

THE OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE GERING CITY COUNCIL, OCTOBER 11, 2021

A regular meeting of the City Council of Gering, Nebraska was held in open session on October 11, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. at Gering City Hall, 1025 P Street, Gering, NE. Present were Council President Gillen and Councilmembers Smith, Backus, Bohl, Wiedeman, O'Neal, Morrison, Cowan. Absent was Mayor Kaufman. Also present were City Administrator Pat Heath, City Clerk Kathy Welfl and City Attorney Jim Ellison. Notice of the meeting was given in advance by publication in the Star-Herald, 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

Council President Gillen called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and stated that there was a quorum of the Council present and City business could be conducted.

1. Recital of the Pledge of Allegiance and Prayer
2. Roll Call
3. Excuse councilmember absence

Motion by Councilmember O'Neal to excuse the absence of Mayor Kaufman and Councilmember Cowan from the September 27, 2021 regular Council meeting. Second by Councilmember Wiedeman. There was no discussion. Council President Gillen called the vote. "AYES": Smith, Gillen, Backus, Bohl, Wiedeman, O'Neal, Morrison, Cowan. "NAYS": None. Abstaining: None. Absent: None. Motion Carried.

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

Council President Gillen stated: 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 Council President. As required by State Law, additions may not be made to this agenda less than 24 hours before the beginning of the meeting unless they are considered under this section of the agenda and the Council determines that the matter requires emergency action.

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. Approve minutes of the September 27, 2021 regular City Council meeting
2. Approve Claims

Claims 9-28-2021 to 10-11-2021

21ST CENTURY EQUIPMENT \$631.52; 3 SCHOE'S \$6,500.00; A.H STOCK MANUFACTURING \$1,629.29; ACE HARDWARE \$123.70; ACUSHNET COMPANY \$1,685.09; ALLAN D MITCHELL \$212.30; ALLEN, RONALD K \$315.00; ALLO COMMUNICATIONS \$4,290.82; AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES \$606.38; AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF POLICE \$125.00; ANDERSON & SHAW CONSTRUCTION \$438,986.41; B & H INVESTMENTS, INC \$112.00; BAKER & ASSOCIATES, INC. \$247.00; BENZEL PEST CONTROL \$56.71; BETTER CONTAINERS MFG.CO., INC \$210.12; BH MEDIA GROUP HOLDING, INC. \$1,231.68; BLACKSTONE AUDIO, INC \$69.90; BLUFFS FACILITY SOLUTIONS \$330.12; BOB NEMNICH & VICKI NEMNICH \$100.00; BORDER STATES INDUSTRIES, INC \$2,341.86; CALLAWAY GOLF COMPANY \$240.87; CAPRICE GARCIA \$300.00; CENTURY BUSINESS PRODUCTS, INC \$2.61; CENTURYLINK \$2,725.51; CITY OF GERING \$7,676.86; CITY PAYROLL TRUST \$2,757.96; CONCRETE CATTLE COMPANY \$2,360.00; CONNECTING POINT \$63.84; CONSOLIDATED MANAGEMENT COMPAN \$33.85; CORE & MAIN LP \$140.35; CROELL, INC \$3,076.25; DALE'S TIRE \$38.00; DAS STATE ACCOUNTING-CENTRAL \$178.56; DAVID J. SCHUETHS \$3,924.79; DOCU-SHRED LLC \$1,628.98; DOOLEY OIL \$799.94; DUTTON-LAINSON COMPANY \$2,194.58; DYKES OIL INC. \$43.95; ECOLAB \$220.87; EJS SUPPLY, LLC \$2,384.95; FASTENAL COMPANY \$176.56; FIRST STATE BANK \$365.40; FLOYD'S TRUCK CENTER, INC. \$10,125.14; FRANCISCOS BUMPER TO BUMPER IN \$340.00; FRANK PARTS COMPANY \$131.44; FRASER STRYKER PC LLO \$1,066.50; FREMONT MOTOR SCOTTSBLUFF, LLC \$336.60; FRESH FOODS INC. \$24.09; GERING VALLEY PLUMBING & HTG. \$2,708.00; GERING ZION CHURCH \$300.00; GROUND UP CONSTRUCTION \$1,466.00; HAWKINS, INC. \$4,709.10; HEARTLAND EXPRESSWAY \$40.00; HODGES & IRVINE \$329.00; HOME DEPOT CREDIT SERVICES \$74.45; IAFC MEMBERSHIP \$240.00; IDEAL LAUNDRY AND CLEANERS, IN \$87.42; INDOFF INCORPORATED \$130.16; INFINITY CONSTRUCTION INC. \$16,951.00; INGRAM LIBRARY SERVICES \$721.73; INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE \$40,080.32; INTRALINKS, INC. \$7,452.64; ITRON, INC. \$2,826.16; JENNIFER SCHLOTHAUER \$77.49; JOHN HANCOCK USA \$13,414.42; JOHN HANCOCK USA FIRE \$574.41; JOHN HANCOCK USA POLICE \$6,316.82; JOHNSON CASHWAY CO. \$48.00; K L WOOD & CO., LLC \$209,149.20; KAREN SUE BRUNTZ \$425.00; KATHY STOKEY \$100.00; KENT EWING \$13,901.18; LADY BUG \$21.95; LATOSHA TORRES \$75.00; LEAGUE ASSOC./RISK MANAGEMENT \$538,982.89; MARRIOTT CORNHUSKER HOTEL \$220.00; MATA MONICA \$75.00; MATHESON TRI-GAS INC \$45.85; MB KEM ENTERPRISE \$398.98; MEAT SHOPPE \$13,486.54; MENARDS \$118.49; MICHAEL TODD & COMPANY, INC. \$264.43; MID-PLAINS HOSPITALITY GROUP \$899.55; MIZUNO USA, INC. \$101.95; MOBIUS COMMUNICATIONS COMPANY \$282.51; MUNICIPAL SUPPLY, INC. OF NE. \$674.91; NE CHILD SUPPORT PAYMENT CENTE \$462.93; NE SAFETY/FIRE EQUIPMENT, INC \$825.00; NE STATE VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER \$70.00; NEB DEPT OF ENVIRONMENT AND EN \$10,077.91; NEBRASKA SALT AND GRAIN CO. \$7,860.62; NEBRASKA STATEWIDE ARBORETUM \$350.00; OCLC, INC. \$163.87; ONE CALL CONCEPTS, INC \$83.41; OREGON TRAIL COMMUNITY FOUNDAT \$9,500.00; OUTDOOR CUSTOM SPORTSWEAR, LLC \$1,611.60; PANHANDLE AREA DEVELOPMENT \$6,588.23; PANHANDLE CLERK'S ASSOCIATION \$60.00; PANHANDLE COOP ASSOCIATION \$10,784.91; PANHANDLE ENVIRONMENTAL SERVIC \$1,289.00; PAUL MURRELL \$2,300.00; PAUL REED CONSTRUCTION & SUPP \$741.49; PAYROLL 108/2 \$127,113.27; PLATTE RIVER GLASS RODNEY L

