

January 14, 2021

Notice of the meeting was given in advance by publication in the Sheridan County Journal Star, the designated method for giving notice as shown by the affidavit of publication on file in the City Clerk's office. Agendas of the meeting were simultaneously given to the Mayor and all members of the Council. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

A meeting of the City Council of the City of Gordon was called to order at 6:00 p.m., January 14, 2021 in the Council Chambers of the City Auditorium. The Vice-Mayor noted the location of the Open Meetings Laws in the back of the room.

Present: Bounous, Evans, Paul, and Grant.

Absent: Russell.

Motion by Evans, seconded by Bounous, to approve the minutes of the December 10, 2020 meeting. Ayes: Evans, Paul, Grant, and Bounous.

Motion by Bounous, seconded by Evans to approve the November 2020 Treasurer's Report. Ayes: Paul, Grant, Bounous, and Evans.

Motion by Paul, seconded by Bounous to approve the December 2020 Treasurer's Report. Ayes: Grant, Bounous, Evans, and Paul.

Motion by Evans, seconded by Paul to approve the bills. Ayes: Bounous, Evans, Paul, and Grant.

Abbreviations for this legal: EX, Expense; FE, Fee; GR, Groceries; MI, Mileage; RE, Reimburse; RPT, Report; SA, Salaries; SE, Services; SU, Supplies.

PAID BILLS

EFTPS	Ally	EX	\$562.39
EFTPS	Ally	EX	\$523.52
EFTPS	Fleet Services	SU	\$929.57
EFTPS	FNBO	FE	\$345.05
EFTPS	NE Dept of Revenue	RE	\$4,224.69
EFTPS	NE State Fire Marshall	FE	\$120.00
EFTPS	Xerox	EX	\$356.70
EFTPS	Xerox	EX	\$91.34
RS1273	Grocery Mart	SU	\$12.02
RS1274	Fuel Grill	SU	\$600.00
INS1092	Travelers	EX	\$4,177.00
INS1093	Security 1st Insurance	EX	\$767.50
50006	Payroll Fund	SA	\$32,797.32
50013	Airport Authority	RE	\$173.38
50014	Airport Bond Savings	RE	\$146.69
50015	Amazon.com	SU	\$126.67
50016	Ingram	SU	\$191.65

50017	Infrastructure Sales Tax MM	EX	\$500.00
50018	Johnson Hardware Co	SE	\$39.40
50019	JP Cooke Co	SU	\$61.50
50020	Library Petty Cash	RE	\$43.10
50021	NWRPPD	SE	\$2,401.28
50022	Star-Herald	SU	\$289.95
50023	Special Assessment Bond Fund	RE	\$235.79
50024	Xerox	EX	\$118.55
50025	City of Gordon	RE	\$76.44
50026	Michael Suhy	RE	\$23.56
50027	Payroll Fund	SA	\$34,316.55
50028	Markee Fish	RE	\$36.10
50029	City of Gordon	RE	\$89.46
50030	Carol Balius	RE	\$74.44
50031	Productivity Plus Acct	SU	\$199.73
50032	DAS State Accounting	FE	\$77.00
50033	WPS Govt Health Admin	RE	\$349.23
50034	Madison National Life	EX	\$76.44
50035	NE State Fire Marshall	FE	\$36.00
50036	NE Law Enforcement Tr Ctr	FE	\$145.00
50037	Perpetual Care Fund	RE	\$400.00
50038	Marchelle Paul	RE	\$80.00
50039	BH Energy	SE	\$1,899.65
50040	USPS	SE	\$169.40
50041	Verizon	SE	\$80.02
EFTPS	Quill	SU	\$132.16
INS1095	NE Assigned Risk Pool	EX	\$19.00
50042	BC/BS	EX	\$14,570.31
EFTPS	National Pen	SU	\$84.60

Total January Paid Bills **\$102,770.15**

UNPAID BILLS

50053	QLT	SE	\$19.55
50054	Dan Bishop	RE	\$50.00
50055	Bierschbach	SU	\$202.57
50056	Shelby Colwell	RE	\$50.00
50057	Tony Bishop	RE	\$50.00
50058	City of Chadron	EX	\$45.00
50059	Consolidated Management	SE	\$63.51
50060	Customized Billing	SE	\$300.00
50061	Chadron ACE Hardware	SU	\$32.70
50062	Croell	SU	\$387.81
50063	Contractors Materials	SU	\$264.75
50064	Hannah Calkins	RE	\$50.00
50065	Joe Carr	RE	\$50.00
50066	Emergency Medical Products	SU	\$183.19

