

City of Scottsbluff, Nebraska

Monday, August 19, 2019

Regular Meeting

Item Consent1

Approve the minutes of the August 5, 2019 Regular Meeting.

Staff Contact: City Council

Regular Meeting
August 5, 2019

The Scottsbluff City Council met in a regular meeting on August 5, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 2525 Circle Drive, Scottsbluff. A notice of the meeting had been published on August 2, 2019, in the Star Herald, a newspaper published and of general circulation in the City. The notice stated the date, hour and place of the meeting, that the meeting would be open to the public, that anyone with a disability desiring reasonable accommodations to attend the Council meeting should contact the City Clerk's Office, and that an agenda of the meeting kept continuously current was available for public inspection at the office of the City Clerk in City Hall; provided, the City Council could modify the agenda at the meeting if it determined that an emergency so required. A similar notice had been emailed to each council member, made available to radio stations KNEB, KMOR, KOAQ, and television stations KSTF and NBC Nebraska, and the Star Herald. The notice was also available on the city's website on August 2, 2019. Mayor Gonzales presided and City Clerk Wright recorded the proceedings. The meeting was called to order and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Mayor Gonzales welcomed everyone in attendance and encouraged all citizens to participate in the Council meeting asking those wishing to speak to come to the microphone and state their name and who they are representing for the record. Mayor Gonzales informed those in attendance that a copy of the Nebraska open meetings act is posted in the back of the room on the west wall for the public's review. The following Council Members were present: Raymond Gonzales, Jeanne McKerrigan, and Nathan Green. Also present were City Manager Johnson and City Attorney Kent Hadenfeldt. Absent: Terry Schaub and Scott Shaver.

Mayor Gonzales asked if there were any changes to the agenda. There were none. Mayor Gonzales asked if any citizens with business not scheduled on the agenda wished to include an item providing the City Council determines the item requires emergency action. There were none.

Council Member Green asked that consent item 7a, approving the minutes of the July 29, 2019 Regular Meeting, be removed and restored to the agenda for discussion.

Moved by Council Member McKerrigan, seconded by Mayor Gonzales that,

- b) Council acknowledge receipt of the draft report from M.C. Schaff & Associates on the Platte Alliance Water Supply Level II Study, "YEAS," McKerrigan, Green, and Gonzales. "NAYS," None. Absent: Schaub and Shaver.

Council Member Shaver entered the meeting at 6:04 p.m.

Council Member Green started discussion regarding the July 29, 2019 Regular Meeting minutes. He questioned how the minutes read, stating the motion made by Council Member Schaub, regarding the hotel occupation tax, was to come back for direction by Council, feeling the motion was worded differently than what was voted on. Council Member Green was concerned the motion was written to reflect Council was voting to pass the increase to the hotel occupation tax because of the words "based upon" in the minutes. The motion read, to direct staff to come back, based upon the passage of the increase of the occupation tax from 4% to 8%, with specific guidelines as to how the increase will be used to fund recreational projects. Council Member Shaver added that Council Member McKerrigan, after the motion, clarified that it was only to get direction on how the money was spent and that was not in the minutes. Legal Counsel Hadenfeldt clarified, saying an Ordinance was not drafted because he understood Council was in favor of increasing the tax but wanted staff to bring back some numbers and then decide what to do with the increased amount, adding the motion in the minutes reflected that. Council Member McKerrigan made the motion, seconded by Mayor Gonzales, to approve the minutes of the July 29, 2019 Regular Meeting, "YEAS," Green, Gonzales, and McKerrigan. "NAYS," Shaver. Absent: Schaub.

Moved by Council Member McKerrigan, seconded by Council Member Green, that the following claims be approved and paid as provided by law out of the respective funds designated in the list of claims dated August 5, 2019, as on file with the City Clerk and submitted to the City Council, "YEAS," Gonzales, McKerrigan, and Green. "NAYS," Shaver. Absent: Schaub.

