

City of Scottsbluff, Nebraska

Tuesday, January 2, 2018

Regular Meeting

Item Consent1

Approve the minutes of the December 18, 2017 Regular Meeting.

Staff Contact: Cindy Dickinson, City Clerk

The Scottsbluff City Council met in a regular meeting on December 18, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 2525 Circle Drive, Scottsbluff. A notice of the meeting had been published on December 15, 2017, in the Star Herald, a newspaper published and of general circulation in the City. The notice stated the date, hour and place of the meeting, that the meeting would be open to the public, that anyone with a disability desiring reasonable accommodations to attend the Council meeting should contact the City Clerk's Office, and that an agenda of the meeting kept continuously current was available for public inspection at the office of the City Clerk in City Hall; provided, the City Council could modify the agenda at the meeting if it determined that an emergency so required. A similar notice, together with a copy of the agenda, also had been emailed to each council member, made available to radio stations KNEB, KMOR, KOAQ, and television stations KSTF and NBC Nebraska, and the Star Herald. The notice was also available on the city's website on December 15, 2017.

Mayor Meininger presided and City Clerk Dickinson recorded the proceedings. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Mayor Meininger welcomed everyone in attendance and encouraged all citizens to participate in the Council meeting asking those wishing to speak to come to the microphone and state their name and who they are representing for the record. Mayor Meininger informed those in attendance that a copy of the Nebraska open meetings act is posted in the back of the room on the west wall for the public's review. The following Council Members were present: Randy Meininger, Mark McCarthy and Jordan Colwell. Also present was City Manager Johnson and City Attorney Kent Hadenfeldt. Absent: Raymond Gonzales, Scott Shaver.

Mayor Meininger asked if there were any changes to the agenda. There were none. Mayor Meininger asked if any citizens with business not scheduled on the agenda wished to include an item providing the City Council determines the item requires emergency action. There were none.

Moved by Council Member McCarthy seconded by Council Member Colwell that:

1. "The minutes of the December 4, 2017, Regular Meeting be approved,"
2. "The specifications for a new refuse truck for Environmental Services be approved and authorize the City Clerk to advertise for bids to be received by Wednesday, January 10, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. MST," "YEAS", Colwell, Meininger, McCarthy, "NAYS", None. Absent: Gonzales, Shaver.

Moved by Mayor Meininger, seconded by Council Member McCarthy, "that the following claims be approved and paid as provided by law out of the respective funds designated in the list of claims dated December 18, 2017, as on file with the City Clerk and submitted to the City Council," "YEAS", Colwell, Meininger, McCarthy, "NAYS", None. Absent: Gonzales, Shaver.

CLAIMS

ACCELERATED RECEIVABLES SOLUTIONS,WAGE ATTACHMENT,40.79; ACTION COMMUNICATIONS INC.,VEH. MAIN.,616.75; ADVERTISING SPECIALTIES LLC, UNIFORMS, 126.13; AIRGAS USA, LLC,DEPT SUPPLIES,45.5; ALLO COMMUNICATIONS,LLC,LOCAL TELEPHONE CHARGES,4414.86; ANITA'S GREENSCAPING INC,BID PRKNG LTS,1261.11; ASSURITY LIFE INSURANCE CO,LIFE INS,32.95; AUTOZONE STORES, INC,EQUIP MTNC,262.01; AXON ENTERPRISE INC,CIP-TASERS,480; B & H INVESTMENTS, INC, CONTRACTUAL SVC,149.5; B&C STEEL CORPORATION,EQUIP MAINT,46.79; BLUFFS SANITARY SUPPLY INC.,DEPT SUPPL,540.91; BOUND TO STAY BOUND BOOKS,BKS.,85.2; BRUNZ MICHAEL F,MILEAGE REIMB. - JURY DUTY,26; CAPITAL BUSINESS SYSTEMS INC.,CONT. SRVCS.,320.33; CARR- TRUMBULL LUMBER CO, INC.,SUPPLIES - SKATE PARK,339.24; CELLCO PARTNERSHIP,CELL PHONES,182.52; CHILD SUPPORT,CHILD