50067	Estate of Mary Jean McGaughey	EX	\$75.00
50068	First National Bank of Omaha	SU	\$683.05
50069	JD Financial	SU	\$1,285.84
50070	Scott Fisher	RE	\$50.00
50071	Great Plains Communications	SE	\$1,630.81
50072	General Fund Money Market	EX	\$12,000.00
50073	Hinn's Auto Supply	SU	\$921.37
50074	Homestead	SU	\$94.95
50075	Clay Heath	RE	\$50.00
50076	Gardner, Loutzenhiser & Ryan	SE	\$5,701.69
50077	Loup Valley Lighting	SU	\$1,125.00
50078	MPC Heating & Cooling	SE	\$3,089.55
50079	Brandon Mika	RE	\$50.00
50080	Mid States Organized Crime	FE	\$100.00
50081	Macumber Plumbing	SE	\$130.00
50082	Joe McGough	RE	\$50.00
50083	NPPD	SE	\$5,936.38
50084	NE Total Office	SU	\$210.13
50085	NW Community Action	EX	\$192.93
50086	Verizon Connect	SE	\$80.95
50087	One Call Concepts	SE	\$93.57
50088	Otte Feeds	SU	\$26.00
50089	Sam Piper	SE	\$50.00
50090	Perpetual Care Fund	RE	\$300.00
50091	Petty Cash	RE	\$162.35
50092	Shane Pascale	RE	\$50.00
50093	NE Public Health Env Lab	SE	\$562.00
50094	Glen Spaugh	RE	\$50.00
50095	Dan Sasse	RE	\$50.00
50096	Stockmen's Drug	SU	\$136.76
50097	Sheridan County Journal Star	SE	\$458.90
50098	Smith, King, Simmons, & Conn	SE	\$1,057.50
50099	True Value	SU	\$281.47
50100	Triangle Electric	SE	\$1,656.20
50101	USA Bluebook	SU	\$371.23
50102	Rocky Mountain Air Solutions	SE	\$385.20
50103	Westco	SU	\$2,011.16
50104	Water Reserve Fund	EX	\$1,716.00
50105	Water/Sewer Bond Fund	EX	\$17,200.00
50106	Water/Sewer Bond Fund	EX	\$5,500.00
50107	Kevin Wolkins	RE	\$50.00
50108	Keith Wolkins	RE	\$50.00

Total January Unpaid Bills	\$67,425.07
Total January Paid Bills	\$102,770.15
Total January Bills	\$170,195.22

Jerry Kearns was present to discuss the condition of the trees on Main Street. Mr. Kearns provided council with pictures that showed the damage the trees are causing to the sidewalks. When the trees were originally planted during the Downtown Improvement Project, the plan was to remove them every eight to ten years and replant them in the city parks. The removed trees would then be replaced with smaller trees to avoid any damage to the sidewalks. Currently, there are at least seven trees which are more than twenty years old and are causing damage to the sidewalks. An even larger concern to downtown business owners is that most basements in the downtown district were built with sandstone, and as the trees continue to grow, the roots could breach the basement foundations causing damage to the buildings. Public Works Director Dan Bishop was not able to be present but compiled a list of pros and cons. The pros of removing the trees included easier snow removal, no sidewalk damage, and the elimination of needed maintenance for the trees. The biggest con would be the impact on the overall appearance of Gordon's Downtown District. Valerie Mann, First National Bank, was present at the meeting and offered to look into possible grants to replace the trees with something that would add to the aesthetics of downtown. Councilman Bounous voiced concerns about the cost of the removal and the needed repairs. After some discussion, motion by Evans, seconded by Paul to remove all of the trees downtown and to repair all sidewalk damage that has been caused. Ayes: Evans, Paul, Grant, and Bounous. Council will be given the plans for the removal of the trees at a future council meeting.

Motion by Evans, seconded by Bounous to approve the application by Desirae McLaughlin for the Gordon Volunteer Rescue Squad and to thank her for her service. Ayes: Paul, Grant, Bounous, and Evans.

Motion by Bounous, seconded by Paul to allow Mayor Russell to sign the Radon Action Month Proclamation. Ayes: Grant, Bounous, Evans, and Paul.

