

CITY OF BRIDGEPORT, NEBRASKA

I. ROUTINE BUSINESS

Due to the Covid-19 Pandemic the City Council of the City of Bridgeport, Nebraska, met via <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/8942713742> Meeting ID: 894 271 3742, Dial by your location: 1-253-215-8782 or 1-301-715-8592, on the 9th day of April 2020, beginning at 7:00 p.m.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, Mayor Charlie Browne called the meeting to order. Roll call resulted as follows: Present: Mark Wickard, Will Deines, Dean Rahmig, Gary Oltmann

Staff members via internet were: Utilities Superintendent Wayne Kautz, Street Superintendent Dave Smith, Utilities Assistant Mike Beyer, Pwcc Director Charlee Wallesen, Deputy Clerk Jamie Schnieder.

Mayor Browne presided, and City Clerk Huck recorded the proceedings.

Mayor Browne announced, "In accordance with Section 84-1412 of the Nebraska Revised Statutes, the open meetings act is posted at the back of the meeting room for the review of the public."

Notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by publication in the Bridgeport News-Blade, the designated method of notice given, as shown by proof of publication, as shown by attached affidavit of posting and posting in the three designated areas, USPS, City Office and Pwcc.

Notice was given to the Mayor and all members of the City Council and a copy of their acknowledgement of receipt of notice and agenda is attached to the minutes. Availability of the agenda was communicated in the advance notice and by email notice to the Mayor and Council of this meeting. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the public.

The Mayor asked if there were any letters of public correspondence for the board. There were none.

Mayor Browne commented by saying City Staff has done an outstanding job of keeping apart during the Covid-19 Pandemic while still getting things done. He sated Public Works Director Kautz ordered some masks if they get in a situation where they are all together. The state lakes are closed to overnight camping and the Governor is saying the next 21 days will tell the toll and will have a better handle coming the end of May.

The Mayor asked if there are any visitors that would like to speak on an item that is not on the agenda.

II. CONSENT AGENDA

6. Approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held March 12, 2020.
7. Acceptance of the Monthly Treasurers Report.
8. Approve Jesse Weibert, Aaron Drinkal and Delena Weibert from probationary to active status on the Bridgeport volunteer Fire Department.

Council Member Rahmig moved to approve the consent agenda as presented, seconded by Council Member Oltmann. Roll call resulted as follows; Aye: Oltmann, Wickard, Deines, Rahmig; Nay: None. Motion carried.

III. CLAIMS

9. Council Member Rahmig stated that he has a conflict with Colonial Life Insurance; Council Member Rahmig then excused himself. Council Member Oltmann moved to approve the claim from Colonial Life Ins, seconded by Council Member Wickard. Roll call resulted as follows: Aye: Deines, Oltmann, Wickard; Not Voting, Excused: Rahmig; Nay: None. Motion carried.

Council Member Rahmig rejoined the Council.

10. Council Member Wickard moved to approve the remainder of claims, seconded by Council Member Rahmig. Roll call resulted as follows; Aye: Rahmig, Oltmann, Deines, Wickard; Nay: None. Motion carried.

Light & Power: Aflac, \$53.14; Allo Communications LLC, \$160.48; American Funds Service Company, \$812.91; American Test Center Inc, \$1,390.00; Ameritas Group Life Insurance, \$24.05; Michael Beyer, \$40.00; Black Hills Energy, \$65.22; BCBS of NE, \$1,477.19; Bomgaars, \$9.99; City Of Bridgeport, \$837.60; Colonial Life & Accident Insurance Co, \$101.66; E & S Inc, \$1,783.47; Federal, \$746.00; Fica, \$801.96; General Treasury, \$75,000.00; Health Savings Account, \$291.20; Kansas Municipal Utilities, \$300.00; Wayne Kautz, \$40.00; Lee's Service Inc, \$330.00; Medicare, \$187.52; Municipal Energy Agency Of Ne, \$89,578.62; Nebraska Dept Of Revenue, \$265.70; Nebraska Municipal Power Pool, \$918.05; Nebraska State Treasurer's Office, \$195.00; Panhandle Collections Inc, \$129.15; Panhandle Cooperative Assn, \$631.76; Platte Valley Bank, \$11,508.04; Platte Valley Visa, \$1,402.55; Quadient Finance USA Inc, \$98.42; Regional Care Inc, \$11.60; Jamie Rae Schneider, \$40.00; Scottsbluff Publishing Co Inc, \$41.20; Sun Life Financial, \$41.88; Trading Post Enterprises LLC, \$187.57; Hometown Hardware Inc, \$19.97; Total Light & Power, \$189,521.90; Salaries, \$4,449.59