FL \$348.00; PLATTE VALLEY BANK \$153.00; POSTMASTER \$1,540.80; POWER SCREENING, LLC \$1,026.23; POWERPLAN OIB \$922.30; PRO OVERHEAD DOOR \$4,762.00; RIVERSIDE DISCOVERY CENTER \$12,500.00; SANDBERG IMPLEMENT, INC. \$2,843.56; SCB COUNTY REGISTER OF DEEDS \$28.00; SCOTTSBLUFF-GERING OCTOBER COM \$500.00; SCOTTSBLUFF-GERING UNITED WAY \$128.75; SHAWNA WINCHELL \$780.00; SIMON CONTRACTORS \$4,130.00; SOUTHWESTERN EQUIPMENT COMPANY \$11,534.16; SPEAK WRITE \$1,247.17; SPECTRUM \$870.42; STAPLES CREDIT PLAN \$27.57; STATE FIRE MARSHAL TRAINING DI \$50.00; STATE OF NEBRASKA \$750.00; SUGAR VALLEY FEDERAL CREDIT \$528.37; TEAM CHEVROLET \$375.00; TERRY JESSEN \$5,867.85; THE ROCK PILE \$905.23; TROY & LISA WEBORG \$34,726.74; TYLER TECHNOLOGIES \$38,484.50; VALLEY AUTO LOCATORS LLC \$63.48; VAN DIEST SUPPLY COMPANY \$1,144.00; VERIZON WIRELESS SERVICES, LLC \$1,284.07; W & R INC. \$56,049.29; WESTERN COOPERATIVE COMPANY \$10,757.83; WESTERN STATES BANK \$25,148.83; WESTERN STATES BANK - POLICE \$550.00; WM RECYCLE AMERICA \$6,688.01; WYOMING BEARING & SUPPLY \$3,692.90

Motion by Councilmember Morrison to approve the Consent Agenda. Second by Councilmember Cowan. There was no discussion. Council President Gillen called the vote. "AYES": Smith, Gillen, Backus, Bohl, Wiedeman, O'Neal, Morrison, Cowan. "NAYS": None. Abstaining: None. Absent: None. Motion Carried.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

1. Public hearing regarding the FY 21/22 One and Six Year Street Plan

Council President Gillen opened the public hearing regarding the FY21/22 One and Six Year Street Plan at 6:04 p.m. Transportation Superintendent, Casey Dahlgrin, presented the plan as follows:

One Year Plan:

Chip and seal various residential asphalt streets estimated cost: \$500,000.

