

Kimball City Council
Regular Meeting
March 4, 2014

A regular meeting of the Mayor and City Council was convened in open and public session at 7:00 p.m. on March 4, 2014 at the City Council Chambers. Mayor Schnell and Council members Warner, Shields and Morrison were present. Council member Christensen was absent. Also present were City Administrator Ortiz, Police Chief Huff, City Clerk Russell and City Treasurer Strauch. The public was represented.

Notice of the meeting was given in advance by publication in the Western Nebraska Observer. Notice of the meeting was given to the members and a copy of their acknowledgement of receipt of notice and the agenda is on record at the office of the City Clerk. Availability of the agenda was communicated in advance notice and in the notice to the members. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public except as otherwise indicated.

Schnell called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Warner moved and Shields seconded to excuse Council member Christensen's absence from the March 4, 2014 meeting. On roll call vote, the following votes were recorded on the electronic voting board. Aye: Warner, Shields, and Morrison. Nay: None. Absent: Christensen. Motion carried.

Schnell acknowledged the posted Open Meetings Act poster.

Schnell opened discussion on the Recreation Director position agenda item request by the Kimball Recruitment Coalition. Shaun Evertson, chair of the steering committee for the Recruitment Coalition, spoke about this request. When Diana Engstrom made this request, the Recreation Committee of the Recruitment Coalition was brainstorming as to what they could do to coordinate the recreation activities in Kimball. Initially, they thought maybe there could be a way to work with the Event Center coordinator position and expand her role. Since then, the Recruitment Coalition has discussed this further and this may not be the way to go.

The purpose of the Recruitment Coalition is to try to recruit neighbors to come into Kimball. They would like to flesh the idea out a little more and like the idea of having a Recreation Director of Kimball. Their committee will meet with the Recreation Director in Pine Bluffs and do some more brainstorming. Evertson said it would be more of a community "bottom-up" approach. The basic idea is to try to see if activities could be brought together. He mentioned some ideas including, an electronic billboard outside of the Event Center advertising activities and events; a game room with pool tables, card tables and domino tables; a big screen television with a projector and screen that could be portable for summer movies in the park. Evertson commented on holding fundraisers to help purchase the items. He also commented on: having events held on

Saturday afternoons at the Event Center; upgrades to the weight room and new exercise equipment; upgrading the snack bar. Evertson said they hope to eventually see a way of putting something together that is not necessarily the responsibility of the City to pay.

Schnell briefed council members on the meeting Diana Engstrom had with the Park and Recreation Operating Board. The board members had requested that she approach the City Council with the request. Ortiz and Bowling solicited Recreation Director job descriptions from other communities. Schnell said this job was not budgeted and adding a staff member would have to be budgeted. Evertson commented that the Recruitment Coalition agreed that the job should be "outside of the City" and asked about the City funding part of it. No action was taken.

Warner moved and Shields seconded to remove the discussion and action on Professional Services Agreement for On-Call Environmental Services for the Kimball Underpass Renovation, STPB-71-2(110), SN 51242 from table. On roll call vote, the following votes were recorded on the electronic voting board. Aye: Warner, Shields, and Morrison. Nay: None. Absent: Christensen. Motion carried.

Ortiz indicated the City needs to enter into an agreement with HDR Engineering Inc. to establish a framework of how the Underpass Renovation will be established. This agreement is the negotiated agreement for the City to sign off to establish the framework for the public hearing. This is the first phase. Ortiz commented on design specifications and awarding the bid for construction of the underpass.

Susie Abramson, 408 S. Washington Street, inquired if the City is still in the time line to get the grant money and Schnell indicated it will be tight. Larry Stahla, 517 S. Monroe Street, inquired about the historical review and Ortiz commented that if a full-blown historical study has to be done, that will push the time line. However, a historical study is one of the components of the agreement.

Hadenfeldt said the individuals on the agreement are the ones who tell the City what they have to do for this program in order to be eligible for federal funds. It was indicated that there is approximately \$800,000 available.

There being no further discussion, Shields moved and Morrison seconded to authorize Mayor Schnell to sign the agreement and approved the following resolution.