Water: Aflac, \$53.16; Allo Communications LLC, \$34.63; American Funds Service Company, \$812.92; Ameritas Group Life Insurance, \$24.05; BCBS of NE, \$1,477.19; Bomgaars, \$124.47; City Of Bridgeport, \$1,607.89; Colonial Life & Accident Insurance Co, \$101.64; Dpc Industries Inc, \$682.01; Enviro Service Inc, \$20.00; Federal, \$745.96; Fica, \$801.96; Health Savings Account, \$291.20; Ideal Laundry And Cleaners Inc, \$27.79; Medicare, \$187.60; Nebraska Dept Of Revenue, \$265.66; Nebraska Public Health Environmental Lab, \$512.00; Nebraska State Treasurer's Office, \$30.00; One Call Concepts Inc, \$18.82; Pace Analytical Services LLC, \$134.00; Platte Valley Bank, \$55.86; Platte Valley Visa, \$166.77; Quadient Finance USA Inc, \$471.91; Regional Care Inc, \$11.60; Wyoming First Aid & Safety Supply LLC, \$20.17; Bryan Schluterbusch, \$40.00; Sonny's Super Foods, \$17.88; Scottsbluff Publishing Co Inc, \$41.20; Sun Life Financial, \$41.88; Trading Post Enterprises LLC, \$70.32; Hometown Hardware Inc, \$23.23; Total Water, \$8,913.77; Salaries, \$4,449.71

Sewer: Aflac, \$33.17; American Funds Service Company, \$429.46; Ameritas Group Life Insurance, \$12.57; Black Hills Energy, \$30.95; BCBS of NE, \$734.77; Chimney Rock Public Power District, \$76.44; City Of Bridgeport, \$315.21; Colonial Life & Accident Insurance Co, \$52.18; E & S Inc, \$399.98; Federal, \$388.64; Fica, \$423.52; General Treasury, \$7,000.00; Health Savings Account, \$156.00; John Deere Financial, \$18.97; Lussetto Machine Inc, \$115.00; Medicare, \$99.02; Nebraska Dept Of Revenue, \$139.80; Platte Valley Visa, \$170.27; Quadient Leasing USA Inc, \$59.99; Regional Care Inc, \$5.20; Scottsbluff Publishing Co Inc, \$41.20; Sun Life Financial, \$19.86; Hometown Hardware Inc, \$91.18; Total Sewer, \$10,813.38; Salaries, \$2,352.27

General: Aflac, \$59.13; American Funds Service Company, \$206.69; American Legal Publishing Corp, \$387.83; Ameritas Group Life Insurance, \$4.95; Black Hills Energy, \$65.21; BCBS of NE, \$481.90; Bridgeport News-Blade, \$497.16; Colonial Life & Accident Insurance Co, \$12.26; Community Center, \$21,000.00; Culligan Water Conditioning, \$30.00; Farmers State Bank, \$11,711.16; Federal, \$140.75; Fica, \$202.22; Fire Fund, \$5,000.00; Health Savings Account, \$93.60; Doretta J Huck, \$40.00; Library Fund, \$10,800.00; Medicare, \$47.30; Nebraska Dept Of Revenue, \$62.84; Park Fund, \$2,000.00; Platte Valley Bank, \$11,711.16; Platte Valley Visa, \$494.30; Police Fund, \$28,750.00; Quadient Finance USA Inc, \$101.14; Regional Care Inc, \$3.60; Wyoming First Aid & Safety Supply LLC, \$26.86; Riverside Lumber LLC, \$39.90; Rodak Law Office, \$1,000.00; Billie Jo Smith, \$240.00; Scottsbluff Publishing Co Inc, \$41.20; Street Fund, \$4,000.00; Sun Life Financial, \$10.30; Trading Post Enterprises LLC, \$13.10; Hometown Hardware Inc, \$9.98; Total General, \$99,284.54; Salaries, \$1,146.67

Police: Morrill County Sheriff, \$28,509.00

Street: 21st Century Equipment LLC, \$4,499.00; Aflac, \$80.34; American Funds Service Company, \$885.39; Ameritas Group Life Insurance, \$21.96; Black Hills Energy, \$555.25; BCBS of NE, \$2,007.27; Bomgaars, \$19.99; City Of Bridgeport, \$2,319.02; Colonial Life & Accident Insurance Co, \$108.54; Contractors Materials Inc, \$119.00; E & S Inc, \$1,617.03; Federal, \$741.44; Fica, \$945.32; Gooder Trucking LLC, \$2,312.70; Health Savings Account, \$418.00; Ideal Laundry And Cleaners Inc, \$27.79; John Deere Financial, \$2.16; Medicare, \$221.08;