CLAIMS

308 EMBROIDERY,UNIFORMS-PD,20.7;3M COMPANY,10 ROLLS WHITE PAVEMENT MARKING TAPE,2008.99; ADVANCE AUTO PARTS,ES STOCK - DEF,107.52;ALLO COMMUNICATIONS,LLC,LOCAL TELEPHONE CHARGES,4026.81; ANITA'S GREENSCAPING INC,CONT SRVCS.,504; ATLANTIC SIGNAL LLC,EQUIP MAINT-PD,87.5; B & H INVESTMENTS,INC,DEPSUP.-LIBRARY,288;BIGDADDY COMPUTER SOLUTIONS,DATABASE REPAIR,270; BLACK HILLS GAS DISTRIBUTION LLC,MONTHLY ENERGY BILL1,3645.98; BLUFFS SANITARY SUPPLY INC.,JAN.SUP.,1023.67; BRODART CO,DEP.SUP.,258.04; CAPITAL BUSINESS SYSTEMS INC.,CONTRACTUAL-PD,44; CARR- TRUMBULL LUMBER CO, INC.,SUPP - HEM FIR,61.98; CASH WA DISTRIBUTING,CONCESSION,1123.54; CELLCO PARTNERSHIP,CELL PHONES-PD,1449.52; CITIBANK N.A.,DEPT SUP,623.74; CITIBANK, N.A.,DEPT SUPP PARK,169.05; CITY OF SCB,PETTY CASH,84.58; CLARK PRINTING LLC,DEPT SUPP PARK,711.35;COLONIAL LIFE & ACCIDENT INSURANCE COMPANY,LIFE/& ACCIDENT INS,48.7; CONTRACTORS MATERIALS INC.,SUPP - CONCRETE SAW BLADE,431.78; CORE & MAIN LP,DEPT SUP,3161.98; CORNHUSKER MARRIOTT HOTEL,SCHOOL & CONF,216; COW COUNTRY SALES & SERVICE LLC,EQUIP MAINT CEM,6655; CROELL INC,DEPT SUP,121.45; CYNTHIA GREEN,DEPT/JANIT SUPPL-PD,201.76; D & H ELECTRONICS INC.,FANS FOR TRAFFIC SIGNAL CONTROLLER BOXES,50.08;DALE'S TIRE & RETREADING, INC.,FLEET TIRE REPAIRS,3049.87;DAS STATE ACCOUNTING-CENTRAL FINANCE,MONTHLY LONG DISTANCE,126.09; DOOLEY OIL INC,ES STOCK - ANTIFREEZE,73.31;DUANE E. WOHLERS,HAULING RECYCLING TO DENVER, CO,1600; ENERGY LABORATORIES, INC DEPT 6250,SAMPLES,135; ESQUIO RIOS JR,CONTRACTUAL,144; FAT BOYS TIRE AND AUTO,EQUIP MAINT PARK,292; FEDERAL EXPRESS CORPORATION,POSTAGE,67.23; FINDAWAY WORLD LLC,A/V,291.21; FLOYD'S TRUCK CENTER SCOTTSBLUFF,REPAIRS TO UNIT #816,840.6; FRANCHETTI MATTHEW,CONTRACTUAL,324; FRANCISCO'S BUMPER TO BUMPER INC,TOW SERVICE-PD,100; FREMONT MOTOR SCOTTSBLUFF, LLC,VEH MAINT PARK,636.08; FYR-TEK INC,1 INCH FORESTRY NOZZLE FOR BRUSH 1,85; GALLS INC,CIP-PO-BODY ARMOR,8989.86; GENERAL ELECTRIC CAPITAL CORPORATION,CAR SEAT GRANT-PD,764.3;GENERAL TRAFFIC CONTROLS, INC,TRAFFIC SIGNAL SUPP - CONTROLLER & MONITOR,4894.5; GROVE DONNA,PARK SHELTER,25; HAWKINS, INC.,CHEMICALS,5765.95; HULLINGER GLASS & LOCKS INC.,DEPT SUPP PK,105.5; HYDRONIC WATER MANAGEMENT,EQUIP MAINT.,425; HYDROTEX PARTNERS, LTD,ES STOCK - PINTAC,365.44; IDEAL LAUNDRY AND CLEANERS, INC.,JANITORIAL SUPP PK,1133.9; INDEPENDENT PLUMBING AND HEATING, INC,BLDG MAINT PARK,391.63; INFINITY CONSTRUCTION, INC.,42ND STREET - AVE I TO 5TH AVE,119518.55; INGRAM LIBRARY SERVICES INC, BKS., 749.44; INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE, WITHHOLDINGS, 58991.43; INTERNATIONAL CODE COUNCIL, INC.,DEPT SUPP DS,537.8; INTRALINKS, INC,CONTRACT SERVICES - LIBRARY - JUNE 2019,6654.98; INVENTIVE WIRELESS OF NE,