Six Year Plan:

M Street from 11 th Street east to City Limits	estimated cost: \$1,944,000
Crescent Drive	estimated cost: \$102,000
6 th Street from H Street to I Street	estimated cost: \$70,000
Flaten Ave. & Donna Drive Intersection	estimated cost: \$25,000
Flaten Avenue	estimated cost: \$177,000
17 th Street from 955 17 th Street to D Street	estimated cost: 156,000
Ponder Place	estimated cost: \$118,000
Lockwood Road from Old Oregon Trail Road south to City limit	estimated cost: \$236,000
10 th Street from Union Pacific Railroad south to City limit	estimated cost: 2,013,000
Hackberry Drive from Old Oregon Trail Road North to cross pan	estimated cost: 39,000
Arroyo Road	estimated cost: \$181,000

Transportation Superintendent, Casey Dahlgrin, reviewed the One Year and Six Year Plan with the Council. He noted that this is not cut in stone; these are projects they think need to be done. If it has a 2021 or 2022 date on it, that doesn't mean it's getting done that year. Completed Projects for 2021 include Holly Drive, A Street from Kimball Avenue to 18th Street, Twin City Drive (north side) and Overland Trails Road.

Councilmember Wiedeman asked about Holly Drive. Mr. Dahlgrin stated that it was done, by the contractor, per their contract. There were a lot of sub-base issues with that street. City crews replaced what, at the time, they thought was enough; but once it got rolling, it blew out. They're hoping to get back in there yet this fall and get it patched. The contractor had some other paving projects out of town, then they have the airport. When they get a couple days, they'll tear those areas out and patch them – there are four or five spots there.

Councilmember Morrison asked if we're going to try to pair up with Scottsbluff for paving like we've done before. Mr. Dahlgrin replied, for chip-seal we usually pair up. There are some small towns looking at doing that next summer/fall; we'll look at getting together to do that. He clarified that even doing that, it probably wouldn't change the cost he shows on the plan. Pricing is very high right now.

Councilmember Wiedeman noted that she attended a Scottsbluff City Council meeting recently and they are in a similar situation with street projects. They're having issues as well.

Council President Gillen asked if anyone wished to speak in favor of the FY 21/22 One and Six Year Street Improvement Plan; he asked again. Seeing none he asked twice if anyone wished to speak in opposition of the FY 21/22 One and Six Year Street Improvement Plan. With no further comments, the administrative record was closed and the public hearing closed at 6:10 p.m.

Motion by Councilmember Morrison to approve the FY21/22 One and Six Year Street Plan. Second by Councilmember Cowan. There was no discussion. Council President Gillen called the vote. "AYES": Smith, Gillen, Backus, Bohl, Wiedeman, O'Neal, Morrison, Cowan. "NAYS": None. Abstaining: None. Absent: None. Motion Carried.

1a. Approve Resolution 10-21-1 authorizing the Mayor to sign the Municipal Annual Certification of Program Compliance to the Nebraska Board of Public Roads Classifications and Standards 2021

Motion by Councilmember Wiedeman to approve Resolution 10-21-1 authorizing the Mayor to sign the Municipal Annual Certification of Program Compliance to the Nebraska Board of Public Roads Classifications and Standards 2021. Second by Councilmember Bohl.

Discussion: Councilmember O'Neal asked, regarding the check-marked items on the Nebraska Board of Public Roads Classifications and Standards, who is verifying that those are being done. Clerk Welfl replied, primarily Casey. Casey and the Clerk coordinate all the records to make sure that if we ever got audited, they would be available.

Council President Gillen called the vote. "AYES": Smith, Gillen, Backus, Bohl, Wiedeman, O'Neal, Morrison, Cowan. "NAYS": None. Abstaining: None. Absent: None. Motion Carried.

BIDS:

1. Approve purchase of Ford F-150 - Transportation Department

Street Superintendent Dahlgrin stated this will be a capital purchase and was budgeted in the current year budget. It's replacing a 2012 crew cab. We're purchasing this through the State Bid. Councilmember Morrison asked if he'll be keeping the old pickup; Mr. Dahlgrin replied, it's done. This is the pickup he drives; \$38,000 was budgeted. Councilmember Wiedeman asked if it would arrive in a timely manner. Mr. Dahlgrin replied, they're estimating about four months.

