

City of Minden

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

phone 308.832.1820
fax 308.832.1949
www.MindenNebraska.org



Minutes of Council Meeting City of Minden, Nebraska September 5, 2023

The City Council of the City of Minden, Nebraska, met on this day at 6:00 p.m. in regular session in the Council Chambers, 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 Evans called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The following City Council members were present: Jarvis Kring, Teresa Sumstine, Jack Yant, and Alyssa Schneider. The following City Officials were present: City Attorney Andrew Olson, Mayor Larry Evans, City Administrator Michael Krings 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, Evans led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Then Evans 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, Council Announcements. Evans announced that there will be a special meeting on September 25th at 6pm in the council chambers. M. Krings stated that this will be for the public hearing and final council approval of the budget before submitting for the September 30th due date. Evans also said that on Saturday there was a lot of activity and that was nice to see. The Junction 6/10 had their car show, there was 181 cars registered along with the club’s car. There was also a Cross Country meet at the Country Club.

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 excluding the Police Department
- 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
- e. Consider Approval of Volunteer Firefighter, Jensen Schulz
- f. Consider Approval of Special Designated Liquor Permits for Windmill Studios for October 14, 2023 from 12 pm to 1 am at the Kearney County Fairgrounds for a Reception.
- g. Consider Approval of Special Designated Liquor Permits for Windmill Studios for October 28, 2023 from 12 pm to 1 am at the Kearney County Fairgrounds for a Reception.
- h. Consider Approval of Special Designated Liquor Permits for Pistoleros Bar & Mexican Grill and Event Center for October 7, 2023 from 5 pm to 12 am at the Kearney County Fairgrounds for a Quinceanera.

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Arbor Day Foundation--Fees 10.00, Atlas Automation Llc--Repairs 1,034.75, Black Hills Energy--Utilities 48.22, Construction Rental, Inc.--Supplies 248.90, Core & Main Lp--Supplies 331.73, Dana F Cole & Company, Llp--Fees 1,000.00, Danko Emergency Equip. Co--Supplies 1,113.35, D. Graham--Uniforms 176.54, Department Of Environment And Energy--Training 80.00, Dier,Osborn & Cox, P.C., L.L.O--Legal 750.00, Donkey Towing & Transfer Llc--Fees 555.00, Eakes Office Plus--Supplies 135.86, Ellis Wheeler--Supplies 378.61, F. Rogers--Cleaning 537.50, Fyr-Tek, Inc.--Supplies 2,754.36, Great Plains Communications--Utilities 146.84, Heiman Fire Equipment--Supplies 1,425.98, Icon Enterprises, Inc.--Fees 1,207.50, Industrial Process Technology--Infrastructure Repair 32,458.00, Jeffrey J Collison--Fees 4,326.00, Ke Co Treasurer--Fees 5,516.66, Kearney Co. Clrk Myra Johnson--Fees 16.00, Landmark Implement Carquest--Supplies 128.74, M. Carr--Training 200.00, Menards Of Kearney--Supplies 145.82, Miller & Associates--Tech/Engineering 262.50, Miller Abstract & Title Co.--Economic Development 75,439.00, Minden Exchange Bank & Trust C--Financing 6,050.40, Minden Utility Dept.--Utilities 4,819.74, Minden Volunteer Fire Dept--Fees 6,000.00, Nphe--Fees 503.00, Olsson Associates--Tech/Engineering 34,149.41, Pony Express Ford--Repairs 145.00, Presto X Co.--Fees 143.28, Protex Central Inc.--Fees 139.00, Revenue Bond Payment Account--Fees 13,850.00, R. Marshall--Training 232.33, Usa Blue Book--Supplies 102.81, Verizon Wireless--Utilities 707.67, Village Cleaners Inc--Cleaning 206.17, 8-25-23 Payroll \$56,347.78.

Sumstine asked about the picture from Olssons about the alley. M. Krings stated that they had some sealer on the wall and are getting ready to put the concrete back.

Yant motioned to approve the consent agenda and Sumstine seconded. On roll call, the following voted aye: J. Kring, Sumstine, Yant, and Schneider. Motion carried.

Agenda Item #5, Consider Approval of Police Department's Bills & Claims for this Council Meeting.

Sumstine motioned to approve the Police Department's Bills & Claims for this Council Meeting and Schneider seconded. On roll call, the following voted aye: Sumstine, Yant, and Schneider. Abstain: J. Kring. Motion carried.

Agenda Item #6, Public Forum

No action taken.

Agenda Item #7, Consider Approval of Ordinance Amending Section 82-3 of the Minden Municipal Code Concerning Stop Signs and Signals, Second Reading.

Yant introduced Ordinance 1283 for its second reading.

ORDINANCE NO. 1283

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 82, ARTICLE I, OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF THE CITY OF MINDEN, KEARNEY COUNTY, NEBRASKA, BY ADDING SECTIONS 82-3 (m) and 82-3 (n), AS THE SAME RELATES TO STOP SIGNS AND SIGNALS WITHIN THE CITY OF MINDEN, KEARNEY COUNTY, NEBRASKA; AND PROVIDING FOR THE PUBLICATION OF THIS ORDINANCE IN PAMPHLET FORM.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MINDEN, KEARNEY COUNTY, NEBRASKA.

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Section 1. That Section 82-3(m) be added to the Municipal Code of the City of Minden, Kearney County, Nebraska, to read as follows:

Section 82-3(m). That a stop sign shall be placed on the north bound, east bound, south bound, and west bound approaches at 3rd Street and Yates Avenue in the city.

