

City of Bloomfield
July 6, 2009
Council Meeting Minutes

The regular meeting of the Mayor and City Council of Bloomfield, Nebraska, was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Jim Cripe at the City Council Chambers. Present: Mayor Jim Cripe and Council Members Brad Eckmann, Joe Skrivan, and Barb Wilson. Absent: Council Member Joe Hunhoff.

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

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

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 Skrivan to adopt the pre-approved agenda items, second by Wilson: 6/1/09 regular meeting minutes; 6/8/09 special meeting minutes, June claims in the amount of \$70,387.86; Water Bond Wire Transfers on 7/15/09 of \$2408.75 interest and \$5188.75 interest; May Treasurer's Report. Ayes: Eckmann, Skrivan, Wilson. Nays: none. Absent: Hunhoff. Motion carried.

The Mayor opened the public hearing. Council Member Wilson introduced Resolution 09-5, a resolution to call refunding bonds dated June 22, 2004. Motion by Wilson for adoption of Resolution 09-5, second by Eckmann. Ayes: Eckmann, Skrivan, Wilson. Nays: none. Absent: Hunhoff. Motion carried.

Council Member Wilson introduced Ordinance 09-2 entitled "An Ordinance Authorizing the Issuance of Refunding Bonds, of the City of bloomfield, Nebraska, in the Principal Amount of Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$250,000) Issued to Refund Certain Outstanding Bonds of the City; Prescribing the Form of Said Bonds; Providing for a Sinking Fund and for the Levy and Collection of Taxes to Pay Said Bonds; Providing for the Sale of the Bonds; Authorizing the Delivery of the Bonds to the Purchaser; Providing for the Disposition of the Bond Proceeds and Ordering the Ordinance Published in Pamphlet Form. Motion by Wilson that the statutory rule requiring reading on three different days be suspended, second by Skrivan. Ayes: Eckmann, Skrivan, Wilson. Nays: none. Absent: Hunhoff. The motion to suspend the rules was adopted by three-fourths of the Council and the statutory rule was declared suspended for consideration of said ordinance.

The Mayor then stated the question "Shall Ordinance 09-2 be passed and adopted?" Ayes: Eckmann, Skrivan, Wilson. Nays: none. Absent: Hunhoff. Ordinance adopted.

The Council reviewed the bid for .45 acres of real estate at the airport. One bid was received in the amount of \$5011.00 from Steve Barney of Bloomfield Ag & Aerial Service. There was discussion about the airport well being located within the property being sold and how it could be handled in the deed. Mr. Barney gave information on the process of getting the land division approved through the Knox County Board of Supervisors. The proceeds from the sale of the property would be used to offset the costs of a runway improvement project scheduled for later this summer. Motion by Skrivan that the statutory rule requiring reading on three different days be suspended, second by Wilson. Ayes: Eckmann, Skrivan, Wilson. Nays: none. Absent: Hunhoff. The motion to suspend the rules was adopted by three-fourths of the Council and the statutory rule was declared suspended for consideration of said ordinance.

Motion by Skrivan for the adoption of Ordinance 09-3 for the sale of property at the airport, second by Eckmann. Ayes: Eckmann, Skrivan, Wilson. Nays: none. Absent: Hunhoff. Motion carried.

The Council considered an application for a lot split submitted by Al Kersten, Speedway Truck & Auto, on Lot 1, Block 6, Original Town of Bloomfield, Knox County, Nebraska. Proposed development by Curt Strom was discussed. The Planning Commission recommended approval of the request to split off the south 45 feet of the lot. Motion by Wilson to approve, second by Skrivan. Ayes: Eckmann, Skrivan, Wilson. Nays: none. Absent: Hunhoff. Motion carried.

The Council was informed of the Planning Commission's recommendation to take no action on the proposed change of zoning district from Medium Density Residential (R-2) to Commercial Limited (CL) for Lot 1, Block 21, Oric Addition of Bloomfield, Knox County, Nebraska (northwest corner of Pierce and Bazile Streets). The property is owned by the Bloomfield Community Foundation. No action taken.

Public Works Superintendent Dave Stark reported on costs associated with moving the water department to the former NorthStar Services office building. Administrator Lyndsy Jenness reported on hiring an appraiser. Motion by Skrivan to have the property appraised, second by Wilson. Ayes: Eckmann, Skrivan, Wilson. Nays: none. Absent: Hunhoff. Motion carried.

