**FRIEND CITY COUNCIL**

**MINUTES-REGULAR MEETING**

**August 2, 2022**

Mayor Knoke called the regular meeting of the City Council to order at 7:00 p.m. at the City Hall. Advanced notice of the meeting was given by publication in The Sentinel, the appointed method for giving advanced notice. All proceedings shown were taken while the meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

Mayor Judith Knoke presided, and City Clerk John R. Schwab recorded the proceedings. The following Councilmembers were present: Kristen Milton, David Sladek, & Jeremy Collier. Absent Shane Stutzman. A quorum being present, and the meeting duly convened, the following proceedings were had and done.

Mayor Knoke led the meeting in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

As required by the Nebraska Open Meetings Act, Mayor Knoke announced that a copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act has been posted on the south door of the City Hall meeting room for all in attendance to review.

Motion by Sladek, seconded by Milton to approve the minutes from the July 5 meeting. On roll call voting aye Collier, Sladek, & Milton. Absent Stutzman. Nays none.

Motion by Coller, seconded by Sladek to approve the July Treasurer report. On roll call voting aye Milton, Sladek, & Collier. Absent Stutzman. Nays none.

Motion by Milton, seconded by Sladek to approve the Hospital financial report. On roll call voting aye Collier, Sladek, & Milton. Absent Stutzman. Nays none.

Motion by Sladek, seconded by Collier to approve the claims and payroll. On roll call voting aye Sladek, Collier, & Milton. Absent Stutzman. Nays none.

The claims approved were as follows: July Payroll, 43784.43; Ameritas, 1821.71; EFTPS, 6499.41; NE Dept of Rev SWH, 836.67; Aqua-Chem Inc, su 736.30; Baker & Taylor Books, 33.89; Blue Cross Blue Shield of Nebr., fe 7753.22; Border States Ind, 405.84;Brotheers Equip, 25.02; Center Point Large Print, su 91.08; Jacob & John Clouse fe 850.00; FES, fe 2000.00; Fairfield Inn & Suites, fe 599.75; Gale 47.23; Heather Black, re 25.16; Holiday Inn of Kearney, fe 279.00; Kirkham Michael, su 1000.00; LaQuinta Inn & Suites, fe 844.85; Rosemarie Markus, su 50.00; Mastiff Systems, se 347.50; Ne Public Health Environmental Lab, fe 68.00; Ne Public Power Dist., fe 74747.78; Nebraska Generator Service, se 3260.31; NE Library Comm fe, 500.00; Norris Public Power, fe 6236.05; Diane Odoski, re 205.37; One Billing Solutions fe 416.74; Kelly Paulsen, re 65.96; Pepsi Cola of Hast. se 377.48: Phyllis Schwab, re 356.02; Readers Digest fe 30.00; Schindler Elev Corp, se 184.92: Sid Dillion, se 147.00; Marvin Slepicka, fe 2000.00; Vyhnalek Ins Agency, fe 1948.80: Total Claims Approved 84665.28

Discussion held on update on 513 2nd St. Decided to send to the owner a letter requesting a report at the next board meeting.

Friend Area fund presented possibilities of grants to improve the open lot by the highway. Motion by Milton, seconded by Sladek, to grant permission to the Friend Area Fund to apply for grants. On roll call voting aye Sladek, Collier, & Milton. Absent Stutzman. Nays none.

Discussion on steel buildings in residential district. It was decided to form a committee to do research.

Discussion to approve the Kirkham Michael contract. Motion by Collier, seconded by Sladek, to postpone until Kirkham Michael can come to meeting to meet with the council. On roll call voting aye, Milton, Collier, & Sladek. Absent Stutzman. Nays none.

Discussion on providing a Stipend to city employees in lieu of health insurance. Motion by Collier, seconded by Milton to maintain & keep the current package for health insurance. On roll call voting aye Sladek, Collier, & Milton. Absent Stutzman. Nays none.

Discussion on Dog park. Many locations were brought up, none were decided on. It was decided to gather more information.

Discussion on Skate Park. It was decided to survey public interest in a skate park.

Discussion on putting security cameras at the pool. It was decided to research doing all city properties.