**RESOLUTION
SIGNING OF A PROFESSIONAL NEPA SERVICES
AGREEMENT**

City of Kimball

Resolution No. 2014-02

Whereas: City of Kimball is developing a transportation project for which it intends to obtain Federal funds;

Whereas: City of Kimball as a sub-recipient of Federal-Aid funding is charged with the responsibility of expending said funds in accordance with Federal, State and local laws, rules, regulations, policies and guidelines applicable to the funding of the Federal-aid project;

Whereas: City of Kimball and HDR Engineering, Inc. wish to enter into a Professional NEPA Engineering Services Agreement to provide preliminary engineering services for the Federal-aid project.

Be It Resolved: by the City Council of the City of Kimball, Nebraska that:

James Schnell, Mayor of the City of Kimball, is hereby authorized to sign the attached construction engineering services agreement between the City of Kimball, Nebraska and HDR Engineering Inc.

NDOR Project Number: STPB-71-2(110) NDOR Control Number: 5124

NDOR Project Description: Kimball Underpass Renovation

Adopted this 4th day of March, 2014.

On roll call vote, the following votes were recorded on the electronic voting board. Aye: Warner, Shields, and Morrison. Nay: None. Absent: Christensen. Motion carried.

Schnell opened discussion on the contract with Exponential Engineering, Co. (EEC) for scope of services and purchase of components for South Sub-Station. Ortiz reminded council members of the information presented by Mike Mansour at a previous council meeting. Mansour had specifically outlined some of the improvements that are needed at the South Sub-Station. The consensus he received was to move forward with these improvements. In addition to the improvements, there are components that need to be purchased. Some of the components have a lead time of 12 to 18 weeks so they need to be ordered quickly. The Board of Public Works has recommended approval of the agreement and the purchase of the components.

The City is hoping to bond this project out and will start that project within the next few months. Some of the things that are not included on the list of components will be steel for the framework, the contract labor and some other minor components. Ortiz added that while this is being worked on, the power plant will have to generate and the cost of fuel and the cost of labor are also not included. It is hoped to build the new breaker first. Warner inquired about the total bond figure and Ortiz said \$850,000 to \$1 million.

Warner inquired if the money for the purchase of components has been budgeted. Ortiz commented that the Board of Public Works loaned \$250,000 to the CDA for design of the rail spur and that has been paid back. The City does have cash on hand, but it is planned to incorporate the amount in the bond in order to repay savings. Shields inquired about the transformer and Ortiz said that is not included in the purchase of components. The transformer is in good shape. However, if the Board of Public Works wishes to move forward with a new transformer, that would be approximately \$625,000.

The City is trying to improve the reliability of the electrical distribution system with going from a single breaker to a double breaker. Redundancy is important.

There being no further discussion, Morrison moved and Warner seconded to approve the contract with Exponential Engineering, Co. (EEC) for scope of services and authorize the Mayor to sign the contract. On roll call vote, the following votes were recorded on the electronic voting board. Aye: Warner, Shields, and Morrison. Nay: None. Absent: Christensen. Motion carried.

Morrison moved and Warner seconded to approve the purchase of components for the South Sub-Station in the amount of \$119,789.37. On roll call vote, the following votes were recorded on the electronic voting board. Aye: Warner, Shields, and Morrison. Nay: None. Absent: Christensen. Motion carried.

Bowling provided council members an update on Economic Development initiatives. He visited with representatives of five towns that have theaters: Imperial, Curtis, Burwell, Stuart, and Arnold. All of those theaters have switched over to a digital projector and the cost range to upgrade to digital is \$80,000 to \$120,000. Imperial theater is the only one owned and operated by the City. Curtis and Arnold theaters are run by non-profits. Stuart theater was donated to the City with the intent it has to be something for the kids. It is run by a non-profit. Burwell theater is privately owned. Bowling said that every theater group told him that if they were trying to run the theater for a profit, it would fail. However, all of the theaters he visited are very successful. Bowling got a lot of ideas to help make Kimball's theater better. Morrison inquired if the theater groups thought their theater was worthwhile and an asset to the community and Bowling said yes. All the groups were enthusiastic.

Warner inquired what rates were charged and Bowling said \$7.00 for children and \$8.00 for adults. Discussion was held on the monthly charge for utilities and Bowling indicated the theaters are only open on weekends which therefore keeps the utilities down. Morrison feels it would be a lot more profitable to be full three nights a week than be open seven nights a week with only a few patrons.

Bowling indicated that Billy Estes, from the Midwest Theater in Scottsbluff, said he would be more than willing to assist us. Warner inquired if the City would consider letting volunteers work on the theater and Schnell said the City would have to come up with a plan on what it going to be done.