Ken Smith of Farmers and Merchants Insurance reviewed the city's current insurance policy through Principal. Due to an increase in premium of 21.2% in the current health insurance policy, Mr. Smith presented an option through Assurant-Time Insurance that could provide a \$6800/year savings. Consensus from the council was to have employees complete applications to get a final premium amount.

Library Board President Esther Pease and Library Director Renea Johnson reported on Mrs. Johnson's resignation as director and efforts to fill the position. Motion by Wilson to accept Renea Johnson's resignation and to hire Toni Merchen as new director at a wage of \$9.00/hour for 20 hours/week for three weeks of training and \$9.50/hour when she assumes

the director position, second by Skrivan. Ayes: Eckmann, Skrivan, Wilson. Nays: none. Absent: Hunhoff.

The Council considered the Planning Commission's recommendation regarding commercial activity in a residential district on Lots 19 and 20 of Block 15, First Addition (400 Block of East Main). Kathie Zink expressed concern about the rocks, railroad ties, and dirt on the property. Motion by Skrivan to notify Craig Braunsroth that he is to remove the items until he obtains a permit, second by Wilson. Ayes: Eckmann, Skrivan, Wilson. Nays: none. Absent: Hunhoff. Motion carried.

Eric Sage of Time Out Lounge informed the Council of plans to apply for a catering license for various special events. Time Out Lounge asked for permission to host a beer garden on Saturday, August 15th on North Broadway Street and at a softball tournament at Robin Schulz Park September 12-13. Motion by Skrivan to approve beer gardens on August 15th on North Broadway Street and on September 12-13 at Robin Schulz Park, second by Wilson. Ayes: Skrivan, Wilson. Nays: Eckmann. Absent: Hunhoff. Motion failed.

Discussion was held regarding Robin Schulz Park being a place for family activities. It was suggested that Mr. Sage gather more information and come back to the city council in August.

Motion by Skrivan to approve the application for a beer garden on August 15th on North Broadway Street and the application for a catering license, second by Wilson. Ayes: Eckmann, Skrivan, Wilson. Nays: none. Absent: Hunhoff. Motion carried.

Dave Stark presented information on Well 75. He reported that the well was shut down after water hammering and increased pressure led to a water main break. Sargent Irrigation believes the problem is due to a hole in the column pipe or a faulty check valve. The Council reviewed a price estimate for various repairs. Motion by Eckmann to have Sargent look at Well 75, second by Skrivan. Ayes: Eckmann, Skrivan, Wilson. Nays: none. Absent: Hunhoff. Motion carried.

The Council discussed plans for street repairs on South Crown Point, North Broadway, and Southeast Broadway. Dave Stark indicated that he believes the AMZ machine can be used to restore South Crown Point to its pre-water leak condition. General consensus from Council was to look at work on North Broadway this summer/fall and to do more extensive work on Southeast Broadway next spring.

Council Member Joe Skrivan proposed that curb and gutter be put in on Oric Street between Washington and Broadway Streets to divert water to Broadway Street. This would be done in hopes of keeping water from running north down the alley. Dave Stark noted that the street would need to be built up to get it to drain. The elevations will need to be determined to get an idea of what can be done.

There was brief discussion of continued participation in the housing rehabilitation program within the Community Development Block Grant. Consensus was that this program should continue to be utilized, provided that our community is eligible.

Lyndsy Jenness expressed appreciation for Rich Kaiser's efforts to fill in at the cemetery during the recent absence of regular staff. The extra efforts of cemetery board members, community members, and city employees who readied the cemetery and other areas of the community and cleaned up storm debris before the Appreciation Dayz and Alumni weekend were recognized.

Administrative reports were presented. Public works report included discussion of park safety, repairs at tennis courts, and storm sewer repair on South Broadway. The Council reviewed a written report submitted by Police Chief Bryan Ruhr. Administrator Lyndsy Jenness provided a report including the following: calendar of events; budget preparation; medical clinic update; visit by Leroy Cordes to Kamen, Germany; injury at city park on July 3, 2009. Bryan Ruhr and Wally Holz were also recognized for eleven years of service to the City of Bloomfield.

Motion by Eckmann to adjourn, second by Wilson. Ayes: Eckmann, Skrivan, Wilson. Nays: none. Absent: Hunhoff. Meeting adjourned at 9:23 p.m.

Lyndsy Jenness
City Administrator

Jim Cripe
Mayor