

CITY OF NORFOLK, NEBRASKA

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Norfolk, Nebraska met in special session in the Council Chambers, 309 North 5th Street, Norfolk, Nebraska on the 12th day of August, 2021, beginning at 12:00 p.m.

Following a moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, Mayor Josh Moenning called the meeting to order. Roll call found the following Councilmembers present: Frank Arens, Rob Merrill, Thad Murren, Gary L. Jackson, Shane Clausen, and Kory Hildebrand. Absent: Corey Granquist.

Staff members present were: City Administrator Andy Colvin, Assistant City Administrator Scott Cordes, City Clerk Brianna Duerst, Finance Officer Randy Gates, Administrative Secretary Bethene Hoff, Public Works Director Steve Rames, Park Superintendent Pat Msny, Risk Manager Lyle Lutt and Police Chief Don Miller.

The Mayor presided and the City Clerk recorded the proceedings.

The Mayor informed the public about the location of the current copy of the Open Meetings Act posted in the City Council Chambers and accessible to members of the public.

Notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by publication in the Norfolk Daily News, Norfolk, Nebraska, the designated method of giving notice, as shown by affidavit of publication.

Notice was given to the Mayor and all members of the Council and a copy of their acknowledgement of receipt of notice and agenda is attached to the minutes. Availability of the agenda was communicated in the advance notice and in the notice to the Mayor and Council of this meeting. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the public.

Agenda Motions

Councilmember Merrill moved, seconded by Councilmember Arens to approve the consent agenda as printed. Roll call: Ayes: Councilmembers Arens, Merrill, Murren, Jackson, Clausen and Hildebrand. Nays: None. Absent: Granquist. Motion carried.

Councilmember Jackson moved, seconded by Councilmember Murren to adopt the full agenda as printed. Roll call: Ayes: Councilmembers Arens, Merrill, Murren, Jackson, Clausen and Hildebrand. Nays: None. Absent: Granquist. Motion carried.

Consent Agenda Items Approved

Minutes of the August 2, 2021, City Council meeting

Minutes of the July 29, 2021, City Council Budget Work Session meeting

Minutes of the August 2, 2021, City Council Budget Work Session meeting

Minutes of the August 3, 2021, City Council Budget Work Session meeting

Regular Agenda Items

Mayor's appointment, Ward 4 vacancy

Mayor Moenning said three citizens submitted written statements of intent and resumes to be considered to fill the vacancy in Ward 4 for the remainder of the unexpired term of Fred Wiebelhaus. The applicants were: Andrew McCarthy, Zach Steiner and Benjamin Temple.

Mayor Moenning submitted the name of Andrew McCarthy for consideration by the City Council to fill the vacancy in Ward 4.

Councilmember Merrill moved, seconded by Councilmember Arens, for approval of Mayor's appointment of a qualified elector of Ward 4 to fill the vacancy for the balance of the unexpired term of Fred Wiebelhaus

Roll call: Ayes: Councilmembers Arens, Merrill, Murren, Jackson, Clausen and Hildebrand.
Nays: None. Absent: Granquist. Motion carried.

Council subcommittee budget addition recommendations

Councilmember Merrill moved, seconded by Councilmember Jackson, for approval of Council subcommittee recommended budget additions.

Finance Officer Randy Gates provided information to elected officials. The proposed additions include the following: city grants for arts, \$25,000; maintaining city installed landscaping along major corridors (increase to Parks budget) \$75,000; grant program to reimburse property owners for landscaping on property along street, \$25,000; Wayfinding signage, \$125,000; and increase general fund ending balance to target, \$549,329.

To fund the additions, there would be a 4.2 cent levy increase, or a \$42.47 property tax increase on a \$100,000 home. With the proposed levy rate of .3074880, Norfolk's rate would remain third lowest levy rate of Nebraska first class cities assuming other cities' rates stay the same.

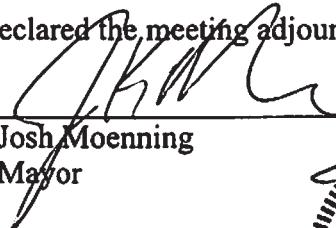
Councilmember Clausen discussed the flood control rectification. Gates said the flood control recertification costs have increased and the City will not be receiving the \$2.5 million grant from FEMA as hoped for.

Councilmember Merrill said that an increase in the levy rate is not permanent and there is an opportunity to re-evaluate the City's levy rate next budget year, but noted the importance of getting the fund balance back up to 16% of operating expenditures.


Finance Officer Randy Gates and Public Works Director Steven Rames discussed funding for transit. The topic of transit will be brought before the City Council at an upcoming meeting for discussion and action.

Roll call: Ayes: Councilmembers Arens, Merrill, Murren, Jackson and Hildebrand. Nays: Clausen. Absent: Granquist. Motion carried.


There being no further business, the Mayor declared the meeting adjourned at 12:55 p.m.



 Josh Moenning
 Mayor



ATTEST:



 Brianna Duerst
 City Clerk

(S E A L)

I, the undersigned Clerk, hereby certify that the foregoing is the full, true and correct original document of proceedings of Thursday, August 12, 2021, had and done by the Mayor and City Council; that all of the subjects included in the proceedings were contained in the agenda for the meeting, kept continually current and available for public inspection at the office of the Clerk; that such subjects were contained in said agenda for at least twenty-four hours prior to the meeting; that at least one copy of all reproducible material discussed at the meeting was available at the meeting for examination and copying by members of the public; that the said minutes were in written form and available for public inspection within ten working days and prior to the next convened meeting of said body; that all news media requesting notification concerning meetings of said body were provided advance notification of the time and place of said meeting and the subjects to be discussed at said meeting.



 Brianna Duerst
 City Clerk