PROCLAMATION Radon Action Month

WHEREAS, radon is a colorless, odorless, radioactive gas that may threaten the health of citizens and their families;

WHEREAS, radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer in the U.S.;

WHEREAS, radon is the leading cause of lung cancer in non-smokers;

WHEREAS, the National Academy of Sciences estimates that up to 21,000 lung cancer deaths occur in the United States each year;

WHEREAS, radon is found in one in 15 homes across the U.S. have elevated radon levels;

WHEREAS, any home in Gordon may have elevated levels of radon (even if other homes in the same neighborhood do not);

WHEREAS, testing for radon is simple and inexpensive;

WHEREAS, identified radon problems can be fixed;

WHEREAS, Panhandle Public Health Department, the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency are supporting efforts to encourage Americans to test their

homes for radon, have elevated levels of radon reduced, and have new homes built with radon-resistant features.

NOW THEREFORE, the Mayor and City Council of the City of Gordon do hereby proclaim January 2021 as Official Radon Action Month in Gordon, Nebraska. In recognition of the importance of testing homes for radon, I hereby proclaim the month of January, 2021 as

National Radon Action Month,

And, I urge every member of the community to test their homes by contacting the Panhandle Public Health District at 308-487-3600 ext 108 to request a free radon test kit.

Dated this 14th day of January, 2021.

/s/ Nancy I Russell
Nancy I Russell
Mayor, City of Gordon

Motion by Paul, seconded Evans to appoint City Manager Glen Spaugh as the city's Representative to the Panhandle Area Development District and to appoint Vice-Mayor Kelly Grant as the Alternate. Ayes: Bounous, Evans, Paul, and Grant.

Motion by Paul, seconded by Bounous, to appoint City Manager Glen Spaugh as the city's Representative to the Solid Waste Agency of Northwest Nebraska and Vice-Mayor Kelly Grant as the Alternate. Ayes: Evans, Paul, Grant, and Bounous.

Motion by Evans, seconded by Paul to approve the NE Department of Transportation Standardized System of Annual Reporting (SSAR) completed by Street Superintendent Dan Bishop and to allow Mayor Russell to sign the SSAR. Ayes: Paul, Grant, Bounous, and Evans.

Motion by Bounous, seconded by Evans to allow Mayor Russell to sign the NE Department of Transportation 2020 Certificate of Compliance. Ayes: Grant, Bounous, Evans, and Paul.

City Manager Glen Spaugh has been working with Valerie Mann, Gordon Community Development Corporation (GCDC), to facilitate a trade of properties. Currently, the GCDC owns the property where the Moore Softball field is located (north of Superfoods) and the City of Gordon owns empty lots at the corner of East 4th and North Elm. The GCDC would possibly work with a developer to build some type of housing on the empty lots if they can acquire them. After consulting with City Attorney Jamian Simmons and the League of NE Municipalities, it was decided that the entities should not trade the properties, but should buy them from each other. After some discussion, motion by Bounous, seconded by Evans to move forward with the purchase of the softball field property from the Gordon Community Development Corporation for \$5,000 and to sell the empty lots on N Elm street to the Gordon Community Development Corporation for \$5,000. Ayes: Bounous, Evans, Paul, and Grant. City Manager Spaugh will work with City Attorney Jamian Simmons to facilitate this sale and purchase.

City Manager Spaugh presented council with his January Manager's Report. No action was taken on any of the items in the report, which included:

1. The Choice Gas selection period is March 18 – April 22.
2. There are several bills and Constitutional amendments before the NE Legislature right now that could impact the city. Council was give a list of these bills and amendments.
3. Mike & Sherry Smith generously donated \$10,000 to the city for the purchase of a new handicapped ramp and a new chlorinator for the swimming pool. Council wishes to extend their sincere thanks to Mike & Sherry Smith. Their generous donation will help to facilitate the re-opening of the Gordon swimming pool this summer.

With no further business, motion by Paul, seconded by Grant to adjourn at 7:30 pm. Ayes: Bounous, Evans, Paul, and Grant.

/s/ Kim Buchan
City Clerk

/s/ Nancy I Russell
Mayor

I, the undersigned, City Clerk for the City of Gordon, Nebraska hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the proceedings had and done by the Mayor and Council on January 14, 2021 that all of the subjects included in the foregoing proceedings were contained in the agenda for the meeting kept continuously current and available for inspection at the office of the City Clerk; that such subjects were contained in said minutes of the Mayor and Council of the City of Gordo from which the foregoing proceedings were written from 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 of the time and place of said meeting and the subjects to be discussed at said meeting.

/s/ Kim Buchan
City Clerk