

The Council met in regular session in the Wahoo City Hall, 605 North Broadway Street, in compliance with agenda posted at City Hall, Post Office and First Bank of Nebraska, and the City of Wahoo web site, with each Council member being notified of agenda prior to the meeting. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Gerald D. Johnson at 7:00 p.m. and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. The public was informed of the location of posting of the Open Meetings Law. Roll call was taken with the following Council members present: Ryan Ideus, Chris Rappl, Patrick Nagle, Karen Boop, Carl Warford, and Stuart Krejci. Absent: None.

Department Head reports were reviewed by the Council. Acting Police Department Head O'Sullivan reported on the upgrades being done to the interview room. Fire Chief Hull reported the following: 1) the new rural weed trucks are in service and being housed in the Wahoo Fire Hall; 2) the department was able to purchase a side-by-side unit through the NE Forest Service that will be available for use on the Lake Wanahoo Trail as well as at Lake Wanahoo in rescue responses; 3) underground work has been completed on the generator project that will be placed between City Hall and the Fire Hall and which will allow City Hall and the Fire Hall to operate at full capacity in the event of a power outage; 4) 2021 preliminary call numbers were reviewed with the Council – 157 ALS transports, 93 BLS transports, 518 9-1-1 responses, 27 EMS standbys, 61 joint Fire/EMS calls, 42 Fire only calls, and 2 Fire standbys; 5) the LB 886 qualified volunteer list will be presented to the Council at the next meeting for approval which makes them eligible for a tax credit through the State of NE; and 6) Cedar Bluffs recently terminated their EMS mutual aid agreement with the Colon Rural Fire District. Wahoo was approached by the fire district to provide response in that area until a formal interlocal agreement can be established.

The Mayor invited the Wahoo Fire Chief Cody Hull and the Acting Police Department Head Alan O'Sullivan to provide a review of their involvement with the emergency radio system potential upgrades in Saunders County and examples of their experience in use of the current system, to provide information to the Council on the system as well as the examples showing the need for system upgrades.

Hull provided an explanation of the work done leading up to our current situation. He reported a committee of responders, including representation from fire, EMS, and law enforcement agencies across the County was established approximately two years ago to review the current system and make suggestions for improvements. It was agreed there needed to be consensus from the agencies that use the system on a system that would address the current needs of the various agencies. He explained Saunders County radio system currently operates as an analog system which is an aged system and which creates some gaps in coverage creating unsafe situations for first responders. In addition, the congestion that is caused by having multiple agencies use one frequency creates situations where effective and timely communication is difficult at times. He explained this analog system uses five towers with repeaters located throughout Saunders County. The example of multiple agencies responding to a situation was reviewed and an explanation was provided as to how that system would operate – to include the call being transferred from tower to tower, the manual switching of the portable radio that would be required, and the talking over that would happen due to the multiple agencies responding. Hull explained the solution that the committee that met over a couple years had determined would serve all agencies best was the ORION system that would allow interoperability with Cass County, Douglas County, Dodge County, and many of the agencies within those counties. Hull further explained currently there are several areas of Saunders County where there are gaps in radio coverage of our current system – areas of/near Valparaiso, Ceresco, and areas of Wahoo, particularly

near the public school and inside of buildings. Furthermore, Hull explained, there is no interoperability with the adjoining counties that many Saunders County agencies deal with daily (Sheriff's Office, Yutan, Ashland, and Cedar Bluffs) which makes efficient responses to emergency situations often difficult to achieve. It was explained the Saunders County Board is aware of the need for radio upgrades but there is significant concern about the cost of a system upgrade. There is concern by agencies, including the Wahoo Fire, Wahoo EMS, and Wahoo Police department, that the preparation work that has been done by local agencies over the last couple years, in anticipation of an upgrade to a system that would allow a connection to the ORION system out of Omaha, which is a Motorola based system, would not be considered by the County Supervisors. Hull and O'Sullivan explained our departments have spent significant funds in anticipation of the switch to the ORION system, and if that is not done and a different system is selected by the County Supervisors, there will be wasted funds and a learning curve of learning a new system. Several questions were raised by the Council and were addressed by the City staff present. It was noted that the Wahoo representatives for the Board of Supervisors were invited to this meeting but were not in attendance.

Boop reported the General Committee was still anticipating discussions with property owners along the Chestnut Street corridor that was recently on the agenda regarding rezoning. She will keep the Council informed of actions of the Committee going forward.

A motion was made by Krejci, seconded by Boop to approve the following items listed on the consent agenda: Minutes of the December 28, 2021 Council meeting; and the following claims submitted for the CDBG 19-HO-16103 Housing Rehab Grant Program: \$2,630.00 for grant administration payable to SENDD, and \$9,599.50 for housing management payable to SENDD. Roll call vote: Krejci, yes; Boop, yes; Warford, yes; Ideus, yes; Rappl, yes; and Nagle, yes. Motion carried.

