

City of Scottsbluff, Nebraska

Monday, April 20, 2020

Regular Meeting

Item Consent1

Approve the minutes of the April 6, 2020 Regular Meeting.

Staff Contact: City Council

Regular Meeting
April 2, 2020

The Scottsbluff City Council met in a regular meeting on April 6, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. Due to ongoing COVID 19 precautions and pursuant to a Limited Waiver Executive Order by Governor Ricketts the meeting was conducted at City Hall by video and teleconference. A notice of the meeting had been published on April 3, 2020, in the Star Herald, a newspaper published and of general circulation in the City. The notice stated the date, hour and that the meeting would be held by Videolink and teleconference by calling 1-866-414-2828, Participant Code 68919#and<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/912094909> The notice also stated 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 by calling (308) 630-6221 during regular business hours; 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 April 2, 2020. 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 meeting asking those wishing to speak to 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 included in the City Council packet and available online at Nebraska.gov/open-meetings. He asked anyone that is not an active participant in the meeting to mute their phone to avoid background noise during the meeting. He also reminded Council Members identify themselves before making or seconding motions, for the record. The following Council Members were present: Raymond Gonzales, Jeanne McKerrigan, Scott Shaver, Nathan Green, and Terry Schaub. Also present on the teleconference were City Attorney Kent Hadenfeldt and Interim City Manager Rick Kuckkahn, along with Public Works Director Mark Bohl and Economic Development Director Starr Lehl. 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.

Moved by Council Member Schaub, seconded by Council Member McKerrigan that,

- a) The minutes of the March 16, 2020 Regular Meeting be approved.
- b) Council Member Schaub's absence at the March 2, 2020 meeting be excused. "YEAS," McKerrigan, Green, Schaub, and Gonzales "NAYS," Shaver. Absent: None.

Regarding the claims, Council Member Green had a question concerning a credit from U.S. Bank, wondering if it was from canceled classes and if that was something that would have to be made up later. Interim City Manager Kuckkahn answered, stating, he believes they are all from non attendance to training as result of the virus and there is not a requirement that the classes be made up.

Moved by Council Member Green, seconded by Council Member Schaub, that the following claims, be approved and paid as provided by law out of the respective funds designated in the list of

claims dated April 6, 2020, as on file with the City Clerk and submitted to the City Council. "YEAS", Green, Schaub, Shaver, Gonzales, and McKerrigan. "NAYS," None. Absent: None.

