

OCTOBER 21, 2024 CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Fort Calhoun, Nebraska, was held in open and public session at 7:00, on Monday, October 21, 2024, at the Fort Calhoun Council Chamber, 110 S 14th St, in Fort Calhoun, Nebraska.

Notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by publication, said form of notice being a designated method for giving notice, an affidavit of publication being attached to these minutes.

Advance notice of this meeting was also given to the Mayor and all Council Members. The availability of the agenda was communicated in the advance notice and in the notice to the Mayor and Council Members.

In accordance with Section 84-1412 sub section eight (8) of the Reissue Revised State Statutes of the State of Nebraska 1943, as amended, one copy of all reproducible written material to be discussed is available to the public at this meeting for examination and copying.

Mayor Robinson stated persons wishing to address the Governing Body on an agenda item shall wait to be identified by the Presiding Officer; then, after stating their name and address for the record, may proceed to speak. No person, other than the Council and the person having the floor will be permitted to enter any discussion without the permission of the Presiding Officer. Remarks shall be limited to five minutes unless extended or limited and repetitive or cumulative remarks may be limited or excluded by the Presiding Officer.

Please note that the meeting minutes are not approved until the next regular City Council meeting.

On roll call, the following Council Members answered present: Andy Bowser, Bob Priksat, Nick Schuler, and John Kelly.

Mayor Robinson publicly stated to all in attendance that a current copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act was available for review and indicated the location of such copy in the room where the meeting was being held.

Mayor Robinson led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

With a quorum present, Mayor Robinson presided, and the clerk recorded the proceedings.

Member Priksat made a motion seconded by member Schuler to approve the following consent agenda: *September 16, 2024, Budget Hearing minutes, September 16, 2024, City Council minutes; Treasures Report for September; October 3, 2024 Park Committee minutes; August 26, 2024 Enhancement Committee minutes; September 25th and October 16th Christmas in Calhoun minutes; Maintenance Report; September 2024 Washington County Sheriff's Statistics.* With members Priksat, Schuler, Kelly, and Bowser voting "Aye", motion carried.

Mayor Robinson presented the October bills. Motion by Priksat second by Schuler to approve the following bills: ABE'S TRASH SERVICE, INC. - 325.75 - SER, ACCESS SYSTEMS LEASING - 366.84 - SER, ADVANTAGE LAWN CARE LLC - 875.00 - EXP, AFLAC - 118.95 - , 16.25 - , AMGL CPAS & ADVISORS - 5050.00 - PROF, BLUECROSS BLUESHIELD OF NE - 3741.58 - , CITY OF BLAIR - 3819.28 - UTL, CONOCO FLEET - 407.14 - FUEL, COX BUSINESS - 653.57 - UTL, CROUCH RECREATIONAL INC. - 2860.00 - CAPIMP, EFTPS - 1527.14 - , 357.16 - , 948.14 - , EMBRIS GROUP, LLC - 15942.50 - PROF, 8982.50 - PROF, 2307.50 - PROF, 11626.25 - PROF, EMC INSURANCE COMPANIES - 1601.58 - CAPIMP, ENTERPRISE MEDIA GROUP - 9.54 - SER, 208.29 - SER, 338.78 - SER, GATEWAY DEVELOPMENT CORP. - 3500.00 - DUES, HENTON TRENCHING, INC. - 408.30 - EXP, IDEAL PURE WATER - 32.25 - SER, INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE - 27.47 - TAX, JDW MIDWEST, LLC - 1909.49 - SER, JEO CONSULTING GROUP, INC. - 587.50 - PROF, 1175.00 - PROF, KAMB & C ENTERPRISES - 150.00 - SER, 500.00 - SER, LEAGUE OF NEBR. MUNICIPALITIES - 5431.00 - DUES, LOGOS PLUS - 778.00 - EXP, M.U.D. - 96.00 - UTL, MICHAEL TODD INDUSTRY SUPPLY - 316.50 - EXP, MUTUAL OF OMAHA - 18.00 - , NE DEPT REV -WASTE REDUC - 25.00 - , NE DEPT REV-LOTTERY TAX - 1312.00 - TAX, NE PUBLIC HEALTH ENV LAB - 515.00 - TEST, NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE - 421.07 - , NEBRASKA SALES TAX - 2722.00 - TAX, O.P.P.D. - 3650.61 - UTL, ONE CALL CONCEPTS, INC - 59.12 - SER, PAPIO-MISSOURI RIVER N. R. D. - 13955.77 - UTL, 1817.45 - UTL, POSTMASTER - 208.88 - EXP, ROCKMOUNT RESEARCH & ALLOYS INC - 776.04 - EXP, RVR BANK - 12921.73 - PYMT, TALBOT LAW OFFICE - 350.00 - PROF, GLEN PENDLETON - 2400.00 - EXP, THE AMERICAN FUNDS GROUP - 1335.24 - , VISA - 789.27 - EXP, WASHINGTON CO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE - 250.00 - DUES, WASHINGTON COUNTY SHERIFF - 6493.76 - SER, 7350.04 - SER, YOUNG & WHITE LAW OFFICES - 551.85 - PROF, Total – 134918.08; with members Bowser, Priksat, Schuler, and Kelly voting "Aye", motion carried.

At 7:04 p.m., Mayor Robinson stated in accordance with the published notice, it is now time to conduct the public hearing relative to hearing support, opposition, criticism, suggestions or observations relating to a request for the ADDITION OF A CATERING (SECONDARY) LIQUOR LICENSE APPLICATION FOR HANGOUT AT THE HORN LLC – LONGHORN BAR & GRILL, 101 S 14TH STREET, FORT CALHOUN, WASHINGTON COUNTY, NEBRASKA. With there being no public comments, questions or discussion, Mayor Robinson declared the public hearing closed at 7:04 p.m.