Source: C.O. Ord No. 1283, 09/05/2023.

Section 2. That Section 82-3(n) be added to the Municipal Code of the City of Minden, Kearney County, Nebraska, to read as follows:

Section 82-3(n). That a stop sign shall be placed on the west bound approach at 8th Street and Minden Avenue in the city.

Source: C.O. Ord No. 1283, 09/05/2023.

Section 3. That any other ordinance or section passed and approved prior to the passage, approval and publication or posting of this ordinance and in conflict with its provisions is hereby repealed.

Section 4. This ordinance shall be known as Ordinance No. 12XX and shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage, approval and publication according to law.

Passed and approved this 8th day of September, 2023.

/s/ Larry Evans
Larry Evans, Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Abbey Jordan
Abbey Jordan, City Clerk
(SEAL)

Schneider seconded. On roll call, the following voted aye: J. Kring, Sumstine, Yant, and Schneider. Motion carried.

Sumstine motioned to waive the third readings and Schneider seconded. On roll call, the following voted aye: J. Kring, Sumstine, Yant, and Schneider. Motion carried.

Yant motioned to adopt Ordinance 1283 by title and Sumstine seconded. On roll call, the following voted aye: J. Kring, Sumstine, Yant, and Schneider. Motion carried.

Agenda Item #8, Consider Approval of the 2023-2024 Fiscal Year Employee Pay Plan.

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M. Krings went over the Employee Pay Plan. He stated that employee evaluations will be completed by Department Heads and Management to place each employee in the correct step in each position based mostly on experience. He also said that this will be presented to council each year and a potential cost of living that will adjust the amounts. The steps will be moved by merit on the performance evaluation. Sumstine asked if there is a new minimum wage? M. Krings stated that this will not necessarily change on minimum wage unless there is a wage that is below the increased minimum wage. He also stated that there will be an annual review comparing wages to other towns in the state. He stated that everyone will be looking at an increase in wages. Evans stated that this is not for seasonal employees. Schneider asked for clarification on the step increase. M. Krings stated that there will be a performance evaluation that is the same for each employee to determine if a step increase is applied. He also stated that once an employee reaches the max step there will be a service award to be determined. M. Krings stated that there were second positions created on purpose for employees that have extra certificates to move up.

Sumstine motioned to approve the 2023-2024 Fiscal Year Employee Pay Plan and Yant seconded. On roll call, the following voted aye: Sumstine, Yant, and Schneider. Abstain: J. Kring. Motion carried.

Agenda Item #9, Consider Approval of a Cashier's Check for \$75,439.00 for the Purchase of Lot 1, Block 14, Original Town, Minden, Kearney County, Nebraska to Miller Abstract & Title Company.

Yant motioned to approve the Cashier's Check for \$75,439.00 for the Purchase of Lot 1, Block 14, Original Town, Minden, Kearney County, Nebraska to Miller Abstract & Title Company. Schneider seconded. On roll call, the following voted aye: J. Kring, Sumstine, Yant, and Schneider. Motion carried.

Agenda Item #10, Consider Approval to Move Forward with the Employee Cafeteria Plan as an Employee Benefit.

Jordan stated that this is a program that there will be not City match of funding. This allows employees to set aside money to be used for daycare and medical expenses. The funds do need to be used by the end of each year or the employee loses them. Jordan stated she is not sure how this works but the Auditors, Dana Cole will help with this and the setup. She stated that this will be a set amount that will be taken out each paycheck from an employee that chooses to enroll. Sumstine asked how this will be reported. M. Krings and Jordan stated that this will show on the W-2. There is a max amount of \$5,000 that each employee can have deducted for each. Evans stated that a previous job had a grace period for the end of the year. Schneider stated that the school currently has a date in September as a cutoff for expenses. It was discussed that documentation would need to be submitted before reimbursement.

Sumstine motioned to move forward with the Employee Cafeteria Plan as an employee benefit and Yant seconded. On roll call, the following voted aye: Sumstine, Yant, and Schneider. Abstain: J. Kring. Motion carried.

Agenda Item #11, Budget Presentation.

M. Krings presented the 2023-2024 budget to council. He stated that the final approval will be on the 25th, however the budget will be sent to the paper for publishing on the 14th and encouraged council members to stop in or to call with any questions prior to that.

Sumstine asked about the reimbursement for the purple street lights. Jordan stated that 3 batches have been replaced, but no reimbursement has been received yet. M. Krings stated that we are still working on this. Yant asked for clarification that NPPD comes and replaces this. M. Krings stated that currently NPPD takes care of all electrical items. With the utilities department now being fully staffed, they are looking into what needs to be done for the City to be able to take over some of these items.

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Jordan explained the bonds. She stated that there are currently 6 bonds. Two are paid with property taxes. Two are paid by enterprise funds with funds set aside each month. The final two are paid by the infrastructure sales tax. The Bond Anticipation Notes are a part of this and will issue the bonds by the end of 2023. After review, this bond can be paid by infrastructure sales tax allowing the City to keep the tax asking amount down not increasing property taxes. The CRA has pledged the lot sales to pay for the bonds.

Agenda Item #12, Adjournment

Yant motioned to adjourn at 7:06 pm and Sumstine seconded. On roll call, the following voted aye: J. Kring, Sumstine, Yant, and Schneider. Motion carried.

/s/ Larry Evans
Larry Evans, Mayor

Attest:

/s/ Abbey Jordan
Abbey Jordan, City Clerk

(SEAL)