Motion by Councilmember Morrison to approve the purchase of a 2022 Ford F-150 Crew Cab 4x4 for the Street Department in the amount of \$37,508.00 through the State Bid – Anderson Auto Group. Second by Councilmember Smith. There was no discussion. Council President Gillen called the vote. "AYES": Smith, Gillen, Backus, Bohl, Wiedeman, O'Neal, Morrison, Cowan. "NAYS": None. Abstaining: None. Absent: None. Motion Carried.

2. Approve purchase of 2021 Marathon MM250DT Mastic Melter – Transportation Department

Street Superintendent Dahlgrin stated this is another budgeted item. This will be a new machine for the department. It's a Mastic Mixer; this machine heats up and stirs a tar and aggregate mixture and it comes out of a shoot in the back of the machine; he further explained how it works to fill cracks and low spots. They've rented this machine before, but it's very expensive. They rented it in the winter but if it snows, the City is out the rental cost. He and Administration Heath discussed buying one. He said there are a lot of streets it can be used on. It works well. It's not a life-time fix, but it gives us a little more longevity out of a street. \$65,000 was budgeted; it came in below that.

Motion by Councilmember Wiedeman to approve the purchase of a 2021 Marathon MM250DT Mastic Melter in the amount of \$58,594.50 through the State Bid – Midstates Equipment & Supply. Second by Councilmember Bohl. There was no discussion. Council President Gillen called the vote. "AYES": Smith, Gillen, Backus, Bohl, Wiedeman, O'Neal, Morrison, Cowan. "NAYS": None. Abstaining: None. Absent: None. Motion Carried.

3. Approve purchase of Street Sweeper – Transportation Department

Street Superintendent Dahlgrin stated the current street sweeper has been down for about two months. Staff elected not to fix it; it would have been over \$15,000 to fix. It's a 2010 model. The company who sells these advised that it would be better for them to fix it (not for the City to fix it). It was already in the budget; he was just trying to hold off until the new budget year started. These usually last five to seven years; ours is much older. We budgeted \$228,000; they're giving us a good trade-in of \$42,500 for ours. The company thinks within a couple weeks, we'd have a sweeper. They will bring it here and load our old one. They can fix the old one much cheaper than we can and

buy parts at wholesale. They will also provide training for our crew when they bring the new one out. This will be purchased through a similar avenue as the Minnesota State Bid. Administrator Heath added that this purchase is four years over-date. We think we can stay on schedule with replacements going forward.

Motion by Councilmember Cowan to approve the purchase of a 2021 Elgin Pelican Street Sweeper in the amount of \$182,915.49 through Sourcewell – MacQueen Equipment. Second by Councilmember O’Neal. There was no discussion. Council President Gillen called the vote. “AYES”: Smith, Gillen, Backus, Bohl, Wiedeman, O’Neal, Morrison, Cowan. “NAYS”: None. Abstaining: None. Absent: None. Motion Carried.

4. Approve purchase of PLC (Programable Logic Controller) replacement and software upgrade - Wastewater Treatment Plant

Administrator Heath stated our current PLC at the Wastewater Plant was installed in 2004. He explained what a PLC is – basically a very small computer with only one program on it (by the manufacturer) for the SCADA system. It has gone down twice in the last year; staff has gotten it to limp along. This is a sole-source bid with HOA – who provides all of our SCADA work for the Water and Wastewater systems. This is very important; if it goes down, staff have to operate the plant manually 24/7. This will also be a software update. It should last another 20 years. Mr. Heath further explained how the PLC works; everything works on a time schedule.

Motion by Councilmember Morrison to approve the purchase of a Programable Logic Controller for \$54,910.00 through HOA Solutions. Second by Councilmember Wiedeman. There was no discussion. Council President Gillen called the vote. “AYES”: Smith, Gillen, Backus, Bohl, Wiedeman, O’Neal, Morrison, Cowan. “NAYS”: None. Abstaining: None. Absent: None. Motion Carried.

5. Award Contract for Metal Roof Replacement

City Engineer, Annie Folck, stated a few meetings ago Council approved a bid for shingle roof replacement as a result of all the hail storms. She explained that when the metal roof bid was opened, it came in significantly higher than the engineer’s estimate, which was based on the insurance adjustment. Two qualified bids were received from two contractors. Staff feel confident that the bid is good, it’s just a matter of material costs right now, especially on metal – it’s very high. The City Clerk went back and worked with LARM and was able to get them to commit to paying the bid amount, rather than the amount that had been previously adjusted. Staff is now recommending approval of the bid as submitted. Administrator Heath explained the reason staff are late getting these done is that after the 2019 hail storm, all the roofers were tied up. In 2020 Covid hit and that delayed things even more.