CLAIMS

ACCELERATEDRECEIVABLESOLUTIONS,WAGEATTACHMENT,883.68;ACTIONCOMMUNIC
ATIONS INC.,INTERNET 3/1/20 - 3/31/20,175; ADVANCE AUTO PARTS,CENTRAL GARAGE-
SCAN TOOL & DIAGNOSTIC/ANALYSIS SY,4123.73; ALLO COMMUNICATIONS,LLC,LOCAL
TELEPHONE CHARGES,4054.66; ASSURITY LIFE INSURANCE CO,LIFE INS W/H,32.95;
AUTOZONE STORES, INC,PARKS MILLER WELDER- SPARK PLUG,2.69; AXON ENTERPRISE
INC,SCHOOLS/CONF PD,1400; B & H INVESTMENTS, INC,SUPP - WATER,200; BIZCO
TECHNOLOGIES,CIP-PO-PATROLCARS PD,360.36; BLOEDORN LUMBER CO -
ALLIANCE,DEP. SUP.,137.1; BLUFFS SANITARY SUPPLY INC.,JANITORIAL SUPP,693.18;
BUD'S RADIATOR,EQUIP MAINT CEM,258; CAPITAL BUSINESS SYSTEMS INC.,CONT.
SRVCS.,621.45; CARR- TRUMBULL LUMBER CO, INC.,GROUND MAINT PARK,30.99; CELCO
PARTNERSHIP,CELL PHONES & IPAD CHARGES,96.5; CHRIS REYES,DEPT SUPPLIES PD,145;
CITIBANK, N.A.,BUILDING MAINT,4697.87; CITY OF GERING,TRASH AND RECYCLING
DISPOSAL FEES,34562.47; CLARK PRINTING LLC,DEPT SUPPLIES PD,942.81; COLONIAL LIFE
& ACCIDENT INSURANCE COMPANY,SUPPLEMENTAL INS,48.7; COMPUTER CONNECTION
INC,CONTRACT PD,44; CONTRACTORS MATERIALS INC.,DEPT SUP,175.36; CONTRYMAN
ASSOCIATES, P.C.,PROF.SERVICES - AUDIT FY18-19,28000; CORNHUSKER MARRIOTT
HOTEL,SCHOOL & CONF,656; CREDIT BUREAU OF COUNCIL BLUFFS,CONTRACT SERVICES
- FEB. 2020,61; CREDIT MANAGEMENT SERVICES INC.,AGE ATTACHMENT,112.46; CYNTHIA
GREEN,DEPT SUPP DS,126.99; D & H ELECTRONICS INC.,SUPP - BATTERIES FOR ELETRIC
GATE AT OFFICE,46.02; DALE VITITO,CIP-PO-PATROL CARS PD,4813.73; DALE'S TIRE &
RETREADING, INC.,TIRES FOR DUMP TRUCK,1429.92; DUANE E. WOHLERS,HAULING
RECYCLING TO DENVER, CO & MOVE TRAILER,850; FASTENAL COMPANY,GROUND
MAINT PARK,4.13; FLOYD'S TRUCK CENTER SCOTTSBLUFF,OIL PRESSURE SENSOR-
TOWER 1,842.51; FREMONT MOTOR SCOTTSBLUFF, LLC,PLICE #8- WIRE ASSY,411.56; GRAY
TELEVISION GROUP INC,CONTRACTUAL SVC,1390; HAWKINS, INC.,CHEMICALS,1691.4;
HORIZON WEST, INC,EQUIP MAINT CEM,174.01; IDEAL LAUNDRY AND CLEANERS,
INC.,UNI/CLOTHESPD,646.45;INDEPENDENTPLUMBING AND HEATING, INC,CONTRACTUAL
SVC,85; INGRAM LIBRARY SERVICES INC,BKS.,478.49; INTERNAL REVENUE
SERVICE,WITHHOLDINGS,115296.02; INTRALINKS, INC,COMPUTER EQUIPMENT,45816.83;
INVENTIVE WIRELESS OF NE, LLC,INTERNET,35.9; KNOW HOW LLC,PRESSURE WASHER
REPAIRS,1363.81;LEAGUE ASSOCIATION OF RISK MANAGEMENT,VEHICLE INS. - 2020
FRGTLNR-SANITATION,2317.11;LEXISNEXIS RISK DATA MANAGEMENT,CONSULTING
PD,100; M.C. SCHAFF & ASSOCIATES, INC,ENG. SERVICES FOR CHIP SEAL PROJECT,59864.7;
MADISON NATIONAL LIFE,INS W/H,2521.77;MATHESON TRI-GAS INC,DEPT SUPP
PARK,179.16; MENARDS, INC,GROUND MAINT PARK,1188.51; MES TEAM INC,LARGE
MEDICAL EXAM GLOVES,160; MUNIMETRIX SYSTEMS CORP,IMAGESILO - FEB 2020,39.99;