SUPPORT,12; CITY OF GERING,DISPOSAL FEES,43281.36; COLORADO ASPHALT SERVICES, INC,1 LOAD COLD ASPHALT (PATCHING MATERIAL),3927.84; COMPUTER CONNECTION INC,RENT-MACH,44; CONSOLIDATED MANAGEMENT COMPANY,SCHOOLS & CONF,115.45; CONTRACTORS MATERIALS INC.,DEPT SUPPLIES,176.21; COPIER CONNECTION,DEPT COPIER MNTNC,141; CREDIT BUREAU OF COUNCIL BLUFFS,CONTRACT SERVICES - NOVEMBER 2017,60.5; CRESCENT ELECT. SUPPLY COMP INC, ELECT. SUPP - PHOTOCONTROL, 39.2; CYNTHIA GREEN,DEPT. SUP,76.53; D & H ELECTRONICS INC.,SUPP - POS BLOCK,90; DALE'S TIRE & RETREADING, INC.,VEHICLE MTNC,2992.9; DAS STATE ACCOUNTING-CENTRAL FINANCE,LONG DISTANCE,3.44; ENERGY LABORATORIES, INC,SAMPLES,135; ENVIRONMENTAL SYSTEMS RESEARCH INSTITUTE INC,EQUIP MAINT,300; FAIRBANKS SCALES INC,DEPT SUP,423.97; FAT BOYS TIRE AND AUTO,EQUIP MTNC,376; FEDERAL EXPRESS CORPORATION,POSTAGE,266.59; FLOYD'S TRUCK CENTER, INC,VEHICLE MTNC,2137.22; GALLS INC,DEPT SUPP,32.95; GENERAL ELECTRIC CAPITAL CORPORATION,DEPT. SUP,132.32; GENOWAYS NATHAN,SCHOOLS & CONF,600; GI HOSPITALITY,SCHOOLS & CONF,93; GRAY TELEVISION GROUP INC,CONTRACTUAL SVC,695; HAWKINS, INC.,CHEMICALS,3170.8; HICKOX KEVIN,CONTRACTUAL SERVICES, 57.5; HYDROTEX PARTNERS, LTD,OIL & ANTIFREEZE,2910.69; ICC CERTIFICATION SERVICES,DEPT MEMBERSHIP,135; IDEAL LAUNDRY AND CLEANERS, INC., UNIFORMS, 1111.7; INGRAM LIBRARY SERVICES INC,BKS,1391.96; INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE, WITHHOLDINGS,63687.75; INTRALINKS, INC,CONTRACT SERVICES,2343.75; INVENTIVE WIRELESS OF NE, LLC,CONTRACTUAL,9.95; J G ELLIOTT CO.INC.,BOND - C. BURBACH,875; JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL,SUPPLIES - ICE RINK,50.96; KNOW HOW LLC,EQUIP MTNC,1607.5; KOIS BROTHERS EQUIPMENT CO INC,DEPT SUPPLIES,300; KRIZ-DAVIS COMPANY,BUILDING MTNC,71.15; LEAGUE OF NEBRASKA MUNICIPALITIES,REGIST. FEE FOR DEPUTY P.W. DIR. FOR P.W. SECTION,350; LEXISNEXIS RISK DATA MANAGEMENT, CONSULTING,100; LOGAN CONTRACTORS SUPPLY INC,SURFACE DETACK,220.98; LUCKINBILL BENJAMIN,SCHOOLS & CONF,600; M.C. SCHAFF & ASSOCIATES, INC,PROF. SERVICES 42ND ST.- AVE I TO 5TH AVE,30500; MADISON NATIONAL LIFE,LIFE INS,1889.4; MARKETING CONSULTANTS,DEPT SUPPLIES,300; MATHESON TRI-GAS INC,RENT MACHINES,48.79; MENARDS, INC,SUPPLIES - ICE RINK,1335.5; MIDLANDS NEWSPAPERS, INC,LEGAL PUBLISHING,2953.46; MILLENNIUM RESILIENT INTERNATIONAL INC, LB840, 110000; MUNICIPAL PIPE TOOL CO, LLC,CONTRACTUAL SVC,9459; MUNICIPAL SUPPLY INC. OF NEBRASKA,DEPT SUP,5723.83; MUNIMETRIX SYSTEMS CORP,IMAGESILO - NOV. 2017,39.99; NE CHILD SUPPORT PAYMENT CENTER,NE CHILD SUPPORT PYBLE,1717.43; NE DEPT OF REVENUE,INCOME TAX WITHHOLDING,29776.96; NEBRASKA FLOODPLAIN & STORMWATER MANAGERS ASSOC,MEMBERSHIPS,35; NEBRASKA INTERACTIVE, LLC, CONTRACT SERVICES - DRIVER LIC. REQ,15; NEBRASKA MACHINERY CO,EQUIP MAINT, 4835.17; NEBRASKA PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT,ELECTRIC,38599.08; NEDA,2018 ANNUAL DUES,100; NEMNICH AUTOMOTIVE,EQUIP MTNC,159; NETWORKFLEET, INC,MONTHLY GPS SERVICE,18.95; OCLC ONLINE COMPUTER LIBRARY CENTER, INC,CONT. SRVCS., 351.32; ONE CALL CONCEPTS, INC,CONTRACTUAL,45.84; PANHANDLE COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION,OTHER FUEL,19917.41; PANHANDLE ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES INC,SAMPLES,126; PHILLIPS DANIEL,MANUFACTURING SUMMIT EXPENSE,638; PLATTE VALLEY BANK,HEALTH SAVINGS ACCOUNT,14279.46; POSTMASTER,POSTAGE,635.56;