Bowling provided a brief overview of the new Economic Development website.

The City Council reviewed the following items under the consent agenda:

1. Minutes from the February 18, 2014 joint meeting with Board of Public Works and February 18, 2014 regular meeting; and
2. Claims.

Morrison moved and Shields seconded to approve the consent agenda items as presented. On roll call vote, the following votes were recorded on the electronic voting

board. Aye: Schnell, Shields, and Morrison. Nay: None. Abstaining: Warner. Absent: Christensen. Motion carried.

Ortiz reported the Board of Public Works reviewed the utilities donated to entities. The largest amount was for the Visitors Center. Jo Caskey has a number of things in the works and it is planned to have an interlocal agreement at the next council meeting.

Ortiz reported that at the next Economic Development Committee meeting on March 11th, one of the things to be discussed is alternatives to the rail spur. The goal is to have a public hearing at the March 18th meeting to receive recommendations and input from the public.

Ortiz reported on the grant for the Event Center renovation and indicated he anticipates receiving word on the grant the middle of March. The City would have until the end of April to submit the design. Kim Baliman, Dawn Moeser and Brian Williams are on the steering committee. The focus is to have ADA compliant restrooms and also to make improvements to other areas of the facility. The goal is to establish estimates as well as ideas of what can be done down the road, i.e., centralized storage, redoing the ceiling in the Prairie Room.

Schnell commented that today was the last day to file for government seats. At this time, there is only one person running for two open seats on the City Council. He was hoping there would be more involvement.

Schnell reported that the new schools superintendent has established a very positive direction with his staff and students and he is doing a wonderful job.

The next regular City Council meeting is March 18, 2014.

There being no further business to come before the Council, Shields moved and Morrison seconded to adjourn at 8:08 p.m. On roll call vote, the following votes were recorded on the electronic voting board. Aye: Warner, Shields, and Morrison. Nay: None. Absent: Christensen. Motion carried.

James Schnell, Mayor

Rosemarie D. Russell, City Clerk

City of Kimball-City Council-General Claims-March 3, 2014-SourceGas, LLC-Gas Service-1,630.79; Jeremy J. Williams- Reimbursement-87.66; ALSCO-Supplies-108.41; Amazon-Supplies-152.56; C & M Air Cooled Engine, Inc.-Parts-497.75; Combined Utilities-Utilities-5,096.86; Combined Utilities-Transfer-797.71; Component Fabricators Inc.-Part-96.04;Consolidated Management Company-Meal Plan-115.25; Contractors Materials, Inc.-Parts-63.00; Fastenal Company-Supplies-21.27; Frank Implement Company-Part-57.62; Galls/Quartermaster-Supplies-439.95; Hometown Hardware-Supplies-528.26; Hotsy Equipment Co.-Supplies-321.05; Ideal Linen Supply, Inc.-Supplies-23.64; Inland Truck Parts Company-Parts-504.78; Interstate All Battery

2728

Center-Supplies-25.04; Kimball Auto Parts-Parts-29.65; Kimball Event Center-Rent-500.00; Kimball Service Center-Tire-77.00; L.W. Cartage Co.-Lot Rent-100.00; M.C. Schaff & Associates, Inc. -Professional Services-135.00; Miller Office Supply-Supplirs-61.82; Napa Auto Parts-Parts-209.08; Nebraska Department of Revenue-Refund-4.56; Nebraska Safety & Fire Equipment, Inc.-Fire Extinguisher Inspection-402.00; Nebraska Turfgrass Association-Dues-100.00; Pack Rat Enterprises-Garbage-100.00; Prairie Animal Hospital-Dog Pound-60.69; Prestige Flag -Supplies-765.99; Presto-X-Services-172.59; Sandberg Implement Inc.-Blades-214.93; Shopko Stores-Supplies-38.44; Staples-Supplies-121.72; Star-Herald Newspaper-Subscription-139.00; Stotz Equipment-Parts-356.85; The Right Impression-Signs-12.00; Western Nebraska Observer-Meeting Notices-183.81; Chad Wise-Golf Pro Compensation- 2916.00.

City of Kimball-Economic Development Claims-March 3, 2014-Wilson Bowling-Expense Report-531.10; Kimball County Treasurer-990/995 Split-500.00; The Economist-Subscription-85.00.