

City of Bloomfield
June 1, 2009
Council Meeting Minutes

The regular meeting of the Mayor and City Council of Bloomfield, Nebraska, was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by Mayor Jim Cripe at the City Council Chambers. Present: Mayor Jim Cripe and Council Members Joe Hunhoff, Joe Skrivan, and Barb Wilson. Absent: Council Member Brad Eckmann.

The Mayor publicly stated to all in attendance that a current copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act was available for review and indicated the location of such copy posted in the room.

Motion by Wilson to adopt the agenda, second by Hunhoff. Ayes: Hunhoff, Skrivan, Wilson. Nays: none. Absent: Eckmann. Motion carried.

The Mayor asked if anyone not on the agenda would like to address the Council. No one responded.

Motion by Skrivan to adopt the pre-approved agenda items, second by Wilson: 5/4/09 regular meeting minutes; May claims in the amount of \$116,256.39; Street Bond Wire Transfers on 6/15/09 of \$10,000.00 principal + \$2210.00 interest; April Treasurer's Report. Ayes: Hunhoff, Skrivan, Wilson. Nays: none. Absent: Eckmann. Motion carried.

The Mayor opened public hearing on Resolution 09-4, a resolution for adoption of an All-Hazards Mitigation Plan. Administrator Lyndsy Jenness reported that Mr. Billy McDonald had come to the city office earlier that day to offer his comments. He is concerned about flooding in Anderson Addition. He noted that he observed underground migration of water when tiling work was done on the south side of Anderson Addition. This information will be shared with the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources.

Brad Eckmann arrived at 7:05 p.m.

Barb Wilson noted that becoming a Tree City is mentioned in the plan and that she would like to see Bloomfield pursue this. Administrator will find out more information about this program.

Motion by Skrivan to adopt Resolution 09-4, second by Wilson. Ayes: Eckmann, Hunhoff, Skrivan, Wilson. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Jerry and Debbie Nipp gave a report on Knox County Agricultural Society plans for the fairgrounds and the Knox County Fair. Mr. Nipp reported that they are working with the rodeo club on replacing trees near outdoor arena. He also asked for permission to fill in areas of uneven ground and asked that the city seed those areas to allow for more camping area. Mr. Nipp also updated the Council on plans to apply for a liquor license for a beer

garden at the fair. He noted that local law enforcement has not expressed any major concerns but that Sheriff Jim Janecek wanted to see the event be alcohol-free. Fair organizers see a beer garden as a way to generate revenue so they are able maintain the policy that gate admission is also admission for the evening entertainment. There was discussion about locating the beer garden near the pavilion/concession stand except for Wednesday night when it would be at the Bullarama. The beer garden will be located in a way to keep it separate from family events at the fair. Motion by Skrivan to approve the liquor license for the Knox County Fair, second by Hunhoff. Ayes: Eckmann, Hunhoff, Skrivan, Wilson. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Mr. Nipp also reported that the midway restroom project has been put on hold. He is working with JEO to determine if a facility containing a storm shelter, restroom, showers, and office could be included as a project under Knox County's All-Hazards Mitigation Plan. He also noted that there may be some tourism funding available through Knox County.

Administrator provided an update on the medical clinic/pharmacy project, noting that bids were due back Thursday, June 4th and that they would be reviewed at a special meeting on June 8th.

The possibility of relocating the water department to the former NorthStar Services office was discussed. City attorney Jennifer Birmingham noted that there are legal and practical questions associated with the potential lease of the south half of building to the daycare center. General consensus was to get the property appraised and thoroughly inspected and determine the cost of moving water system controls.

The Council discussed the status of the sale of a parcel of land at the airport. It was noted that the airport well is on the parcel that has been advertised for sale. Steve Barney, airport manager, said that there are no setbacks for a well and said that the city could have an easement for the well. He also reported that he had the survey updated to include an easement as access is required by Knox County. He is working on an application to the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality for approval of the septic system for the subdivision.

The Council discussed swimming pool staff and wages. Administrator noted that three additional guards could be hired as they completed training earlier that day. Motion by Hunhoff to approve staff as follows: Lindsay Hopkins – Manager; Nick Nipp – Assistant Manager; Brooke Hopkins, Isaac Mertens, Colton Wilson, Rayde Wilson – Lifeguards; to set the wages at \$8.65 for manager, \$8.00 for assistant manager, and \$7.25 for lifeguards; and to give the city administrator authority to hire, on an as-needed basis with proper references, part-time lifeguards from the Creighton pool.

Swimming pool rates and schedule for the 2009 season were discussed. Administrator presented the following hours: Monday 1-7 p.m., Tuesday-Thursday 1-5 p.m. and 6-8:30 p.m., Friday-Sunday 1-6 p.m. and adult swim as determined from public input.

Administrator suggested that rates be the same as the 2008 season: family pass \$78, individual pass \$40, adult daily \$3, child daily \$2, and pool parties \$25 (two hours maximum). Debbie Nipp also asked about the possibility of offering free swimming during alumni weekend in the future. Motion by Skrivan to approve the schedule and rates presented, second by Hunhoff. Ayes: Eckmann, Hunhoff, Skrivan, Wilson. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Administrator updated the Council on correspondence received that a complaint of discrimination had been filed with the Nebraska Department of Roads on behalf of Mrs. Delores Mumm. Administrator is working with city attorney to properly respond. Mrs. Mumm alleges that the sidewalk in front of her house is approximately 4 feet lower than the adjoining street, making the sidewalk unusable and causing flooding on her property. She also alleges that the refusal to fix the street is based on her advanced age and gender. There was brief discussion that four feet does not seem accurate. The elevation of the Mrs. Mumm's garage in relation to the street was also discussed.

The Council discussed the South Trailer Court, noting that while some mowing has been done, more work is needed. Police and Administrator will continue to be in contact with the property owner Mr. Howard Knox. There was also brief discussion of other lawns that need mowing.

Administrator noted that the cemetery board had met regarding condition of the cemetery during Memorial Day. Travis Kauth, cemetery board chair, reported earlier in the day to administrator that the board is working with staff to improve the appearance of the cemetery. Mowing of the right of way area south of the cemetery was also discussed.

The Council reviewed the spreadsheet comparing water pumped vs. water sold. Staff were asked to find explanations and solutions for large differences. The Council also reviewed a listing of delinquent accounts as of 5/28/09. Motion by Wilson to acknowledge receipt of these reports, second by Skrivan. Ayes: Eckmann, Hunhoff, Skrivan, Wilson. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Administrative reports were given. Dave Stark reported on work to be done on water line at fairgrounds, mosquito fogging, and water leak at the swimming pool. The Council reviewed a written report submitted by Police Chief Bryan Ruhr. There was discussion of the leash law for pets. Administrator Lyndsy Jenness provided a report including the following: calendar of events and administrator projects. There was also discussion on the following items: NIMS training and street improvement planning.

Motion by Hunhoff to adjourn, second by Wilson. Ayes: Eckmann, Hunhoff, Skrivan, Wilson. Nays: none. Meeting adjourned at 9:03 p.m.

Lyndsy Jenness
City Administrator

Jim Cripe
Mayor