PRUDENT PUBLISHING CO INC,DEPT SUPPL,244.4; QUILL CORPORATION,DEPT SUPPL, 106.98; RAILROAD MANAGEMENT CO III, LLC,RENT LAND,828.94; REGIONAL CARE INC,MEDICAL EXPENSE,45627.9; REGIONAL WEST MEDICAL CENTER,2017 HEALTH FAIR LABS, 8432.05; RUSCH'S GENERAL CONTRACTING, LLC,BLDG MAINT,1514.75; S M E C,EMPLOYEE DEDUCTION,158.5; SANDBERG IMPLEMENT, INC,EQUIP MAINT,1096.89; SCB COUNTY,DEPT CNTRCL SRVCS,53; SCB FIREFIGHTERS UNION LOCAL 1454,FIRE EE DUES,225; SCOTTIES POTTIES INC,CONTRACTUAL,850; SCOTTSBLUFF BODY & PAINT, TOW SERVICE,1125; SCOTTSBLUFF POLICE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION,POLICE EE DUES,552; SCOTTSBLUFF SCREENPRINTING & EMBROIDERY, LLC,UNIFORMS,1024.5; SCOTTSBLUFF SENIOR CENTER,QUARTERLY SUPPORT PAYMENT, 5750; SCOTTSBLUFF/GERING CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,SUGAR FACTORY TOUR - S.LEHL,30; SHERIFF'S OFFICE,LEGAL FEES,284.16; SHERWIN WILLIAMS,EQUIP MAINT,29.8; SIMMONS OLSEN LAW FIRM, P.C.,CONTRACTUAL SERVICES,14889.79; SIMON CONTRACTORS,PRE CRUSHED GRAVEL/CONCRETE, 1133.24; SNELL SERVICES INC.,BLDG MAINT,192.8; SPENCER, KEVIN, SCHOOLS & CONF,65; STARR LEHL,TRAVEL EXPENSE,36.96; SYMBOLARTS, LLC, BADGES/UNIFORMS,496; THE ABY MANUFACTURING GROUP, INC,UNIFORMS,652.5; THE CHICAGO LUMBER COMPANY OF OMAHA INC,BUILDING MTNC,117.95; THE PEAVEY CORP,INVEST SUPPL,298; TOYOTA MOTOR CREDIT CORPORATION,HIDTA CAR LEASE, 365.69; TRANS IOWA EQUIPMENT LLC,EQUIP MTNC,199.1; TWIN CITIES DEVELOPMENT ASSOC, INC,ECENTER AGREEMENT - SEPT. 2017,2000; UNIQUE MANAGEMENT SERVICES, INC,CONT. SRVCS.,134.25; US BANK,DEPT. SUP,451.83; VAN PELT FENCING CO, INC, BUILDING MTNC,15.95; VANTAGEPOINT TRANSFER AGENTS-300793,DEF COMP,2429.23; VANTAGEPOINT TRANSFER AGENTS-705437,ROTH IRA,211; WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A., RETIREMENT,32795.24; WESTERN PATHOLOGY CONSULTANTS, INC,DOT TESTING - NOVEMBER 2017,76; WESTERN TRAVEL TERMINAL, LLC,VEH MAINT,349; WYOMING FIRST AID & SAFETY SUPPLY, LLC,FIRST AID KIT SUPPLIES,37.25; YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION OF SCOTTSBLUFF, NE,YMCA,1615; ZM LUMBER INC,EQUIP MAINT,207.88; REFUNDS: ANNA PATE 38.94; JOST LLC 78.27; STACY WILSON 15.09.