Discussion on SDL for Ford Banka Friend American Legion Post #183. Motion by Collier, seconded by Sladek to Approve the SDL. On roll call voting aye Collier, Sladek, & Milton. Absent Stutzman. Nays none.

Discussion on the request for financial help by Saline County Aging Services. Motion by Milton, seconded by Sladek, to approve request from Saline County Aging Services. On roll call voting aye Milton, Collier, & Sladek. Absent Stutzman. Nays none.

Discussion on Mayors’ recommendation Kyle Kohout to the Board of Adjustments. Motion by Sladek, seconded by Collier to approve the recommendation of Kyle Kohout to the Board of Adjustments. On roll call voting aye Sladek, Collier, & Milton. Absent Stutzman. Nays none.

Discussion on retaining wall at the pond. It was decided to have Billy Baugh Public Works Supervisor to obtain more bids to repair the retaining wall.

Discussion on granting permission for President Kristen Milton to gather information regarding grant application. Motion by Collier, seconded by Sladek to all President Milton permission to gather information regarding grant. On roll call voting aye Collier, Sladek, Knoke. Abstain Conflict of Interest Milton. Absent Stutzman. Nays None.

Returning to discussion of Board of Adjustment recommendation Eric Bresson. Motion by Sladek, seconded by Collier to approve recommendation of Eric Bresson. On roll call voting aye Colier, Milton, & Sladek. Absent Stutzman. Nays none.

Mayor Knoke reported on the Friend Community Healthcare Systems. Work being done the door.

Building Inspector – No report

Fire Department – Chief Brent Milton reported that bunker gear needs to be updated. The anticipated cost is $4200 with coats & pants. Adding gloves and helmet $5000. This is a per set cost.

Chief Shawn Gray gave his report. Low activity for the month of July. The phone system with AT&T mobility is not dependable. Motion by Sladek, seconded by Collier to switch cell phone service. On roll call voting aye Collier, Milton & Sladek. Absent Stutzman. Nays None.

President Milton, and Pool Manger Heather Black reported on the pool. The pool is nearing end of season. The pool will remain open until August 7. It will be closed August 8 -12. Open again August 13, & 14. The 14th is the final day of pool opening.

Billy Baugh public Works Supervisor presented his report.

Motion by Sladek, seconded by Collier to enter into executive session to discuss personnel issues. On roll call voting aye Sladek, Milton, & Collier. Absent Stutzman. Nays none.

Entered into executive session at 8:36 pm.

Motion by Milton, seconded by Collier to exit executive session. On roll call voting aye Sladek, Milton, & Collier. Absent Stutzman. Nays none. Exited executive session at 8:44 pm.

No further business to come before the City Council, motion was made by Milton, seconded by Collier, to adjourn the meeting. On roll call voting aye Collier, Milton, & Sladek. Absent Stutzman. Nays none. Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

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Judith K. Knoke, Mayor

ATTEST

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John R. Schwab, City Clerk

I, the undersigned, City Clerk of the City of Friend, Nebraska, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of proceedings had and done by the Council on August 2, 2022; that all of the subjects included in the foregoing proceedings were contained in the agenda for the meeting, kept continually current and readily available for public inspection at the office of the Clerk; that such subjects were contained in said agenda for at least twenty-four hours prior to said meeting; that at least one copy of all reproducible material discussed at the meeting was available at the meeting for examination and copying by members of the public; that the said minutes from which the foregoing proceedings have been extracted and were in written form and available for public inspection within ten working days; that all news media requesting notification concerning meeting of said body were provided advance notification of the time and place of said meeting and the subjects to be discussed at said meeting.

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City Clerk

**NOTICE OF MEETING**

**CITY OF FRIEND, NEBRASKA**

Notice is hereby given that the City Council of the City of Friend, Nebraska will meet at 7:00 p.m. on **Tuesday, September 6, 2022,** at the City Hall which meeting will be open to the public. Agenda for said meeting is kept current and is available in the City Clerk's office during regular business hours. Request to be on the agenda must be in the City Clerk's office 24 hours prior to the start of the meeting.

John R. Schwab, City Clerk