Michael Todd And Co Inc, \$561.83; Nebraska Dept Of Revenue, \$322.62; Perry E Nelson, \$40.00; Regional Care Inc, \$8.00; Wyoming First Aid & Safety Supply LLC, \$80.89; David Smith, \$40.00; Sun Life Financial, \$47.03; Trading Post Enterprises LLC, \$505.81; Hometown Hardware Inc, \$147.50; Total Street, \$18,654.96; Salaries, \$5,436.20

Pwcc: Allo Communications LLC, \$224.38; American Funds Service Company, \$480.36; Ameritas Group Life Insurance, \$27.32; Benzel Pest Control Inc, \$68.99; Black Hills Energy, \$1,017.32; BCBS of NE, \$1,056.19; Bluffs Sanitary Supply Inc, \$574.47; Bomgaars, \$3.99; Bridgeport News-Blade, \$4.47; City Of Bridgeport, \$1,141.6; Colonial Life & Accident Insurance Co, \$130.66; Computer Connection, \$49.00; Culligan Water Conditioning, \$75.00; Federal, \$385.17; Fica, \$1,141.74; Health Savings Account, \$416.00; Ideal Laundry And Cleaners Inc, \$453.58; Medicare, \$267.04; Nebraska Dept Of Revenue, \$235.40; Platte Valley Bank, \$214.50; Platte Valley Visa, \$1,811.28; Protex Central Inc, \$420.00; Quadient Finance USA Inc, \$8.50; Regional Care Inc, \$16.00; Riverside Lumber LLC, \$99.21; Sonnys Super Foods, \$31.99; Scottsbluff Publishing Co Inc, \$41.20; Sun Life Financial, \$36.10; E. Michelle Teppert, \$3,200.00; Town & Country Advertising, \$73.00; Trading Post Enterprises LLC, \$17.29; Hometown Hardware Inc, \$235.35; Charlee M Wallesen, \$40.00; Total Pwcc, \$13,997.10; Salaries, \$9,321.04

Park: City Of Bridgeport, \$197.32; Fica, \$6.20; Medicare, \$1.44; Nebraska Life Magazine, \$24.00; Nebraska Public Power District, \$65.50; Platte Valley Visa, \$159.25; Jim Vassos, \$250.00; Total Park, \$703.71

Pool: Allo Communications LLC, \$25.54; Black Hills Energy, \$30.95; Total Pool, \$56.49

Library: Abdo Publishing, \$174.55; Allo Communications LLC, \$71.61; American Funds Service Company, \$320.50; Ameritas Group Life Insurance, \$10.98; Black Hills Energy, \$126.98; BCBS of NE, \$1,194.81; Cengage Learning, \$39.73; Center Point Large Print, \$131.82; City Of Bridgeport, \$550.81; Colonial Life & Accident Insurance Co, \$92.12; Culligan Water Conditioning, \$10.50; Federal, \$247.05; Fica, \$572.76; Michael Frederick, \$24.00; Health Savings Account, \$208.00; Indoff Incorporated, \$70.22; Medicare, \$133.94; Micromarketing LLC, \$162.27; Nebraska Dept Of Revenue, \$132.76; Nebraska Total Office, \$90.49; Nebraskalink, \$150.00; Platte Valley Visa, \$1,019.45; Publishers Prime, \$726.69; Regional Care Inc, \$8.00; Billie Jo Smith, \$360.00; Sonnys Super Foods, \$38.94; Scottsbluff Publishing Co Inc, \$41.20; Sun Life Financial, \$20.29; Hometown Hardware Inc, \$18.46; Total Library, \$6,748.93; Salaries, \$4,201.74

Landfill: General Treasury, \$1,875.00; Quadient Leasing USA Inc, \$59.98; Waste Connections Of Ne Inc, \$16,830.76; Total Landfill, \$18,765.74

Fire: Black Hills Energy, \$190.47; C & R Electronics, \$43.30; City Of Bridgeport, \$973.39; Colonial Life & Accident Insurance Co, \$295.92; Federal, \$76.92; Fica, \$85.84; Medicare, \$20.08; Nebraska Dept Of Revenue, \$65.64; Platte Valley Visa, \$296.39; Total Fire, \$2,047.95; Salaries, \$496.78

Keno: Ne Dept Of Revenue Chartable Gaming, \$100.00

Community Dev Agency: Bridgeport Ethanol LLC, \$8,602.24; Bridgeport Hotel Group LLC, \$568.49; Total Community Dev Agency, \$9,170.73