Member Schuler made a motion seconded by member Prieksat to approve the addition of a Catering (Secondary) Liquor License Application for Hangout at the Horn LLC – Longhorn Bar & Grill. With members Kelly, Bowser, Prieksat, and Schuler voting “Aye”, motion carried.

At 7:05 p.m., Mayor Robinson stated in accordance with the published notice, it is now time to conduct the public hearing relative to hearing support, opposition, criticism, suggestions or observations relating to a request for a CLASS D – BEER, WINE, SPIRITS OFF SALE ONLY LIQUOR LICENSE APPLICATION FOR TAYLOR OIL COMPANY INC – TAYLOR QUIK-PIK TAYLOR'S 13, 211 N 14TH STREET, FORT CALHOUN, WASHINGTON COUNTY, NEBRASKA. With there being no public comments, questions or discussion, Mayor Robinson declared the public hearing closed at 7:06 p.m.

Member Schuler made a motion seconded by member Kelly to approve the Class D – Beer, Wine, Spirits Off Sale Only Liquor License Application for Taylor Oil Company Inc – Taylor's 13. With members Schuler, Kelly, Bowser, and Prieksat voting “Aye”, motion carried.

At 7:08 p.m., Mayor Robinson stated in accordance with the published notice, it is now time to conduct the public hearing relative to hearing support, opposition, criticism, suggestions or observations relating to APPROVAL OF THE ACQUISITION OF EASEMENT AND FEE SIMPLE INTERESTS IN REAL PROPERTY BY PURCHASE OR EMINENT DOMAIN IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE CITY OF FORT CALHOUN'S MONROE STREET EXTENSION STREET IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT 2022 – 1 AND INVOLVING TAX LOTS 129 AND 131 AND ANY OTHER ASSERTED REAL PROPERTY OWNERSHIP INTERESTS AND/OR RIGHTS THAT THE OWNERS OF SAID TAX LOTS 129 AND 131 MAY HAVE OR ASSERT TO HAVE WITHIN AND/OR ADJOINING ANY OF THE AREAS INVOLVED WITH THE CITY OF FORT CALHOUN'S MONROE STREET EXTENSION STREET IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT 2022 – 1. There were no written comments. Lucas Billesbach, City Engineer, discussed the reasoning for the acquisition and the process. The owner of Tax Lots 129 and 131 states they have ownership. Steven Reed Smith, 204 N 16th St, (owner of Tax Lots 129 and 131) spoke against the acquisition on behalf of his family. Mayor Robinson declared the public hearing closed at 7:16 p.m.

Jenny Erikson with Jeanette Hunt Animal Shelter gave a presentation on how the animal shelter is working with the community of Fort Calhoun and requested \$10,000 annually for services provided. They are also seeking money from other communities throughout the county. The shelter was originally set up to provide services for animals in city limits of Blair and has grown throughout the county with an increase in surrenders, intake, abuse/neglect and lost animals. Council said they would have to look at their budget and table the request for later date.

Mike Rooks with Gateway Development gave an update. Housing is a big focus right now throughout the county and working on controlled growth plans in the communities. Placemaking and small businesses are also a priority.

Member Schuler made a motion seconded by Bowser to approve the request from the Enhancement Committee to close 15th Street at West Market Square Park on October 31st from 4:30 to 7:30 for the annual Trunk-or-Treat event. With members Prieksat, Schuler, Kelly, and Bowser voting “Aye”, motion carried.

Member Schuler made a motion second by Kelly to Pay Application No. 3 from NLC, LLC in the amount of \$79,267.41 for the Fort Calhoun Trail Extension Phase 3 & 4 project. With members Bowser, Prieksat, Schuler, and Kelly voting “Aye”, motion carried.

Lucas Billesbach, City Engineer, gave an update on the bidding schedule for the West Monroe Street Extension, Street Improvement District 2022-1. The plans were previously approved in March. They are currently working on acquiring last pieces of property and plan to being advertising in November and opening in December, and construction beginning in spring

Member Schuler made a motion seconded by member Kelly to approve the Law Enforcement Services Contract between Washington County and the City of Fort Calhoun. With members Kelly, Bowser, Prieksat, and Schuler voting “Aye”, motion carried.

Member Schuler made a motion seconded by member Kelly to approve the Lease Agreement between Washington County and the City of Fort Calhoun. With members Schuler, Kelly, Bowser, and Prieksat voting “Aye”, motion carried.

Member Schuler made a motion seconded by member Kelly to approve the purchase of a new wastewater grinder at the pump house for \$49,650.00. With members Prieksat, Schuler, Kelly, and Bowser voting "Aye", motion carried.

After a vote, Mayor Robinson stated for the record, the motion was made, seconded and carried for the council to go into closed session, necessary for the protection of the public interest, to discuss property negotiations at 8:01 p.m.

Mayor Robinson declared the meeting in open session at 8:07 p.m. No action was taken.

Member Prieksat made a motion seconded by member Kelly to approve the acquisition of real property interests for the Monroe Street Extension Project as agreed to with property owners via the City's Acquisition Agent and to further approve implementation of eminent domain for the remaining required property interests subject to further good faith negotiations. With members Bowser, Prieksat, and Kelly voting "Aye", Schuler abstaining, motion carried.

Following a motion and vote, Mayor Robinson declared the meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Mitch Robinson, Mayor

ATTEST: Alicia Koziol, City Clerk