NATIONAL PEN CO LLC,DEPT SUPPLIES PD,197.34;NE CHILD SUPPORT PAYMENT CENTER,NE CHILD SUPPORT PYBLE,2240.2; NE DEPT OF REVENUE,FEB SALES & USE TAX,42555.55; NE LIBRARY ASSOC,MBRSHP.,275; NEBRASKA INTERACTIVE, LLC,DRIVERS LICENSE REQ. - FEB. 2020,3; NEBRASKA PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT,ELECTRIC,44003.3; NEBRASKA RECYCLING COUNCIL,RECYCLING COUNCIL YEARLY MEMBERSHIP DUES,200; NEBRASKA RURAL RADIO ASSOCIATION,CONTRACTUALSVC,317.5; NEBRASKA SALT AND GRAIN CO,1 LOAD ICE SLICER,4476.04; NETWORKFLEET, INC,GPS SERVICE FOR FLEET,350.2; NORTHWEST PIPE FITTINGS, INC. OF SCOTTSBLUFF,BLDG MAINT PARK,53.72; ONE CALL CONCEPTS, INC,CONTRACTUAL,50.29; OREGON TRAIL PLUMBING, HEATING & COOLING INC,SEWER - 1224 E 10TH ST,5949; PANHANDLE COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION,FLEET DIESEL/PROPANE,17702.14; PANHANDLE ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES INC,SAMPLES,60; PLATTE VALLEY BANK,HEALTH SAVINGS,23434; POLYDYNE INC,CHEMICALS,5379.93; QUILL CORPORATION,DEPT SUPPLIES PD,295.93; REGIONAL CARE INC,FLEX FUNDING,478.1; RODRIGUEZ JOSE R,CONTRACT TOWING PD,265; RR DONNELLEY,DEPT SUPPLIES PD,56.91; RYAN R KUMM,GROUND MAINT PARK,120; S M E C,EMPLOYEE DEDUCTION,261; SANDBERG IMPLEMENT, INC,OIL CAP FOR CHAINSAW,4.43; SCB FIREFIGHTERS UNION LOCAL 1454,FIRE EE DUES,600; SCOTT SHAVER,LEAGUE CONF. EXPENSES,323.49; SCOTTIES POTTIES INC,CONTRACTUAL PARK,360; SCOTTS BLUFF COUNTY COURT,LEGAL FEES PD,266.75; SCOTTSBLUFF POLICE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION,POLICE EE DUES,2184; SCOTTSBLUFF SCREENPRINTING & EMBROIDERY, LLC,UNI/CLOTHES PD,104; SHERIFF'S OFFICE,LEGAL FEES PD,497.99; SHERWIN WILLIAMS,PRESS. RING & SPACER FOR GRINDLAZER,1019.16; SIMMONS OLSEN LAW FIRM, P.C.,CONTRACTUAL,17393.14; SIMON CONTRACTORS,GROUND MAINT PARK,272.55; SUHOR INDUSTRIES, INC.,DEPT SUPP CEM,110; TRANS IOWA EQUIPMENT LLC,TRANS #449- LENS, SWITCH, SPROKETS, IDLER, KITS,534.91; UNION BANK & TRUST,RETIREMENT,51868.7; UNIQUE MANAGEMENT SERVICES, INC,CONT. SRVCS.,80.55; UNITED STATES WELDING,TORCH & LEAD FOR WELDER,1019.66; WESTERN LIBRARY SYSTEM,CONT. SRVCS.,36.5; WESTERN NEBRASKA HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT,HR CONF. - CAMI KITE,80; WESTERN PATHOLOGY CONSULTANTS, INC,ANNUAL FEE,386.25; WESTERN TRAVEL TERMINAL, LLC,VEH MAINT PD,500; WHITING SIGNS,DECALS FOR UNIT 2,300; WOODS & AITKEN LLP,PROFESSIONAL SERVICES - UNIONS,7561.33; WYOMING CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT,CHILD SUPPORT,1476.16; WYOMING FIRST AID & SAFETY SUPPLY, LLC,FIRST AID KIT SUPPLIES,61.2; ZM LUMBER INC,GROUND MAINT PARK,137.41;

Mayor Gonzales opened the public hearing at 6:08 p.m. to revise the adopted budget statement of the City of Scottsbluff, Nebraska for FY 2019-2020. Mr. Kuckkahn explained this is the amended budget for our Economic Development Fund, adding there is only about \$14,000.00 remaining for the LB840 committee's consideration of future Economic Development grants. This will potentially open the door of adding one million dollars to the Committee's flexibility of awarding future grants. Council Member Green commented he went to the LB840 meeting; it would give them more money to go forward with,

but he added they do not have a targeted project in mind. Mr. Kuckkahn agreed, they do not have a project in mind but they do have a couple of potentially fundable projects in the works. He did add, this all came about prior to the virus and the assumptions will be changing in the fund. Council Member Shaver commented with all the unknowns we need to have the money here and not spend it down to nothing. He thinks it is absolutely the wrong idea to do this.

Ms. Starr Lehl, Economic Development Director, was present on the call and stated the fund has 2.5 million dollars in in right now; by utilizing the additional million it will leave 1.5 million in the fund. She reminded Council this money can only be used for Economic Development because of the way our plan is set up. She asked Council if they were not comfortable with the million dollars that they entertain another amount. She feels the economy will come back strong and we need the leverage to grow our businesses and start new ones. Council Member McKerrigan asked Ms. Lehl how many applicants she has now. Ms. Lehl answered she has three that are smaller projects amounting to a total of \$200,000.