City Manager Johnson presented the October and November Financial reports, explaining that the major claims were from the annual insurance premium to the League Association of Risk Management, the chip seal bond payment, and the Broadway Water main Project. Mayor Meininger informed the public that October 1 began our new fiscal year.

Donna Thompson, West Nebraska Arts Center, explained to the Council that they are applying for special designated liquor licenses (SDL) for two opening receptions and one fund raiser. They are allowed six SDL's each year as a non-profit. They have never had problems or issues with underage patrons consuming alcohol at their events. Chief Spencer confirmed that they have never had calls regarding events at the Art Center. Moved by Council Member McCarthy, seconded by Council Member Colwell, "to approve issuance of special arts-related event wine permits for the West Nebraska Arts Center, 106 East 18th Street and special designated liquor licenses for three events on January 4, 2018; January 20, 2018; and May 3, 2018," "YEAS", Colwell, Meininger, McCarthy, "NAYS", None. Absent: Gonzales, Shaver.

City Manager Johnson presented the amended 2018 Pay Resolution which includes some position changes and additional staffing to provide a succession plan. The proposed resolution will not have an additional impact on the budget. Moved by Mayor Meininger, seconded by Council Member McCarthy, “to approve the amended 2018 Pay Resolution No. 17-12-02,” “YEAS”, Colwell, Meininger, McCarthy, “NAYS”, None. Absent: Gonzales, Shaver.

RESOLUTION NO. 17-12-02

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SCOTTSBLUFF, NEBRASKA:

1. That the following Pay Plan for officers and employees of the City of Scottsbluff, Nebraska employed in Classified Positions be approved December 18, 2017 and effective January 8, 2018

PAY SCHEDULE

HOURLY RATES (Based on 40 hour work week)

<u>Grade</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>L1</u>	<u>L2</u>
2	8.90	9.35	9.82	10.31	10.83	11.37	11.94
3	9.35	9.82	10.31	10.83	11.37	11.94	12.54
4	9.82	10.31	10.83	11.37	11.94	12.54	13.17
5	10.31	10.83	11.37	11.94	12.54	13.17	13.83
6	10.83	11.37	11.94	12.54	13.17	13.83	14.52
7	11.37	11.94	12.54	13.17	13.83	14.52	15.25
8	11.94	12.54	13.17	13.83	14.52	15.25	16.01
9	12.54	13.17	13.83	14.52	15.25	16.01	16.81
10	13.17	13.83	14.52	15.25	16.01	16.81	17.65
11	13.83	14.52	15.25	16.01	16.81	17.65	18.53
12	14.52	15.25	16.01	16.81	17.65	18.53	19.46
13	15.25	16.01	16.81	17.65	18.53	19.46	20.43
14	16.01	16.81	17.65	18.53	19.46	20.43	21.45
15	16.81	17.65	18.53	19.46	20.43	21.45	22.52
16	17.65	18.53	19.46	20.43	21.45	22.52	23.65
17	18.53	19.46	20.43	21.45	22.52	23.65	24.83
18	19.46	20.43	21.45	22.52	23.65	24.83	26.07
19	20.43	21.45	22.52	23.65	24.83	26.07	27.37
20	21.45	22.52	23.65	24.83	26.07	27.37	28.74

BI-WEEKLY RATES

18	1553.73	1631.42	1712.99	1798.64	1888.57	1983.00	2082.15
19	1631.42	1712.99	1798.64	1888.57	1983.00	2082.15	2186.26
20	1712.99	1798.64	1888.57	1983.00	2082.15	2186.26	2295.57
21	1798.64	1888.57	1983.00	2082.15	2186.26	2295.57	2410.35
22	1888.57	1983.00	2082.15	2186.26	2295.57	2410.35	2530.87
23	1983.00	2082.15	2186.26	2295.57	2410.35	2530.87	2657.41
24	2082.15	2186.26	2295.57	2410.35	2530.87	2657.41	2790.28