LLC, CONTRACTUAL, 57.95; J & A TRAFFIC PRODUCTS, LLC, TRAFFIC SUPP - CONES, 788.4; J G ELLIOTT CO. INC., NOTARY BOND - J. HESSLER, 70; JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL, INVEST SUPPL-PD, 183.81; JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL, DEPT SUPP CEM, 430.43; JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL, PARKS #395- OIL FILTER, 62.42; JOHNSON EARL, CONTRACTUAL, 1000; JUSTIN HOUSTON, PER DIEM FOR LEADERSHIP CLASS, 91; KEMBEL JARED, CONTRACTUAL, 198; KIRK BERNHARDT, CONTRACTUAL, 1152; KNOW HOW LLC, PARKS #318- ROTORS & PADS, 1186.24; LANDAUER, INC, EQUIP MAINT-PD, 161.4; LAWSON PRODUCTS, INC, DEPT SUPP PK, 92.7; LEAGUE ASSOCIATION OF RISK MANAGEMENT, VEHICLE INS. - ENDORSEMENT #15, 293.36; LEAGUE OF NEBRASKA MUNICIPALITIES, 2019 ANNUAL CONF. REGISTRATION - N. JOHNSON, 351; LINCOLN COUNTY SHERIFF, LEGAL FEES-PD, 21.05; M.C. SCHAFF & ASSOCIATES, INC, PROF SERVICES - 42ND ST, AVE I TO 5TH AVE, 22157; MAIL FINANCE INC, CONT SRVCS. , 366; MARKETING CONSULTANTS , PROGRAMMING, 544; M-B CO, INC, TRANS #449- REGULATORS, 257.87; MENARDS, NC, DEPT SUPP REC, 1021.69; MICHAEL B KEMBEL, BLDG MAINT-PD, 1059.5; MICHAEL BEEBE, CONTRACTUAL SVC, 391.68; MIDLANDS NEWSPAPERS, INC, LEGAL NOTICE, 33.98; MIKESSELL L JO, CONTRACTUAL, 400; MONUMENT CAR WASH INC, VEH MAINT, 7.15; MPH INDUSTRIES INC, CIP-PO-PATROL CARS, 1755.96; NE CHILD SUPPORT PAYMENT CENTER, NECHILD SUPPORT PYBLE, 1163.1; NE COLORADO CELLULAR, INC, CONTRACTUAL SVC, 75.64; NE DEPT OF REVENUE, SALES TAX, 25483.25; NE LIBRARY COMMISSION, SBSCRIP., 1488.3; NEBRASKA SAFETY & FIRE EQUIPEMENT INC., EQUIP MAINT-PD, 30; NEBRASKA MACHINERY CO, ALTERNATOR FOR UNIT #830, 367.99; NEBRASKA PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT, ELECTRICITY, 24653.9; NEBRASKA RURAL RADIO ASSOCIATION, CONTRACTUAL SVC, 325; NEBRASKALAND TIRE, INC, POLICE #4- TIRES, 588; NEWMAN, TIMOTHY, TRAVEL FOR PLANNING MEETING, 120; NORTHWEST PIPE FITTINGS, INC. OF SCOTTSBLUFF, BLDG MAINT PARK, 493.81; O'KEEFE ELEVATOR COMPANY INC, EQUIP MAIN., 817.5; OREGON TRAIL PLUMBING, HEATING & COOLING INC, BLDG MAINT ADM, 8324; PANHANDLE COLLECTIONS INC, WAGE ATTACHMENT, 194.92; PANHANDLE COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION, GASOLINE-PD, 4493.04; PANHANDLE ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES INC, CONTRACTUAL SVC, 506; PANHANDLE HUMANE SOCIETY, CONTRACTUAL, 5174.59; PANHANDLE PARTNERSHIP FOR HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES, 2019 MEMBERSHIP DUES, 100; PATTLEN ENTERPRISE, INC, GROUND MAINT PK, 43.8; PAUL MENDOZA, CONTRACTUAL, 162; PAUL REED CONSTRUCTION & SUPPLY, INC, GROUND MAINT PK, 480.64; PEPSI COLA OF WESTERN NEBRASKA, LLC, CONCESSION, 493.5; PLATTE VALLEY BANK, HEALTH SAVINGS ACCOUNT, 9874.26; POSTMASTER, POSTAGE, 929.48; POWERPLAN, TRANS #453- KNOB, 206.68; PRAISE WINDOWS INC, BLDG MAIN., 465; QUILL CORPORATION, DEPT SUPPL-PD, 404.89; REAMS SPRINKLER SUPPLY CO., DEPT SUPP CEM, 1396.71; REGANIS AUTO CENTER, INC, POLICE #6- COOLING FAN & MOTOR, 416.68; REGIONAL CARE INC, CLAIMS, 171084.7; REGIONAL WEST MEDICAL CENTER, EMS SUPPLIES- AMBU BAG, COBAN, 4X4S, LANCETS, 99.14; RICHARD CELL, SERVICE UTV AFTER SEARCH AND RESCUE, 337.7; RICHARD P CASTILLO, CONTRACTUAL, 108; ROD CLAUSE, LB 840 GRANT FUNDS, 280.7; RODRIGUEZ JOSE R, TOW SERVICE-PD, 389; ROOSEVELT PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT, ELECTRICITY, 2776.75; RURAL HEALTH DEVELOPMENT, INC., ECONOMIC DEV, 6383.33; S M E C, EMPLOYEE DEDUCTION, 276.5; SANDBERG IMPLEMENT, INC, DEPT SUPP CEM, 508.47; SCB