IV. ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS

None

V. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None

VI. ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

13. Council Member Rahmig introduced Ordinance No. 963 on second reading, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING BRIDGEPORT CITY CODE § 92.81 AND § 92.82 WITH REGARD TO PERMITTED FIREWORKS AND TIMES FOR DISCHARGE WITHIN THE CITY; PRESCRIBING THE TIME WHEN THIS ORDINANCE SHALL BE IN FULL FORCE AND EFFECT; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES AND PARTS OF ORDINANCES

IN CONFLICT HERewith; AND ORDERING THE PUBLICATION OF THE ORDINANCE IN PAMPHLET FORM, seconded by Council Member Wickard. Roll call resulted as follows: Aye: Rahmig, Wickard, Deines, Oltmann; Nay: None. Passed on second reading.

14. Council Member Deines introduced Resolution 2020-04, A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BRIDGEPORT, NEBRASKA, TO SUSPEND CITY UTILITY LATE FEES AND DISCONNECTIONS THROUGH MAY 31, 2020 FOR ACCOUNT HOLDERS IMPACTED BY THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC and moved that the resolution be adopted, seconded by Council Member Rahmig. Roll call resulted as follows: Aye: Oltmann, Wickard, Rahmig, Deines; Nay: None. Resolution passed.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-04

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BRIDGEPORT, NEBRASKA, TO SUSPEND CITY UTILITY LATE FEES AND DISCONNECTIONS THROUGH MAY 31, 2020 FOR ACCOUNT HOLDERS IMPACTED BY THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 virus has impacted many aspects of our everyday lives; and

WHEREAS, one of the impacts of COVID-19 is the economic impact it has had and continues to have on our community; and

WHEREAS, the City of Bridgeport believes that during this unprecedented time in world history that everyone must do their part to assist their neighbors and community; and

THEREFORE, the City of Bridgeport will suspend late fees and disconnections for utility non-payments through May 31, 2020 for any accountholders who are able to show that their ability to pay has been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Customers are urged to call the City of Bridgeport if they cannot pay their bill for instructions as to how to apply for waiver of disconnection and/or payment late fees.

ADOPTED THIS 9TH DAY OF APRIL, 2020 AT BRIDGEPORT NEBRASKA.

ATTEST:

CHARLIE BROWNE
MAYOR

DORETTA J. HUCK
CITY CLERK/TREASURER

VII. REGULAR AGENDA

15. Emergency Items – None

16. Council Member Wickard stated he talked with Honey Wagon Express and they stated they self-report when dumping at the lagoons. City Clerk Huck stated Honey Wagon Express has not contacted her, but they do receive monies from Fritz Septic the past two months. Wickard suggests they need to look into a little further and take no action on this agenda item at this time.

17. Council Member Wickard visited with Bill Dean regarding his appointment as Zoning Inspector and stated Mr. Dean's main concern is, he doesn't want to be responsible for locating the property lines and setting the setbacks, then coming back and finding out the setbacks were not followed. Mayor Browne stated he visited with Wildcat Surveying out of Banner County and stated he would be more than willing with minimal fees should we need someone to find pins. Wickard stated it is up to the contractor and property owner to find their property lines and suggested on the building application to add a section where they give us a call so it can be inspected so it is still in compliance before they can proceed with construction. Rodak stated the situation we're trying to avoid is, when we sign off on a building permit and it turns out incorrect and would contemplate the role of the Zoning Inspector is merely to go mark it and once they mark it their job is done and is up to the homeowner to follow the markings. City Clerk Huck stated she has been with the city since 2001 and the city guys located pins whether it was Carl Roach and Dave Smith or Rich Stichka and Dave Smith and there were never any problems. Council Member Wickard stated Street Superintendent Smith has always done this and asked for his thoughts. Street Superintendent Smith stated it's not that he can't, won't or that he doesn't want to but would like to see the zoning ordinances cleaned up. According to the city ordinance, the Zoning Administrator is the City Administrator and either get rid of that or define who the Zoning Administrator is. He

stated the Street Superintendent always did that in the past until they hired a City Administrator and made the zoning part of the Administrators duties and according to the ordinance book in the absence of a City Administrator the Mayor is supposed to take on those duties which is a lot of responsibility put upon the Mayor. In closing, Mayor Browne would like to commence a committee to involve Council Member Wickard, Dave Smith, City Attorney Rodak and a member of the Planning Commission to review possible changes to the paperwork of the building permit to put the responsibility on the property owner.