25	2186.26	2295.57	2410.35	2530.87	2657.41	2790.28	2929.79
26	2295.57	2410.35	2530.87	2657.41	2790.28	2929.79	3076.28
27	2410.35	2530.87	2657.41	2790.28	2929.79	3076.28	3230.09
28	2530.87	2657.41	2790.28	2929.79	3076.28	3230.09	3391.60
29	2657.41	2790.28	2929.79	3076.28	3230.09	3391.60	3561.18
30	2790.28	2929.79	3076.28	3230.09	3391.60	3561.18	3739.24
31	2929.79	3076.28	3230.09	3391.60	3561.18	3739.24	3926.20

2. That the following positions in the Classification Plan are assigned to the following Class Grades:

HOURLY POSITIONS

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Class Titles</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Class Titles</u>
7	Library Technician	15	Crew Leader
7	Waterpark Manager	16	Maintenance Mechanic
9	Building & Grounds Custodian	16	Fire Prevention Officer
9	Compliance Officer	17	Wastewater Plant Operator II
10	Library Assistant	17	Water System Operator II
11	Record Technician	17	Construction-Locator Specialist
11	Humane Officer	18	Utilities Administrative Coordinator
12	Administrative Services Assistant	18	Account Clerk - Finance
12	Administrative Records Technician	18	Admin. Assist. - Police Department
13	Account Clerk	18	Lead Maintenance Mechanic
13	Administrative Assistant	18	Cemetery Supervisor
13	Maintenance Worker	19	Stormwater Program Specialist
13	Motor Equipment Operator	20	Code Administrator I
14	Wastewater Plant Operator I	20	Deputy City Clerk
14	Water System Operator I	20	Payroll Clerk/Benefit Administrator
14	Heavy Equipment Operator		
14	Solid Waste Equip. Operator		

EXEMPT POSITIONS

Professional, Administrative and Executive

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Class Titles</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Class Titles</u>
18	Librarian	26	Deputy Director of Finance
19	Recreation Supervisor	26	Deputy Director of Public Works
20	GIS Analyst	27	Director of Economic Development
22	Transportation Supervisor	27	Police Captain
22	Water System Supervisor	27	Director of Human Resources

22	Wastewater Plant Supervisor	29	Director of Public Works
	Environmental Services		
22	Supervisor	29	Fire Chief
22	Code Administrator II	30	Police Chief
23	Planning Administrator	31	Director of Finance
24	City Clerk/Risk Manager		
24	Library Director		
	Emergency Management		
24	Director		
24	Park Supervisor		

3. That the following pay schedule for officers and employees in Unclassified Positions of the city is approved September 5, 2016 and effective October 3, 2016.

<u>Position</u>	<u>Salary Minimum</u>	<u>Salary Maximum</u>
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City Manager Established by City Council

**Seasonal and Part-time
Hourly Rates**

	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6	Step 7
School Crossing Guard	\$9.00	\$9.50	\$10.00	\$10.20	\$10.40	\$10.60	\$10.80
Library Page	\$9.00	\$9.50	\$10.00	\$10.20	\$10.40	\$10.60	\$10.80
Laborer	\$9.00	\$9.50	\$10.00	\$10.20	\$10.40	\$10.60	\$10.80
Field Mntc. Groundskeeper	\$9.40	\$9.90	\$10.40	\$10.60	\$10.80	\$11.00	\$11.20

Waterpark Aide	\$9.00	\$9.50	\$10.00	\$10.20	\$10.40	\$10.60	\$10.80
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*Lifeguard	\$9.00	\$9.50	\$10.00	\$10.20	\$10.40	\$10.60	\$10.80

*Lifeguard with Nebraska Certified Pool Operator's License & assigned to the maintenance of the waterpark facility will receive an additional 30 cents per hour.

NOTE: Pay step increase may be given after one year of service from hire date, at the discretion of the Department Head.

4. The Pay Schedule for the position of Firefighters and Fire Captains working a 56 hour week shall be the schedule approved in a Resolution adopted by the Mayor and City Council on August 7, 2017 and effective October 2, 2017.

<u>Class Title</u>	<u>Hourly Pay Schedule (56 hour week)</u>						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Firefighter	13.95	14.65	15.38	16.15	16.96	17.81	18.70
Fire Captain	18.07	18.97	19.92	20.92	21.97	23.07	24.22

5. That the Pay Schedule for the position of Patrol Officer, Corporal and Police Sergeant shall be the Schedule approved in a resolution approved by the Mayor and City Council on August 7, 2017 to be effective October 2, 2017.

