a split decision in our courts but it was still reaffirmed. The Alliance Defending Freedom is stating they are planning a nationwide effort to remind government bodies that public prayer before meetings is constitutional.

Landfill: Environmental testings have started. Pilot holes are being drilled for water depth and flow as well as soil composition. In case the primary site east of town doesn't meet the NDEQ standards there are other sites available. The landfill has received bids for additional recycling. They are also looking at a system for an alternative cover. They can lease the equipment for 90 days for a trial.

Chambers sound system update: The Nebraska Fire and Safety was contracted to finish the audio/visual system/equipment in the Council Chambers.

ADJOURN

Motion by Councilmember Christensen to adjourn. Seconded by Councilmember Morrison. There was no discussion. The Mayor called the vote. "AYES": Smith, Christensen, Gibbs, Allred, Shields, Morrison, Cowan. "NAYS": None. Abstaining: None. Absent: McFarland. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

ATTEST:

Kathleen J. Welfl, City Clerk



Edwin Mayo, Mayor