FIREFIGHTERS UNION LOCAL 1454,FIRE EE DUES,225; SCHANK HOLDINGS INC,BLDG. MAIN.,136;SCHOLASTICLIBRARYPUBLISHING,BKS.,664.55;SCOTTAARON,CONTRACTUAL,234; SCOTT SHAVER,BUSINESS TRAVEL,277.71;SCOTTS BLUFF COUNTY COURT,LEGAL FEES-PD,512.75; SCOTTS BLUFF COUNTY PUBLIC TRANSIT,CONTRACTUAL,3736; SCOTTSBLUFF POLICE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION,POLICE EE DUES,576; SHERIFF'S OFFICE,LEGALFEESPD,59.64;SIMMONSOLSENLAWFIRM,P.C.,CONTRACTUAL,14383.79;SIMON CONTRACTORS,CONCRETE FOR STREET REPAIR,7085.07; SNELL SERVICES INC.,ELEC MAINT CEM,447.5; SONNY'S TOWING,TOW SERVICE-PD,305; SOUNDSLEEPER SECURITY INC.,CONTRACTUAL-PD,14.95; SOUTHERN UNIFORM EQUIPMENT,UNIFORM SHIRTS, BELTS, AND T-SHIRTS,524.72; STARR LEHL,REIMBURSEMENT - NATL WESTERN STOCK SHOWWNTC,296.16;STATEHEALTHLAB,SAMPLES,355;STATEOFNE.,CONTRACTUALPD,315; STRICKERMARTIN,CONTRACTUAL,72; SUHOR INDUSTRIES, INC.,DEPT SUPP CEM,110; THE PEAVEY CORP,INVEST SUPPL-PD,128.4; THOMASON VICKY,DEPT SUP,106.99; TYLER TECHNOLOGIES, INC,UB ONLINE FEE (8/1/19 - 8/31/19),348; UNION BANK & TRUST,RETIREMENT,36127.83; UNITED STATES WELDING, INC,WELDING WIRE,115; US BANK,2019 ICMA ANNUAL CONF.REGISTRATION - N.JOHNSON,5248.79; VOGEL WEST, INC,HOSE FOR PRESSURE WASHER,49.78; WESTERNCOOPERATIVE COMPANY,GROUT MAINT PK,340.03; WESTERN NE TOURISM COALITION,2019-2020 WNTC MEMBERSHIP DUES,100; WESTERN NEBRASKA ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES,EQUIP MAINT,208.57; WILLIAM F SHAMMEL,TOW SERVICE-PD,326.8; WILSON ZACHARIAH,CONTRACTUAL,126; WYOMING CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT,CHILD SUPPORT,738.08; WYOMING FIRST AID & SAFETY SUPPLY, LLC,FIRST AID KIT SUPPLIES,163.52; WYOMING WATER DEVELOPMENT OFF,PAWS FEASIBILITY STUDY,2485;