18. Mayor Browne stated Council received a letter from Park Board Member Jim Vassos, with his recommendations with the COVID-19 and stated the restroom facilities at both parks, and the two ball fields not be open to the public, and not allow group gatherings at either parks until Council deems it safe to do so. Council Member Oltmann stated there was caution tape at the parks and that is not going to stop them and felt to have some signs up while Council Member Deines suggested putting up T-posts with something more effective. Sheriff Cardenas stated the signs will help and has not seen a problem with groups and suggested a snow fence instead of the caution tape if needed. Council Member Wickard and Sheriff Cardenas both stated there hasn't been an issue and to leave as is with just the restrooms locked at this time.

19. Mayor Browne received a letter from the Morrill County Community to sign a Proclamation for Medical Laboratory Professionals Week to be observed April 19-25, 2020. Council Member Rahmig authorized the Mayor to sign the proclamation, seconded by Council Member Oltmann. Roll call resulted as follows: Aye; Deines, Rahmig, Oltmann, Wickard, Nay; None.

20. City Attorney Rodak stated a couple weeks ago in order to be eligible to receive funds from NEMA/FEMA or the Governor Reserve Funds you had to declare a disaster and stated some cities and counties have done this, but he spoke with the Governor yesterday and it is not a prerequisite to get the funds and you will still receive them. Mayor Browne stated it may be a duplication and is not going to hurt so that we have it on file and asked for a motion. Council Member Rahmig made a motion to have the Mayor sign the Local Disaster Declaration, seconded by Council Member Oltmann. Roll call resulted as follows: Aye; Rahmig, Wickard, Deines, Oltmann, Nay; None.

VIII. REPORTS

21. Department Reports:

Sheriff: Reports for March has been pretty slow from 200 to 90 calls, so it has been quiet with people staying home and behaving. He stated the Nebraska State Parks have been closed to camping but there will be two state workers staying out there camping with the first starting April 15 and the second May 1.

PWCC: Director Charlee Wallesen stated would like to visit about the pool and if we were going to open. Mayor Browne stated other communities around us are not going to open and we will not do anything this month and into May. She stated they received a 90-day extension on the CPR and lifeguard certifications and if we don't open will we still reimburse the lifeguards for taking the classes. Mayor Browne stated if they have already done it will pay for it but do not encourage the others to take theirs. Wallesen asked about the 5K blueprints for both the Fire Hall and Pwcc addition. Council Member Rahmig stated he is looking at a different company.

Public Works: Public Works Director Wayne Kautz stated the sewer line south of the hospital on 14th Street is in sad shape and Council Member Wickard explained his suggestions to Council about abandoning and rerouting a line at an estimated cost of \$1,500.00 to \$2,000.00, but would get some firm numbers for Council to review.

Administration: Mayor Browne received a letter from Gering about trying to find a new spot for a landfill and if we have any interest. Mayor Browne said he will contact Mr. Kaufman to listen as it doesn't cost the city anything and report back as needed. He also said they received a 50/50 match grant award letter for the tennis court just shy of 100K. He said the tennis courts are 165K plus an additional 20K for lights and they still have a long way to go and see what other grants come in and see what happens.

IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION

22. Mayor Browne stated before the purchase of a property a public hearing is required and will schedule it at the next council meeting and City Attorney can draw up a contingent purchase agreement.

At 8:05 p.m, Council Member Wickard made a motion to go into executive session to discuss a contingent purchase agreement to include the Mayor, Council Members and City Attorney, seconded by Council Member Rahmig. Roll call resulted as follows; Deines, Rahmig, Wickard, Oltmann not present. Nay: None. Motion carried.

At 8:21 p.m, Council Member Wickard made a motion to exit executive session, seconded by Council Member Rahmig. Roll call resulted as follows: Aye; Oltmann, Deines, Rahmig, Wickard; Nay: None.

X. ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business, the Mayor entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Council Member Wickard made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:22 p.m., seconded by Council Member Rahmig. Roll call resulted as follows: Aye: Rahmig, Deines, Wickard, Oltmann; Nay: None. Meeting Adjourned.

Doretta J Huck, City Clerk/Treasurer

APPROVED:

Charlie Browne, Mayor

I, the undersigned Clerk, hereby certify that the foregoing is the full, true and correct original document of proceedings of Thursday, April 9, 2020, had and done by the Mayor and City Council; that all of the subjects included in the proceedings were contained in the agenda for the meeting, kept continually current and 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 the 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 were in written form 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 concerning meetings of said body were provided advance notification of the time and place of said meeting and the subjects to be discussed at said meeting.

Doretta J. Huck, City Clerk