City of Minden
P.O. Box 239, 325 N. Colorado
Minden, Nebraska 68959

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The Christmas City
Minden NEBRASKA

Minutes of Council Meeting
City of Minden, Nebraska
May 4, 2020

The City Council of the City of Minden, Nebraska, met on this day at 6:00 p.m. in a regular session via Zoom per Governor Rickett's Executive Order No. 20-003, pursuant to advance notice of said meeting simultaneously transmitted to all members of the Council and to the public as shown by the copy thereof posted in the Minden City Hall, Outside the Minden City Hall, First Bank & Trust Co., Minden Exchange Bank & Trust Co., and the Post Office. A copy of the notice is on file in the office of the City Clerk.

Mayor Griess called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The following City Council members were present: Larry Evans, Teresa Sumstine, Bob Carlson, and Roger Jones. The following City Officials were present: Mayor Ted Griess, City Administrator Matt Cederburg, City Attorney Tom Lieske, and City Clerk Abbey Jordan.

All proceedings hereinafter were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

After roll was called, Mayor Griess led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Then Griess made the following statement:

> "Pursuant to the Open Meetings Act and Public Records Law Requirements a current copy of the Open Meetings Act is posted for public inspection on the east wall of the Council Chambers. In addition, for public inspection, there is located on the table to the south of the chairs in the Council Chambers, a copy of the Council packet that was distributed to the members of the Council prior to this meeting. The City Council will take public comments on an agenda item if it is deemed necessary. Please state your name and address prior to commenting."

Agenda Item #3, Mayoral Announcements. Griess thanked all the Firefighters and stated that May 4th is International Firefighters Day. Griess also thanked Nick Benson and the Tree Board for planting 4 trees at the Cemetery on Arbor Day.

Agenda item #4, The following items were listed under the agenda item "**consent agenda**" for this meeting:

a. Consider Approval of Minutes of Previous City Council Meetings
b. Consider Approval of Bills & Claims for this Council Meeting
c. Consider Acceptance of Excused Absence of Mayor or Council Member(s).
d. Consider Reports that are Enclosed in the Council Packets for This Council Meeting

The following bills and claims were submitted for approval under the "consent agenda" and are on file in the office of the City Clerk:

911 Custom 2303.68, A. Jordan 18.19, Dutton Lainson Co 1371.50, Electric Pump 619.79, First Bank & Trust Co 4874.16, Fyr-Tek, Inc. 261.35, Grafix Shoppe 246.94, Hawkins Water Treatment 1973.48, Iimc 170.00, John Deere Financial 8.38, Ke Co Treasurer 5100.00, Lieske, Lieske & Ensz P. C., Llo 2800.75, Maguire Iron Inc 5800.00, Mh Equipment Company 650.25, Mid-Nebraska Aggregate, Inc 2158.80, Miller & Associates 9311.30, Minden Exchange Bank & Trust C 6654.13, Minden Lumber & Concrete Co. 691.77, Minden Utility Dept. 3751.47, Municipal Supply-Nebraska 560.91, Nebraska Truck Center, Inc. 9723.56, Northern Safety & Industrial 114.77, Nphe 18.00, Olsson Associates 148.32, Pavers Inc 1795.50, Presto X Co. 109.00, Sandry Fire Supply Llc 29.45, Steve Shearer 40.00, The Minden Courier 848.00, Verizon Wireless 884.39, Village Cleaners Inc 252.50.

Evans motioned to approve the consent agenda and Jones seconded. On roll call, the following voted aye: Evans, Sumstine, Carlson, and Jones.

Agenda Item #5, Approval of Preliminary Plat for BC Estates in Kearney County, Nebraska; a subdivision being part of the North Half of the Northeast Quarter (N ½ NE ¼) of Section Twenty-Four (24), Township Six (6) North, Range Fifteen (15) West of the Sixth Principal Meridian, Kearney County, Nebraska

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Trenton Snow, Land Surveyor, confirmed that the area would need cleaned up and then it would be 2 buildable lots.

Carlson motioned to approve the Preliminary Plat for BC Estates and Jones seconded. On roll call, the following voted aye: Sumstine, Carlson, Jones. Absent and not voting: Evans. Motion carried.

Agenda Item #6, Consider Approval of Minor Subdivision for Lots 10, 11, 12, Block 4, Pearson's Addition to the City of Minden, Kearney County, Nebraska for Bethany Home, Inc.

Thomas Lieske stated that the City Code 74-132 does not allow a Minor Subdivision with the proposed dimensions and area.

No action taken.

Agenda Item #7, Discussion concerning backyard chickens per Agenda Item Request.

Ann Shearer, 722 E 2nd, and Jadia Crowell, 244 N Brown, expressed the benefits of having backyard chickens; eggs, responsibility for the younger generations, insect control, 4-H projects, etc.

Griess reviewed the previous history of discussing chickens in 2012 and October and November of 2019. He stated that the communities that allow chickens have an animal control officer. Griess was also concerned with the additional responsibility of the City's police officers.

Brad Butler, police chief, stated that specific wording would be needed if the council were to approve this concerning restrictions and inspections. Butler was concerned about going onto private property for compliance checks and inspections for complaints; and the added responsibility to the Police Department.

Shearer recommended hens only and 6 per property. Also, hens in 4-H are held to a certain code or they forfeit premiums. Shearer said that if limited to 6 birds, then they wouldn't be a for profit situation and most likely pets.

Sumstine would like to see the proposed ordinance before moving forward. She would like to see clipped wings, inspection procedures and how to handle complaints written into it. Specifically concerned about the legal issues of going onto private property. Also would like to see more citizen interest before pursuing.

Jones agrees with Butler and Sumstine that the ordinance would need to be extremely specific. Jones is also concerned with the legal right of going onto private property. Lieske stated that he would work with City staff to draft something when requested to do so and it would address these legalities. Sumstine also wanted to see regulations on chicken houses, feeding, cleaning, etc. Shearer would like to help with the drafting of the ordinance.

Griess stated that he is not in favor of backyard chickens due to the overburdening to the police depart with the added responsibility.

Carlson is concerned about chickens opening the door for other animals inside city limits. Jones agreed. Crowell stated there are space requirements for animals such as goats, pigs, etc. She recommended a cage requirement for chickens.

Sumstine motioned to review backyard chickens in 6 months. Motion died due to lack of a second.

No action taken.

Agenda Item #8, Public Comments. No public comments were made.

Agenda Item #9, Adjournment.

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Evans motioned to adjourn at 6:32 pm and Jones seconded. On roll call, the following voted aye: Evans, Sumstine, Carlson, Jones. Meeting adjourned.

/s/ Ted Griess
Ted Griess, Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Abbey Jordan
Abbey Jordan, City Clerk

(SEAL)