



## THE OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE MINATARE CITY COUNCIL, AUGUST 13, 2024

A regular meeting of the City Council of Minatare, Nebraska was held in open session on August 13, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. at Minatare Public Library, Main Street, Minatare, NE. Present were Mayor Sanchez and Councilmembers Grumbles, Ross, and Costa. Also present were City Clerk/Treasurer, Karen Lojka, and City Attorney Jim Ellison. Notice of the meeting was given in advance by posting notice in three locations, 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 Sanchez called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and stated that a quorum of the Council was present, and City business could be conducted.

1. Recital of the Pledge of Allegiance
2. Roll Call

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

Mayor Sanchez 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 Mayor. 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:

(Items under the Consent Agenda are proposed for adoption by one action for all items unless any member of Council requests that an item be considered separately.)

1. Approve minutes of the July 9, 2024, Regular City Council Meeting
2. Approve Claims

Claims 07/10/2024 through 08/13/2024:

ACTION \$20.46 ; AFLAC \$316.74; AT&T \$264.33; BC-BS \$2,983.75; BC-BS \$2,983.75; BLACK HILLS \$305.04; BUILDING & ZONING \$115.00; BYTES \$1,820.75; BYTES \$640.24; CITY OF SCOTTSBLUFF \$5,499.90; COMMUNICATIONS \$4,455.00; COOP \$564.15; EAKES \$351.99; EAKES \$90.98; ELLISON \$8,531.62; ELLISON \$5,802.26 EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT \$446.29; ENVIRO \$25.00; FRANKLIN \$455.98; GARNISHMENT \$104.80; HAWKINS \$299.47; HOMETOWN \$77.98; HOMETOWN \$165.96;

IDEAL \$87.57; IDEAL \$87.57; JUDY HOATSON \$1,600.00; KENO \$49.00; LEAGUE OF NEBRASKA MUNICIPALITIES \$485.00; MARKER \$215.00; MEL'S LOCK AND KEY \$180.00; MIDTOWN ANIMAL \$775.00; MOBIUS \$149.79; MOBIUS \$62.10; MUNICIPAL \$1,405.41; MUNICIPALITIES \$100.00; MUTUAL OF OMAHA \$29.90; NEBRASKALAND \$100.00; NORTHWEST PIPE \$208.14; NRWA \$300.00; ONE CALL CONCEPTS \$13.14; PETE'S QUICK LUBE \$94.27; PHYLLIS \$6.43; PRESTO-X \$318.12; PRESTO-X \$97.72; SIMONS \$489.72; SIMONS \$309.54; SPECTRUM \$398.89; VAN DIEST \$5230.50; VISA \$810.18; WASTE \$6,413.37; WAYNE \$150.00.

**Motion by Councilmember Ross to approve the Consent Agenda. Second by Councilmember Costa. Councilmember Grumbles asked about the Midtown Animal Hospital number as one check had been voided. City Clerk Lojka explained the error. Mayor Sanchez called for the vote. "AYES": Ross, Grumbles, Costa. "NAYS": None. Abstaining: None. Absent: None. Motion Carried.**

## **CURRENT BUSINESS**

### **1. Fill vacancy in Ward I:**

City Attorney Ellison explained how filling the vacancy works to the public who were present. Mayor Sanchez indicated two people had expressed interest in filling the vacancy in Ward I, Brandon Main and Sean Suhr. There was a brief discussion among the council regarding the two candidates.

**Motion by Councilmember Costa to approve Sean Suhr as the person to fill the vacancy in Ward I. Second by Councilmember Grumbles. Mayor Sanchez called for the vote. "AYES": Ross, Grumbles, Costa. "NAYS": None. Abstaining: None. Absent: None. Motion Carried. Sean Suhr was sworn in and took his seat at the Council table.**

### **2. Compliance Report:**

Mayor Sanchez asked if everyone had reviewed the Compliance Report. She stated that the Covid money had been located. The auditor had attempted several times to obtain the information. The Mayor thought part of the money had been spent on communications. The Mayor reviewed the rest of the audit findings in the report. City Attorney Ellison explained how to fill out the covid portal for expenditures and that we can still comply as long as the portal gets updated with the information before December 31, 2024. Tom Case explained we have some large expenditures coming up with a chip seal project and a water well project we could use the covid monies for. Councilmember Costa asked about the lagoon project as well, however it will be next spring before they can seal the bottom, so that project would not be done in time to be in compliance with the December 31 deadline. Councilmember Costa began discussion regarding water meter parts and the purchase of some extra water meters, so we have backups on hand if one needs replaced.

**Motion by Councilmember Costa to approve the Compliance Report. Second by Councilmember Ross. Mayor Sanchez called for the vote. "AYES": Ross, Grumbles, Costa and Suhr. "NAYS": None. Abstaining: None. Absent: None. Motion Carried.**

### **3. Covid money expenditures:**

Mayor Sanchez began discussions regarding some smaller items to use covid money for. There is a request by the City Clerk to repair the drive-up audio and for an additional copier/printer. Currently they can take payments through the tube system, but they can't talk to the customers. The City Clerk told the Council that the drive-up audio repair would be around \$900, and the copier is just a purchase, so \$385 one time. There was discussion regarding the size and type of the copier and clarification regarding who was coming in and making copies. Councilmember Costa said he had spoken with someone regarding the water meters and currently they can get us ones with antennas for \$412 each. Tom Case indicated there are some spare tops, but only one meter. The decision was reached to order four new meters.

**Motion by Councilmember Costa to approve the purchase of four new water meters. Second by Councilmember Suhr. Mayor Sanchez called for the vote. "AYES": Ross, Grumbles, Costa and Suhr. "NAYS": None. Abstaining: None. Absent: None. Motion Carried.**

4. **Million-dollar grant:**

Councilmember Costa spoke regarding the grant. The engineer won't give us more than 3 months' worth of an estimate and material costs. We will try for this grant next year.

5. **AT& T Grant:**

Councilmember Costa spoke regarding the AT&T grant of \$35,000 that we would try to use for the Community Room since it is also our polling place. Discussion was had regarding if it could be ready in time for the election and since there are only 84 days left until the election it was too late to switch it to a different location. The front and the bathrooms will be ready for polling like last time.

6. **Beth Phelps called the office and asked to be taken off the agenda.**

Open public comment Celeste – Carolyn Nelson asked the City Clerk how she liked the job.

**Motion by Councilmember Grumbles to adjourn. Second by Councilmember Costa. Mayor Sanchez called for the vote. "AYES": Ross, Grumbles, Costa and Suhr. "NAYS": None. Abstaining: None. Absent: None. Motion Carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 6:19 p.m.