Mr. Jeremiah Blake, Director of Government Affairs with Charter Communications in Nebraska approached Council regarding the Ordinance updating Cable Television Systems including Franchise Procedures and guidelines for Rights-of-Way. Mr. Blake explained he is in support of the revised Ordinance and gave a brief overview of the company, stating Charter Communications offers video, voice, and broadband services under the brand name Spectrum. They serve 183,000 customers in 88 communities in Nebraska ranging from Scottsbluff to Nebraska City. With regards to the revised Ordinance, the purpose is to update terms based on Federal law and clarify the rights and responsibilities of both the City and the cable operators. The Ordinance would allow Charter Communications to construct and operate a cable system under the current terms and conditions specified in the revised Ordinance; the agreement is non-exclusive and they will comply with any Ordinances of general applicability, maintain insurance and indemnify the City of any neglect on behalf of Charter. In exchange for access to the City's right of way they will pay a franchise fee of five percent on all cable revenue and will continue to provide means to the government access channel.

Mayor Gonzales introduced the Ordinance updating Cable Television Systems including Franchise Procedures and guidelines for Rights-of-Way which was read by title on first reading: **AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SCOTTSBLUFF, NEBRASKA, AMENDING THE MUNICIPAL CODE BY AMENDING CHAPTER 11, ARTICLE 5, DEALING WITH CABLE TELEVISION SYSTEMS AND THE ISSUANCE OF FRANCHISES TO OPERATORS OF CABLE TELEVISION SYSTEMS, ALLOWING FOR THE USE OF RIGHTS-OF-WAY FOR CABLE TELEVISION SYSTEMS, AND REPEALING PRIOR PROVISIONS OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE WHICH ARE INCONSISTENT**

WITH THIS ORDINANCE, PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION IN PAMPHLET FORM AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

City Manager Johnson presented the Resolution to extend the termination notice to the League Association of Risk Management (LARM) to the year 2022. Mr. Johnson explained by extending our renewal commitment for three years we will receive a five percent discount; staff is recommending approval. Mayor Gonzales asked if the City was happy with the coverage. Mr. Johnson answered we are very happy, being a member of LARM has been beneficial to the City. Council Member Green made the motion, seconded by Council Member Shaver, to approve the Resolution extending the notice of termination for three more years and authorizing the Mayor to put his stamp on it, "YEAS," McKerrigan, Gonzales, Green, and Shaver. "NAYS," None. Absent: Schaub.