<u>Class Title</u>	<u>Hourly Pay Schedule</u>						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Patrol Officer	19.30	20.27	21.28	22.34	23.46	24.63	25.86
Police Corporal	20.91	21.96	23.06	24.21	25.42	26.69	28.03
Police Sergeant	23.06	24.21	25.42	26.69	28.03	29.43	30.90

6. Resolution No. 17-08-02 and all other resolutions in conflict with this resolution are repealed.

Passed and approved this 18th day of December, 2017.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk

Mr. Johnson presented the agreement with Johnsen Corrosion to service our five water towers. This maintenance program is required by state regulations. The three-year renewal contract of \$11,056.00 is the same as previous years. Mayor Meininger added that we cooperate with other communities in the area, which provides a decrease in the cost. Public Works Director Bohl added that they will schedule the painting of the water towers to coordinate with the cleaning. Moved by Council Member Colwell, seconded by Council Member McCarthy, “to approve the renewal of an Agreement with Johnsen Corrosion Engineering for continuing our existing Water Tower Corrosion Control Service Program and authorize the Mayor to execute the agreement,” “YEAS”, Colwell, Meininger, McCarthy, “NAYS”, None. Absent: Gonzales, Shaver.

Mr. Johnson presented the Economic Development Assistance Grant for Vista Beam, clarifying that the application includes a \$100,000.00 grant and a \$50,000.00 loan. Mr. Matt Larsen, owner of Inventive Wireless / Vista Beam of Nebraska, informed the Council that they are the largest wireless broadband in the area. This grant would help them grow to 27 employees, which is three times what they were 4 – 5 years ago. They have had several LB 840 grants, and met all terms and continue to build their service in

Colorado, Wyoming and Nebraska. All jobs provide benefits as required in the grant. Council Member McCarthy asked how our area compares to others regarding wireless service. Mr. Larsen responded that we have better services than much of the country, with many wireless choices and wide spread fiber optics, including work by Action Communications and Allo. Mayor Meininger commended Mr. Larsen on submitting his LB840 grant applications, as the intent of the program is to grow businesses, as he has done over the years. Moved by Mayor Meininger, seconded by Council Member McCarthy, "to approve the LB840 Economic Development Assistance grant for Inventive Wireless / Vista Beam," "YEAS", Colwell, Meininger, McCarthy, "NAYS", None. Absent: Gonzales, Shaver.

Mr. Johnson explained that one of his goals is to work on the ISO rating for property owners in the City of Scottsbluff. He provided information regarding an opportunity to apply for a Public Safety Training Facility grant. There are several public and private providers for this type of a facility. There is Assistance to Firefighters Grant opportunity with NEMA through FEMA; the application process should be opening in the next few days. Mr. Johnson would like Council input to see if there is interest in applying for this type of facility. The system similar to the one in Grand Island is approximately \$656,000.00 and requires a 10% match from the City. We have \$70,000.00 budgeted for these matching funds if the Council wants to pursue the application.

Mayor Meininger asked what the rating would be to expand our ISO benefit. Mr. Johnson commented that our current rating is ISO 3. With this type of training facility, we could possibly be rated ISO 2, of which the potential offset of savings would be very significant, especially for large properties.

Mr. Johnson said the goal is to partnership with neighboring communities and create a regional educational facility, possibly at Western Nebraska Community College for all communities to use for training. Mayor Meininger added that there is an additional spin-off of holding regional training in our community, which benefits the economy of the area. Mr. Johnson also talked about the importance of having Firefighter I and Firefighter II training for recruiting for our Fire Department. This type of training facility would also benefit Emergency Medical Services and the Police Department. This facility would complement the existing facility located in Gering. Moved by Mayor Meininger, seconded by Council Member Colwell, "to pursue the application for a Public Safety Training Facility grant from the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency," "YEAS", Colwell, Meininger, McCarthy, "NAYS", None. Absent: Gonzales, Shaver.

City Manager Johnson discussed the recent issues regarding the League of Nebraska Municipalities (LONM) and the League Association of Risk Managers (LARM), beginning with a brief history of our relationship with LARM, since approving an Inter-local Agreement in 2003. In 2013, the By Laws were amended with the Executive Director centralization of the administrative responsibility of all affairs of LARM that are under the direction of the League Executive Director, Lynn Rex and the LARM Board.