Motion by Councilmember O’Neal to approve the contract for metal roof replacement in the amount of \$203,233.32 with Schank Roofing. Second by Councilmember Morrison. There was no discussion. Council President Gillen called the vote. “AYES”: Smith, Gillen, Backus, Bohl, Wiedeman, O’Neal, Morrison, Cowan. “NAYS”: None. Abstaining: None. Absent: None. Motion Carried.

6. Remove from table ‘Purchase of banquet chairs and lobby/conference room furniture for the Civic Center’

Motion by Councilmember Morrison to remove from table ‘Purchase of banquet chairs and lobby/conference room furniture for the Civic Center’. Second by Councilmember Bohl. There was no discussion. Council President Gillen called the vote. “AYES”: Smith, Gillen, Backus, Bohl, Wiedeman, O’Neal, Morrison, Cowan. “NAYS”: None. Abstaining: None. Absent: None. Motion Carried.

7. Approve purchase of banquet chairs and lobby/conference room furniture for the Civic Center

City Engineer Folck stated that after reviewing the bid, staff felt there were some opportunities for savings. Included in this bid are 750 banquet chairs, which is the most significant cost on there. Additionally, there is furniture for the lobby, new chairs in the offices and a new conference table for the conference room. Staff removed new chairs for the conference room from the bid. Some of the materials

were changed to patterns that weren't quite as expensive. Originally, we were going to have the company do the unboxing, and there is a good reason for that. However, it would have cost \$10,000 so staff will be assisting with that instead to save money. Staff will document any damage that might occur in shipping and report it so the company can file claims on the City's behalf, which they are willing to do. Ms. Folck brought out the sample banquet chair for the Council to see. The actual chairs will be black.

Motion by Councilmember Morrison to approve the purchase of banquet chairs and lobby/conference room furniture for the Civic Center in the amount of \$75,849.76 through Omnia Purchasing Consortium. Second by Councilmember Wiedeman. There was no discussion. Council President Gillen called the vote. "AYES": Smith, Gillen, Backus, Bohl, Wiedeman, O'Neal, Morrison, Cowan. "NAYS": None. Abstaining: None. Absent: None. Motion Carried.

CURRENT BUSINESS:

1. Approve request for Investment Committee meeting – Agenda item: Discussion of investment of idle cash

Motion by Councilmember Bohl to approve request for an Investment Committee meeting with agenda item: Discussion of investment of idle cash. Second by Councilmember O'Neal. There was no discussion. Council President Gillen called the vote. "AYES": Smith, Gillen, Backus, Bohl, Wiedeman, O'Neal, Morrison, Cowan. "NAYS": None. Abstaining: None. Absent: None. Motion Carried.

REPORTS: (Information only)

1. Liaison Report - Scott Bluff County Communications Center Advisory Board, Councilmember Backus

Councilmember Backus reported that the big item last year was the radio purchase and radio upgrade for the whole County. There's a new director, Tyler Rexus, who is fitting in really well with what Ray was doing. The County has split the duties in how the 911 Center is ran. Deputy, Troy Brown, handles a lot of the day-to-day administrative and training things. Tyler handles all the technical details; he has found a lot of things that need upgraded and keeps things running smoothly. Through the Advisory Board, they've pretty much replaced everything; basically, a generational upgrade. In about 15-20 years it's going to start all over again. The 911 Center is pretty much state of the art at this point. He was selected to remain as the Chairman. About the only thing on the horizon that may be considered is building a new 911 Dispatch Center in the old jail. The state would like fewer and fewer centers, so the board has tried to keep everything state of the art, so when the state eventually reduces the number of centers, ours would be one of the regional locations.

CLOSED SESSION: None.

(Council reserves the right to enter into closed session if deemed necessary).

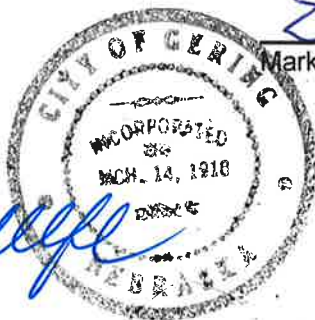
ADJOURN:

Motion by Councilmember Morrison to adjourn. Second by Councilmember Wiedeman. There was no discussion. Council President Gillen called the vote. "AYES": Smith, Gillen, Backus, Bohl, Wiedeman, O'Neal, Morrison, Cowan. "NAYS": None. Abstaining: None. Absent: None. Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 6:39 p.m.

ATTEST:


Kathleen J. Welfl, City Clerk




Mark A. Kaufman, Mayor