**League Association of Risk Management
2019-20 Renewal Resolution**

RESOLUTION NO. 19-08-01

WHEREAS, The City of Scottsbluff is a member of the League Association of Risk Management (LARM);

WHEREAS, section 8.10 of the Interlocal Agreement for the Establishment and Operation of the League Association of Risk Management provides that a member may voluntarily terminate its participation in LARM by written notice of termination given to LARM and the Nebraska Director of Insurance at least 90 days prior to the desired termination given to and that members may agree to extend the required termination notice beyond 90 days in order to realize reduced excess coverage costs, stability of contribution rates and efficiency in operation of LARM; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of LARM has adopted a plan to provide contribution credits in consideration of certain agreements by members of LARM as provided in the attached letter.

BE IT RESOLVED that the governing body of The City of Scottsbluff , Nebraska, in consideration of the contribution credits provided under the LARM Board’s plan, agrees to:

- Provide written notice of termination at least 180 days prior to the desired termination date, which date shall be no sooner than September 30, 2022. **(180 day and 3 year commitment; 5% discount)**
- Provide written notice of termination at least 180 days prior to the desired termination date, which date shall be no sooner than September 30, 2021. **(180 day and 2 year commitment; 4% discount)**
- Provide written notice of termination at least 180 days prior to the desired termination date, which date shall be no sooner than September 30, 2020. **(180 day notice only; 2% discount)**

- Provide written notice of termination at least 90 days prior to the desired termination date, which date shall be no sooner than September 30, 2022. (**90 day notice and 3 year commitment only; 2% discount**)
- Provide written notice of termination at least 90 days prior to the desired termination date, which date shall be no sooner than September 30, 2021. (**2 year commitment only; 1%**)
- Provide written notice of termination at least 90 days prior to the desired termination date, which date shall be no sooner than September 30, 2020. (**90 day Notice only**)

Adopted this 5th day of August, 2019

Signature: _____
 Title: Mayor
 ATTEST: _____
 Title: City Clerk

Please email (customerservice@LARMpool.org) or fax (402.476.4089) the completed resolution to LARM.

Regarding the press release to be sent out to identify new candidate locations for the future construction of a regional landfill to serve Western Nebraska, Mr. Johnson explained this is a partnership with the City of Gering, going out to all media outlets; they are asking Council for their approval. Mr. Johnson stated this is for land owners to discuss the land they own, to be used as a potential landfill, by contacting Travis Evans from TriHydro Corporation. TriHydro will then filter the individual inquiries and then bring to the Cities. Council Member Shaver was concerned there would be additional fees associated with this process. Mr. Mark Bohl, Public Works Director, approached Council and stated this is all included in the contract and there will be no additional fees, adding this is all part of siting the landfill. Council Member Green asked about not having a date on the press release. Mr. Bohl stated TriHydro did not want a date included in the release. They will come to point on what they want to do, depending on the number of calls they receive and they have until December 31st to give us information. Council Member McKerrigan made a motion, seconded by Mayor Gonzales, to authorize the press release identifying new candidate locations for the future construction of a regional landfill to serve Western Nebraska, “YEAS, Gonzales, Green, McKerrigan, and Shaver. “NAYS,” None. Absent: Schaub.

Mr. Johnson informed Council included in their packet are the minutes from the April 29th meeting discussing major outlying projects and the May 9th budget workshop. He explained this is an opportunity for Council to discuss and go over before bringing the budget forward; opening discussion on anything they would like to add, modify or delete.

- Downtown Plaza - Council Member Shaver asked if this was included in the budget and what was left to be done. Mr. Johnson stated the Downtown Plaza was discussed at the April 29th meeting and he will put it on the agenda for another meeting, adding there are several Downtown

Plaza plans. It is not allocated in the budget because it is a general fund project, but could be changed if Council is willing to look at the Occupation Tax. We are looking at quotes for adding fencing, due to cattle panels needed for events being labor intensive to put up and take down.