During discussion, Mayor Gonzales asked Council if they would be willing to go with a lower amount of \$500,000. Council Member Shaver answered he would not be comfortable, due to what is going on now and with the uncertainty.

Since there were no comments from the public, Mayor Gonzales closed the public hearing at 6:24 p.m.

Council Member Green then added he was concerned there was no public comment asking for this revision to the budget statement and no project identified; he asked Ms. Lehl what is needed and if the applications are in hand. Ms. Lehl stated the projects amount to \$200,000 and she has not received the applications yet, as it is a lengthy process.

Council Member McKerrigan commented if there is interest out there and businesses are looking to expand to become profitable; she feels that money does need to be moved into the fund for the LB840 Committee to do their job. She would be open to \$500,000 since we don't know how businesses with loan repayments are going to play out.

After much discussion, Mayor Gonzales asked to move on, since they will be voting on the revision of the adopted budget statement later in the agenda.

Mayor Gonzales read the Proclamation naming April 17-25, 2020 as Young Professionals Week.

Regarding awarding the bid for the Seal Coat Project to Topkote, Inc. in the amount of \$2,209,200.00, Mr. Kuckkahn explained this is an excellent bid; this provides an important service to our street system. Council Member Shaver commented he is impressed that it is below the engineers request considerably and he made a motion to accept the bid for the Seal Coat Project to Topkote, Inc. in the amount of \$2,209,200.00. This was seconded by Council Member Schaub. "YEAS," Shaver, Gonzales, Schaub, McKerrigan, and Green. "NAYS," None. Absent: None.

Mr. Kuckkahn went over the bid for the City Hall Roof Replacement, stating the engineer's estimate of \$108,000 is based on the adjusters estimate, we have reviewed and feel the \$123,507.55 is acceptable; after contacting the insurance carrier the overage will be paid. Council Member Shaver asked if those were the only two bids we received. Mr. Kuckkahn stated, yes, this is a specialized roof system with an elevated seam. Council Member Schaub made a motion to accept the bid from Twin City Roofing & Sheet Metal, Inc. and get the difference from the insurance carrier, for a total of \$123,507.00. This was seconded by Council Member McKerrigan. Council Member Shaver asked if there was a reason we did not get any more bids; is there something the City is doing to prohibit bids, like bonds. Mr.

Dave Schaff, with M.C. Schaff and Associates came forward on the call and explained by State Statue anything over \$20,000.00 has to be bonded; for municipal projects like this, that is the case. He added there are many roofing companies out there and getting bonded is a difficult process. There was no further discussion; Mayor Gonzales asked for roll call. "YEAS," Schaub, McKerrigan, Gonzales, Green, and Shaver. "NAYS," None. Absent: None.

Concerning awarding the bid for the Highland Drive Sanitary Sewer Extension to Infinity Construction in the amount of \$31,765.00, Mr. Kuckkahn explained there is a trailer park in the Highland area where a City sewer line is located and the owner has sent a letter asking the sewer line be removed from the private property; this dollar amount represents the amount to have the sewer line removed from the property. Council Member Shaver commented he thought this item was concerning drainage issues they were having in the Highland area. Mr. Mark Bohl, Public Works Director came on the line and explained this is from a previous item that was asked to go out for bidding; five or six homes are located on the sanitary sewer and we need to provide an extension to the sewer main. He remarked it is up to the owners to hook up to the main at their expense, but we need to provide the main to hook up to. He added we inherited this SID years ago from a prior administration. Council Member Shaver asked if this is something we would be annexing in or doing a paving district with it, because that is what we have done in the past. Mr. Bohl stated we have, but we haven't visited much about annexing them in, we have just taken them in as an SID years ago for the sewer. Mr. Dave Schaff came on the line and explained we can't annex the area out there because we have to annex contiguously; you need to annex many properties before you get there. After discussion Council Member Schaub moved to award the bid for the Highland Drive Sanitary Sewer Extension to Infinity Construction in the amount of \$31,765.00. This was seconded by Council Member Green. Before roll call Council Member Green asked how we own an SID, but not have it annexed. Mr. Schaff stated this was something done years ago with a prior administration; there are meeting minutes and legal documents suggesting the City does own it. Mayor Gonzales then asked for roll call. "YEAS," Gonzales, Green, McKerrigan, Shaver, and Schaub. "NAYS," None. Absent: None.

