

McCook City Council
March 18, 2024
5:30 P.M. Central

A MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MCCOOK, NEBRASKA convened in open, regular, and public session at 5:30 o'clock P.M. in the City Council Chambers.

Present: Mayor Taylor, Councilmembers Weedin, Muehlenkamp.

Absent: Councilmembers Calvin, Rambali.

Motion to excuse the absence of Councilmembers Calvin and Rambali. This motion, made by Weedin and seconded by Muehlenkamp, passed.

Calvin: ABSENT, Rambali: ABSENT, Taylor: YEA, Weedin: YEA, Muehlenkamp: YEA
YEA: 3, NAY: 0, ABSENT: 2

City Officials present: City Manager Schneider, City Attorney Mustion, City Clerk Doak, Assistant City Manager Koetter, Library Director Crocker, Utilities Director Fawver, Fire Chief Harpham, Police Chief Hodgson, and Public Works Director Potthoff.

Notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by publication in the McCook Daily Gazette on March 14, 2024, the designated method of giving notice, a copy of the proof of publication being attached to these minutes. Advance notice of the meeting was also given to the Mayor and members of the City Council and a copy of the Acknowledgement of Receipt of such notice is attached to these minutes. Availability of the agenda was communicated in the advance notice to the Mayor and Council. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

Mayor Taylor announced that a copy of the Open Meetings Act was posted by the entrance to the Council Chambers and available for public review. Invocation was provided by Kyle Dellevoet, McCook Christian Church. Following the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, Mayor Taylor called the meeting to order.

1. Announcements & Recognitions.

There were no announcements or recognitions.

2. Consent Agenda.

Motion to approve the consent agenda. This motion, made by Muehlenkamp and seconded by Weedin, passed.

Calvin: ABSENT, Rambali: ABSENT, Taylor: YEA, Weedin: YEA, Muehlenkamp: YEA
YEA: 3, NAY: 0, ABSENT: 2

- 2.A. Approve the minutes of the March 4, 2024 regular City Council meeting.
- 2.B. Approve Resolution No. 2024-03 amending the rates for the ambulance service operated by the City of McCook, Nebraska.
- 2.C. Award the water west well field farm ground lease to Meyers Brothers in the amount of \$120.22 per acre and authorize the Mayor to sign the lease agreement.
- 2.D. Receive and file the claims for the month of February 2024, published March 12, 2024.
- 2.E. Receive and file the Financial Report for the period ending February 29, 2024.

3. Regular Agenda.

- 3.A. Ordinance No. 2024-3076 providing for the amendment of Chapter 38: Appendix E, Water Department Rates and Fees.

Mayor Taylor asked the Clerk to read Ordinance No. 2024-3076 by title.

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE AMENDMENT OF CHAPTER 38: FEE SCHEDULE - APPENDIX E, WATER DEPARTMENT RATES AND FEES; OF THE CITY OF MCCOOK CODE OF ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR A RATE TO BE CHARGED FOR WATER BY THE MCCOOK WATER DEPARTMENT; PROVIDING FOR THE REPEAL OF ORDINANCE NO. 2023-3064 AND ANY AND ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH; AND PROVIDING FOR A TIME AND DATE FROM AND AFTER WHICH THIS ORDINANCE SHALL TAKE EFFECT AND BE IN FORCE.

Ordinance No. 2024-3076 has been introduced, read by title, and I move to approve upon its first of three readings. This motion, made by Muehlenkamp and seconded by Weedin, passed.
Calvin: ABSENT, Rambali: ABSENT, Taylor: YEA, Weedin: YEA, Muehlenkamp: YEA
YEA: 3, NAY: 0, ABSENT: 2

Utilities Director Fawver was present to address questions from the Council. Based on the 2023 Water Enterprise Fund Cashflow Model, as prepared by Public Financial Management (PFM), City Staff is recommending that the current sewer rate be increased by 8.5%. The rate increase provides the funds to cover inflation, pay for major capital projects and maintain a healthy budget.

- 3.B. Ordinance No. 2024-3077 providing for the amendment of Chapter 38: Appendix D, Sewer Department Rates and Fees.

Mayor Taylor asked the Clerk to read Ordinance No. 2024-3077 by title.

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE AMENDMENT OF CHAPTER 38: FEE SCHEDULE - APPENDIX D, SEWER DEPARTMENT RATES AND FEES, OF THE CITY OF MCCOOK CODE OF ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR THE REPEAL OF ORDINANCE NO. 2023-3065

AND ANY AND ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH; AND PROVIDING A TIME AND DATE FROM AND AFTER WHICH THIS ORDINANCE SHALL TAKE EFFECT AND BE ENFORCED.

Ordinance No. 2024-3077 has been introduced, read by title, and I move to approve upon its first of three readings. This motion, made by Muehlenkamp and seconded by Weedin, passed.

Calvin: ABSENT, Rambali: ABSENT, Taylor: YEA, Weedin: YEA, Muehlenkamp: YEA
YEA: 3, NAY: 0, ABSENT: 2

Utilities Director Fawver was present to address questions from the Council. Based on the Sewer Enterprise Fund Cashflow Model prepared by Public Financial Management (PFM), City Staff is recommending that the current sewer rate be increased by 7.5%. The rate increase provides the funds to cover inflation, pay for major capital projects and maintain a healthy budget.

3.C. Council Comments.

There were no council comments.

3.D. An Executive Session may be held upon a majority vote of the Council for the protection of public interest for a strategy session with respect to real estate purchase for Sports Complex.

Motion to go into executive session for the protection of public interest for a strategy session with respect to real estate purchase for a Sports Complex at 5:48 P.M. This motion, made by Taylor and seconded by Muehlenkamp, passed.

Calvin: ABSENT, Rambali: ABSENT, Taylor: YEA, Weedin: YEA, Muehlenkamp: YEA
YEA: 3, NAY: 0, ABSENT: 2

Included in the executive session were City Manager Schneider, City Attorney Mustion, Assistant City Manager Koetter, City Clerk Doak, Public Works Director Potthoff, and Utilities Director Fawver.

Mayor Taylor stated for the record that at this time, pursuant to the Nebraska Open Meetings Act, a closed session will be held for the purpose of the protection of public interest for a strategy session with respect to real estate purchase for a Sports Complex. The Council will reconvene in public session following this closed session.

Motion to come out of executive session at 6:17 P.M. This motion, made by Muehlenkamp and seconded by Weedin, passed.

Calvin: ABSENT, Rambali: ABSENT, Taylor: YEA, Weedin: YEA, Muehlenkamp: YEA
YEA: 3, NAY: 0, ABSENT: 2

Adjournment.

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Taylor declared the meeting adjourned at 6:18 P.M.

Linda Taylor, Ex-officio Mayor
and Council President

ATTEST:

Lea Ann Doak, City Clerk-Treasurer