LARM held a Board meeting on September 27, 2017, of which the City of Scottsbluff was not aware of until a few weeks ago. Some of the actions taken at that meeting were potential violations of the Inter-local Agreement and could potentially put the City of Scottsbluff at risk of not having insurance.

Some of the items voted on during this meeting were to designate LARM as a separate non-profit; establish LARM as the trade name; determine the Inter-local as a nullity; establish new sponsorship agreement with LONM; negotiate 2% decrease between LARM and the LONM; establish the LARM Board as the Administrator; rewrite the By Laws; and draft a written lease for the office space (the Inter-local identifies the location of the LARM office).

Mr. Johnson informed the Council that we originally joined LARM because of problems getting insurance and availability of the re-insurance carrier. The League of Nebraska Municipalities provides the re-insurance through our affiliation with the League. If LARM is no longer associated with LONM, this may jeopardize our ability to retain our re-insurance, which is a big concern.

At a recent LARM meeting, public comments from member cities were not accepted. We had sent a letter to LARM expressing our concerns as the largest city in the insurance pool, asking that it be included in the minutes. The LARM Board did not read the letter into the minutes; however, they acknowledged receipt of the letter. Mr. Johnson voiced his concern that one of the main advantages of being a member of LARM, is access to re-insurance.

Mayor Meininger expressed his concern over the 5 - 7 vacancies on the LARM Board, of which the Council has not been included in the process of filling these positions. Mr. Johnson's opinion of why we have not been asked to serve on this board is because we are the largest community in the insurance pool. Recently the LARM Board has not solicited Board Members from the entire membership.

City Attorney Kent Hadenfeldt informed the Council that we shouldn't take a position now, as the attorneys are involved and are currently talking about negotiating between LARM and LONM. The relationship is strained between the directors of LARM and LONM. This may not be the right time to take a position. Mayor Meininger voiced his concern about making sure that the City of Scottsbluff is protected, the taxpayer's money spent to provide insurance to the City of Scottsbluff is being managed properly, and we have a voice.

Mr. Johnson informed the Council that the premium to LARM was recently paid, and we signed a multi-year agreement, which concerns him if the Inter-local agreement is nullified.

City Attorney Hadenfeldt informed the Council that if we have to withdraw, there are notices that need to be filed. The National League of Cities requires an Inter-local between LARM and LONM to get the reinsurance. Mayor Meininger noted that it appears LARM has not been transparent. Council Member Colwell asked if there was LARM representation in Western Nebraska. Mr. Johnson informed him that Lane Danielzuk, Gering City Manager, is a Board Member, and has voted in favor of separating from LONM.

The Council directed City Manager Johnson to get more information and more facts regarding the relationship between the League of Nebraska Municipalities (LONM) and the League Association of Risk Managers (LARM) and report back to the Council.

At 6:35 p.m. Mayor Meininger moved, Council Member Colwell seconded, "to adjourn to closed session to protect the public interest for the purpose of discussing and developing strategy on the potential purchase of property for the purpose of developing a landfill site with the City of Gering," "YEAS", Colwell, Meininger, McCarthy, "NAYS", None. Absent: Gonzales, Shaver.

Mayor Meininger stated that the City Council is adjourning to closed session to protect the public interest for the purpose of discussing and developing strategy on the potential purchase of property for the purpose of developing a landfill site with the City of Gering.

At 6:55 p.m., Mayor Meininger moved, Council Member McCarthy seconded, "to reconvene out of closed session into regular session," "YEAS", Colwell, Meininger, McCarthy, "NAYS", None. Absent: Gonzales, Shaver.

Moved by Mayor Meininger, seconded by Council Member Colwell, "to continue to work with the City of Gering as equal partners in the potential purchase of property for the purpose of developing a landfill site," "YEAS", Colwell, Meininger, McCarthy, "NAYS", None. Absent: Gonzales, Shaver.

Under Council Reports, Mayor Meininger recognized the work of Council Member Colwell and Starr Lehl in helping get the bid for the National Balloon Race, which will be in our area for three years. This will have a significant economic impact in our area. Mayor Meininger thanked the City staff for the work they have done this past year and wished everyone a Happy Holiday.

Moved by Council Member McCarthy, seconded by Council Member Colwell, "to adjourn the meeting at 6:58 p.m.," "YEAS", Colwell, Meininger, McCarthy, "NAYS", None. Absent: Gonzales, Shaver.

Mayor

Attest:

City Clerk
"SEAL"