Regarding setting a policy for expenditures for pre authorization of City Council travel and participation in meetings, conferences, and conventions Mayor Gonzales stated he asked to have this on the agenda to create a policy for Council travel being similar to what the City of Scottsbluff staff uses. This is to authorize Council members to go to meetings with Council approval. During discussion there was confusion regarding item (d) on the resolution and the limit of expenditures of \$250.00 per month. Legal Counsel Hadenfeldt explained item (d) is for meals and nonalcoholic beverages at meetings between city staff and business and community leaders. It does not pertain to the League of Nebraska Municipality meetings. Council Member Shaver also commented the Resolution does not address attending the conference that you go down for; that was a concern brought up at the last meeting. Legal Counsel Hadenfeldt stated it does address that in item (1) of the Resolution. Council Member Green moved, seconded by Council Member Shaver to approve Resolution No. 20-04-01 setting a policy for expenditure for pre authorization of City Council travel and participation in meetings, conferences, and conventions. "YEAS," McKerrigan, Shaver, Green, Schaub, and Gonzales. "NAYS," None. Absent: None.

RESOLUTION NO. 20-04-01

WHEREAS, a public official or public employee is not authorized to use personnel, resources, property or funds under his or her official care or control other than in accordance with prescribed statutory, constitutional or regulatory procedures;

WHEREAS, the State of Nebraska, through the Local Government Miscellaneous Expenditures Act found at Neb. Rev. Stat. §13-2201 et seq., has authorized local governing bodies to set policy, through a resolution, to expend public funds for certain public purposes;

WHEREAS, the expenditure of public funds is a vital and important duty.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Scottsbluff, Nebraska:

1. The Mayor and City Council of Scottsbluff now adopt this uniform policy to authorize the expenditure of public funds for the payment or reimbursement of actual and necessary expenses incurred by elected and appointed officials, employees, or volunteers while attending educational workshops, conferences, training programs, official functions, hearings or meetings, whether incurred within or outside the boundaries of the City of Scottsbluff, Nebraska. The City Manager may give prior approval for any employees or volunteers to attend educational workshops, conferences, training programs, official functions, hearings or meetings. The Mayor and City Council now grant their prior approval for participation or attendance in the events listed above and for payment or reimbursement of actual and necessary expenses incurred by elected and appointed officials, employees or volunteers who actually attend and elected and appointed officials who report to the City Council the matters discussed in the events listed. Those expenses may include the following:

- a. Registration costs, tuition costs, fees or charges;
- b. Mileage at the rate allowed by IRS guidelines currently in effect at the time the travel is undertaken;
- c. Meals and lodging at a rate not exceeding applicable federal rate unless a fully itemized claim is submitted substantiating the costs actually incurred in excess of such rate and such additional expenses are expressly approved by the Mayor and City Council; and
- d. Meals and non-alcoholic beverages at meetings between city staff and business and community leaders, City Manager and/or staff and council members, where city business is clearly being discussed and conducted. Provided, however, the reimbursement or payment of actual and necessary expenditures in this regard shall not apply to the spouse or immediate family member of a public employee or public official if they are a business or community leader within the city. Provided further, the expenditures hereunder are limited to \$250.00 per month.

The City Manager is granted authority to approve any exceptions provided by the employees and reported to the Mayor and City Council.

2. Authorized expenditures under this resolution and uniform policy do not include expenditures for meals of paid members of a governing body or employees provided while such members or employees are attending a public meeting of the governing body unless such meeting is a joint public meeting with one or more other governing bodies.

3. The expenditure of public funds for non-alcoholic beverages provided to individuals attending public meetings of the governing body and non-alcoholic beverages and meals provided for any individuals provided while performing or immediately after performing relief, assistance, or support activities in emergency situations, including but not limited to, tornado, severe storm, fire or accident, shall be authorized. The expenditure of public funds for any volunteers during or immediately following their participation in any activity approved by the Mayor and City Council, including but not limited to, mowing parks, picking up litter, removing graffiti or snow removal.

4. The City of Scottsbluff, through its staff, is authorized to hold one recognition dinner each year for elected and appointed officials, employees, and volunteers of the City, including persons serving on local governmental boards or commissions. The maximum cost per person for such recognition dinner shall be fifty dollars (\$50.00).