The following resolution, **Resolution No. 2022-01**, to authorize the placement of 'No Parking' signs along Hackberry Street, was introduced by Nagle who moved for its approval, seconded by Boop:

"WHEREAS, the Governing Body of the City of Wahoo, Nebraska, has enacted a Municipal Code, and,

WHEREAS, Wahoo Municipal Code Section 70.01 adopts all portion of the Nebraska Rules of the Road and incorporates them by reference into the Wahoo Municipal Code, and,

WHEREAS, Section 60-680 (1)(b) of the Nebraska Revised Statutes provides the following:

"(1) Any local authority with respect to highways under its jurisdiction and within the reasonable exercise of police power may: ... (b) Regulate traffic by means of peace officers or traffic control devices;" and

WHEREAS, Section 60-624 of the Nebraska Revised Statutes defines a highway as follows:

"Highway shall mean the entire width between the boundary limits of any street, road, avenue, boulevard, or way which is publicly maintained when any part thereof is open to the use of the public for purposes of vehicular travel." and,

WHEREAS, Section 60-670 of the Nebraska Revised Statutes defines a traffic control device as follows:

“Traffic control device shall mean any sign, signal, marking, or other device not inconsistent with the Nebraska Rules of the Road placed or erected by authority of a public body or official having jurisdiction for the purpose of regulating, warning, or guiding traffic.” and,

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the City of Wahoo, Nebraska, as the City of Wahoo’s Governing Body, do desire to adopt this resolution providing for prohibiting parking at certain locations within the corporate limits of the City of Wahoo, Nebraska,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the City of Wahoo, Nebraska, as follows:

Section 1. That the finding hereinabove made should be and are hereby made a part of this Resolution as fully as if set out at length herein.

Section 2. That traffic control devices, to wit: one or more no parking signs, be erected at the following locations, all located in the City of Wahoo, Nebraska:

Along the east side of Hackberry Street from 15<sup>th</sup> Street to 8<sup>th</sup> Street, and along the west side of Hackberry Street from 10<sup>th</sup> Street to Westdale Lane.

Section 3. That upon the approval of this Resolution and at the discretion of the Chief of Police, the aforementioned traffic control devices shall be erected and this Resolution shall remain in full force and effect until the removal of said aforementioned signs, by the City of Wahoo, Nebraska, at which time, this Resolution shall be of no force and effect.”

Roll call vote: Nagle, yes; Boop, yes; Krejci, yes; Warford, yes; Ideus, yes; and Rappl, yes. Motion carried.

The following resolution, **Resolution No. 2022-02**, to provide for an amendment to the City’s Master Fee Schedule (Resolution No. 2021-04) Attachment 4 regarding cemetery fees, was introduced by Krejci who moved for its approval, seconded by Rappl:

“WHEREAS, it is necessary for the staff of the City of Wahoo to provide services, materials and products, permits, and facilities for use by the public, that will be reimbursed by said members of the public, and,

WHEREAS, it is necessary for the Mayor and City Council of the City of Wahoo to establish and adopt, by resolution, a schedule of appropriate fees and charges as are necessary to recover City costs in providing City services, materials, permits, and products,

WHEREAS, it is desirable to maintain a Master Fee Schedule which provides a compilation of fees and charges assessed by the departments of the City of Wahoo, as attached herein,

WHEREAS, the City did, on March 11, 2021 adopt a Master Fee Schedule, containing Attachments 1 to 9 as follows:

- Attachment 1: General Fund Fees and Charges
- Attachment 2: Police Department Fees and Charges
- Attachment 3: Street Department Fees and Charges

- Attachment 4: Cemetery Fees and Charges
- Attachment 5: Park and Recreation Fees and Charges
- Attachment 6: Rescue Squad Fees and Charges
- Attachment 7: Wahoo Public Library Fees and Charges
- Attachment 8: Building Department Fees and Charges
- Attachment 9: Zoning Department Fees and Charges

WHEREAS, it is necessary to update particular Attachments to adopt changes to said fees and charges, specifically Attachment 4 regarding Cemetery Fees and Charges.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the City of Wahoo that the following amendments to Attachment 4: Cemetery Fees and Charges are hereby adopted and are to be incorporated into the City of Wahoo's Master Fee Resolution, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the effective date of this amendment shall be February 1, 2022."

Roll call vote: Krejci, yes; Rappl, yes; Ideus, yes; Nagle, yes; Boop, yes; and Warford, yes. Motion carried.

Pay application No. 2 for the North Highlands Subdivision improvements was presented to the Council for payment. A motion was made by Krejci, seconded by Nagle, to approve Pay Application #2 to M.E. Collins Contracting Co., Inc for \$91,522.99 for North Highlands Subdivision. Roll call vote: Krejci, yes; Nagle, yes; Rappl, yes; Boop, yes; Warford, yes; and Ideus, yes. Motion carried.

The Mayor reported on efforts to fill the vacant positions for the City and indicated there would be more to report at the next meeting.

A motion was made by Warford, seconded by Ideus, to adjourn the meeting at 8:29 p.m. Roll call vote: Warford, yes; Ideus, yes; Krejci, yes; Boop, yes; Rappl, yes; and Nagle, yes. Motion carried.

The next regular meeting will be January 25, 2022.

Approved:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Melissa M. Harrell, Actin City Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Gerald D. Johnson, Mayor