- 23 Club – Mr. Johnson explained we are still short of where we need to be to award a bid. Because of this, 23 Club is looking to get lines of credit from local banks to move forward with the project. The City has allocated \$600,000.00 and there is roughly \$200,000.00-\$250,000.00 needed to continue with awarding the bid.
- The Pathway project – Mr. Johnson stated this is moving ahead with an August 29th bid letting.
- Chip Seal project – Mr. Johnson stated we have approximately 2.4 million budgeted for this project. Mr. Bohl added this will cover all residential streets, some of East Overland and Avenue B, where we cannot do tear outs. The unused rock can be picked up to go into alleys and we are doing chip seal instead of slurry because slurry does not have the aggregates.
- Westmoor pool- Mr. Johnson explained the pool will close on August 11th, due to the labor force and is anticipated to be open next season.
- Dog park – Mr. Johnson informed Council they are still working with the Park, Rec, & Tree Board and dog park group. An idea has been brought forward of moving the campground along with the dog park, due to flooding issues.
- East Overland Revitalization Efforts – Mr. Johnson explained this project has no money budgeted for this year, but they are looking at grants. Mayor Gonzales asked Economic Development Director, Starr Lehl to give a presentation on the East Overland Revitalization Efforts at the next meeting.
- Transfer station & Compost pad cover - Mr. Johnson stated both are included in this upcoming year's budget. Council Member Shaver asked if the entire cover was budgeted for this year. Mr. Johnson stated yes the cover is, but site improvements will be saved for future years. Council Member Shaver asked if we go out for bids for the cover, how long are they good for. Mr. Johnson stated usually 45 days unless negotiated with the bidders. Council Member Shaver commented we are within 45 days before the budget is approved and we could get bids. Mr. Johnson stated we could, but we would like to have an approved budget. Mr. Johnson will work on options to be brought forward.

Council Member Green started discussion by asking how we can boost our economy and get marketing put on the budget. Council Member Shaver commented we should consider rebranding, acknowledging we can have more power by doing a regional approach and have a consistent front at this end of the State. He stated Scottsbluff and Gering should work together instead of working around each other and not compete with everything. He also stated the entire City should work together and have a solid front including the people, businesses, and schools. Mr. Johnson answered, by stating, the City's latest form of rebranding was revamping the City website and if Council chose to do something different it would be a general fund expenditure. Council Member Green added it's an important topic, but doesn't

know if they have enough to go anywhere with it tonight, asking Council to bring back ideas for a future meeting. Council Member McKerrigan asked about Blue Print Nebraska and commented how it was good for the communities and brought business people together with ideas. Economic Development Director, Starr Lehl approached Council and Mayor Gonzales asked her if the type of leadership team a community has in place is important; do companies want to see a solid leadership team in place. Ms. Lehl answered leadership is definitely important, using the Solar project as an example, citing many businesses look for a community who uses green energy. After discussion, Mayor Gonzales added rebranding is important, but with the changes in the Pathway and expiring zoo contract upcoming, the City needs to work with those first and push this initiative back until next year.

There were no comments from the public. Under Council Reports, Council Member Shaver stated he went to a demonstration of priority dispatch and does not feel he can give an accurate representation of it. Police Chief Kevin Spencer added to Council Member Shaver's comments stating this will be a big improvement to the service provided to the community. Mayor Gonzales stated there is no PADD meeting this Thursday and balloon races kick off Saturday at Gering with a parade at 5:00 p.m., National Night Out is August 6th at 6:00 p.m.

Council Member McKerrigan made the motion, seconded by Council Member Green, to adjourn the meeting at 7:03 p.m., "YEAS," Green, Shaver, Gonzales, and McKerrigan. "NAYS," None. Absent: Schaub.

Mayor

Attest:

City Clerk "SEAL"