5. In recognition of a council member's service no plaque, certificate or achievement, or item of value awarded to an elected or appointed official, employee, or volunteer of the City, including persons serving on local governmental boards or commissions, shall exceed two hundred dollars (\$200.00).

6. Nothing in this resolution and uniform policy shall authorize the expenditure of public funds to pay for any expenses incurred by a spouse of an elected or appointed official, employee or volunteer, unless the spouse is also an elected or appointed official, employee or volunteer of the local government.

7. Resolutions 95-5-22, 10-6-07 and 18-12-01 are repealed.

8. This Resolution shall become effective following its passage and approval.

Passed and approved on April 6, 2020.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk

Concerning the revision to the adopted budget statement for FY 2019-2020 Mayor Gonzales explained this is an action item to increase the amount into the LB840 fund. Council Member Shaver asked if this would just be changing the amount for this year through September. Legal Counsel Hadenfeldt answered yes, the amount that is budgeted; they do not have to spend the amount, it is just a

budgeted item. Council ultimately has the authority to make sure the project gets funded and Council budgets an amount for this fund every summer at the budget hearing.

During discussion, Council Member Green expressed concern we were exceeding over what was budgeted. Mayor Gonzales commented he understands the concern, but stated we are going to need all of our economic engine full throttle to help bring the economy up quickly and if we can do that by having some projects available, Council needs to be ready to do that. Council Member Shaver then expressed his apprehension, by stating, we need to consider the proposal of 90 days with no payments and no income from sales tax as most of the sales have been food. After discussion, Mayor Gonzales made a motion to amend the budget and increase the LB840 amount to \$500,000. Council Member Schaub seconded the motion. "YEAS," Schaub, Gonzales, and McKerrigan. "NAYS," Green and Shaver. Absent: None.

Regarding the item of deciding an approach to monitoring and attending the Scotts Bluff County Board of Commissioners Meetings, Mayor Gonzales explained this was a subject brought up at the last meeting by Council Member Shaver; it is on the agenda to discuss. Council Member Shaver started discussion by commenting if we are trying to do things as a region, we need to know what the other areas are doing. He went on to state he doesn't think it would be a bad idea to attend Gering's City Council meetings as well, commenting, we need to have people rotate through and come back and say what is going on with the other bodies, otherwise we do not know what is happening.

Council Member Schaub conveyed his feeling by stating we run for Scottsbluff City Council, we did not run for County Commissioner or Gering City Council; we don't need someone attending other meetings.

Mayor Gonzales added any council member is free to attend any meeting they choose, they are open public meetings, but he does not think a member needs to be there to speak on behalf of the City of Scottsbluff.

Council Member Green stated there have been elected individuals from Gering and Scotts Bluff County at Scottsbluff's meetings, he has never taken offense when they put in their two cents.

Council Member McKerrigan commented she thinks it is good, it shows we are all working as a team; if we want to cooperate and collaborate with these other groups we need to be involved.

After discussion, it was determined council members are free to attend other meetings as long as they attend on their behalf individually and are not representing the City of Scottsbluff.

Mr. Kuckkahn brought forth his report regarding Western Nebraska Economic Development's request to send an invitation for Regional Communities to participate in the new landfill project by stating a letter is being sent to surrounding communities asking them if they hold any interest in participating in the proposed new landfill. He added we did receive private bids from contractors that we are looking at as well, so this is not to suggest we are moving forward with the new landfill concept. The letter has gone out; this is just putting us in a position to make a decision in the future.

Regarding the report on extending LB840 loan recipient payments for 90 days, Mr. Kuckkahn explained he is the Director of the LB840 Committee and he has made the decision to extend payments for 90 days, after surveying the loan recipients. He stated virtually all of the recipients stated they needed some relief from making the loan payment; he has made a 90 day extension on all the loans and after that period a decision will be made on how to proceed.

Mr. Kuckkahn started discussion on adding retail enterprise to qualified business' in the LB840 plan by stating there has been quite a bit of discussion on this in the past resulting in not including retail; again given the circumstances he is simply opening up the door for any interest. If there is interest, he will go to the LB840 Committee to start the process and go through protocol. Council Member Shaver commented he does not see the reason to add retail; there are federal loans out there for people that need it. When you start getting into the retail end of it you start picking winners and losers for retail and it gets to be a nightmare. He does not see a reason for it. Ms. Starr Lehl agreed, stating, retail jobs are usually minimum wage and part time, they are not the type of jobs they are trying to attract. When you create the better paying jobs with benefits that is what creates the retail. She has, in the past, taken plans to the LB840 Committees and they do not support it. After discussion there was consensus by Council to not add retail business in the LB840 plan.

Concerning City Council's referral to the LB840 Committee requesting a committee recommendation to suspend pending requests and to target money locally, Mr. Kuckkahn started discussion by explaining one of the issues that have surfaced is how much money we spend outside of the City. He asked because of the current situation if there is interest in limiting approvals within the City of Scottsbluff only. Council Member Shaver stated he would like to focus primarily within Scottsbluff. He understands if there is other stuff outside of the area that impacts us; when you have a really large one that is not in Scottsbluff you hear back a lot from the citizens. A priority on Scottsbluff should absolutely be a part of it. That doesn't mean you can't ever go outside of Scottsbluff, but something that actually impacts Scottsbluff would be beneficial. Ms. Starr Lehl commented they try to look at Scottsbluff, but when there isn't a building for a particular business they do have to look elsewhere. She also added when you look at the money that comes into the LB840 fund 40-50% of that comes from outside of Scottsbluff; that is why they look at regional projects. Council Member Shaver asked what percentage of the given LB840 money out has been inside the City and what percentage has been outside the City at this point. Ms. Lehl stated they would have to look at that and bring it back to Council. Mr. Kuckkahn stated a report would be generated showing what percentage of the money has gone outside the City of Scottsbluff with relative ratios of money flowing back into the City. After discussion it was determined a report will be brought back for Council to make a decision regarding this item to then be conveyed back to the LB840 Committee.

Mr. Kuckkahn started discussion regarding decisions in response to Covid-19 explaining what the City has done so far. He stated we have backups for departments in place and ready to go; an example being three sanitation employees being exposed to the virus. He went on to explain employees in the transportation department are filling in on the routes until the sanitation employees can come back to work. Moving on, he asked to cancel the summer reading program, softball league and not open the pool or splash pad. He cited the reasons being as, there is lead time for the activities; softball has passed the time to sign up, expensive chemicals will need to be ordered for the pool as well as maintenance.

He went on to mention three other items that need discussion; recreational soccer, 23 Club and Legion baseball. He reiterated that the stories written on these activities should have stated they are suspended and not canceled, adding if the virus clears sooner that anticipated these activities can and should get up and running, but only if the 10 person rule is lifted. Council Member Shaver commented the summer reading program should not be canceled and be done online, instead of having to go to the library. With softball he thinks it is important to have things available for people especially since they have been locked in their homes for over a month. He thinks it is premature to be chopping all this stuff

right now. They should be able to sign up based on, if we can go forward we will do this and if we can do a shorter season we can still have it, otherwise we are going to kill our entire summer.

Mr. Kuckkahn stated he has contacted Erin Aschenbrenner, the library director and they are working on an online summer reading program to keep it alive. With softball, if Council accepts the notion we would not try to catch up with time lost due to scheduling and being able to hire umpires. He added teams cannot do three or four games a week. Council Member Shaver asked about the splash pad. With no chemicals being needed for that, he does not think that needs to be canceled. Mr. Kuckkahn agreed.

During discussion the subject of the Riverside Campground was brought up and if that would open. Council Member Shaver asked if the host could come and monitor the campground and do maintenance even when closed. Mr. Kuckkahn answered that is something that could be looked into, but we need to be careful when we open the facility.

After discussion Mr. Kuckkahn thanked Council for their input regarding the summer activities and reminded them we will need to see how the virus plays out for the upcoming months pertaining to if and when these activities can start.

Under Council Reports Mayor Gonzales stated the PADD meeting will be held by teleconference on Thursday at noon. Council Member Shaver stated the daily meetings for Covid-19 are held daily at 4:30 p.m. They require registration and he suggests if anyone wants to know what is going on it is a good way to keep in touch. Mayor Gonzales also added he has set in calls with the Governor Ricketts regarding Covid-19 and its impact on communities.

Council Member Green made the motion, seconded by Council Member McKerrigan to adjourn the meeting at 8:01 p.m., “YEAS,” Green, Schaub, Shaver, Gonzales, and McKerrigan. “NAYS,” None. Absent: None.

Mayor

Attest:

City Clerk
“SEAL”