

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF THE NELIGH MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL  
April 22, 2020

A special meeting of the City Council of the City of Neligh was held on Wednesday, April 22, 2020 at 5:30 P.M. at the City Council Chambers. Present were Mayor Joe Hartz and Council Members Ted Hughes, Leonard Miller, Brent Pickrel and Dale Wilkinson. Also in attendance were City Attorney Jim McNally, City Clerk Danielle Klabenes, Economic Development Director Lauren Sheridan-Simonsen and News Reporter Luke Jacobsen. Notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by posting in four public places on April 20, 2020. A copy of the City Council acknowledgement of receipt of notice and the agenda is attached to the minutes. Mayor Hartz offered a prayer before opening the meeting. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open by video streaming through Antelope County News. Mayor Hartz presided over the meeting and noted that parts of the Open Meetings Act was waived by the Governor's Executive Order No. 20-03 and that the public could participate by telephone, 402-887-4066, if they so desired. Clerk Klabenes recorded the minutes. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**LB840 EMERGENCY GRANT**

Economic Development Director Lauren Sheridan-Simonsen reported the Economic Development Board had developed guidelines for \$25,000 of the LB840 savings funds to be offered as \$1,500 Emergency LB840 grants to the most vulnerable businesses that may have closed due to the directed health measures (DHM), being in operation less than 2 years or recently transitioned into new ownership. Discussion was held that the grant was not limited to businesses with existing economic development loans. Discussion was held for the current proposed grant would use \$25,000 of the approximate \$52,000 LB840 loan repayment funds. Discussion was held that to clarify that approximately \$200,000 of sales tax receipts not included in the emergency grant were available for new businesses and existing business expansion under the Neligh LB840 Economic Development Plan.

Discussion was held that a review of the business financial need would be discussed at the regular May council meeting to allow businesses an opportunity to apply for the emergency grant and allow the ED Board time to determine the level of need met and unmet. Discussion was held for a scoring sheet in determining grant eligibility with more points awarded to those businesses with more need and a minimum scoring threshold. Discussion was held that businesses should be eligible and receive the full \$1,500 grant instead of a portion of the grant at different times.

Discussion was held for a Memorandum of Understanding which stated that a portion of the grant would be paid back if the business did not stay in business for 5 years. Discussion was held that the businesses needed the assistance now and to leave the grant as a grant without a payback, thus not approve the Memorandum of Understanding.

*Council member Miller moved to approve the LB840 Emergency Grant program administered by the Economic Development Board guidelines and to extend funds up to \$25,000 from the LB840 savings funds. Any grant made would not need to be refunded. Seconded by Wilkinson. Roll call votes in favor were Wilkinson, Hughes, Pickrel, Miller. Opposed: None. Motion carried.*

There being no further business to conduct Council member Miller motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Hughes. Roll call votes in favor were Pickrel, Wilkinson, Miller, Hughes. Opposed: None. Thereupon Mayor Hartz declared the meeting adjourned. Time: 6:07 P.M.

City of Neligh

---

Joe Hartz, Mayor

(ATTEST)

---

Danielle Klabenes, City Clerk

**CERTIFICATION**

I, the undersigned, City Clerk of the City of Neligh, Nebraska, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of proceedings had and done by the Council on April 22, 2020 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 City 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 for public inspection at least twenty-four hours before the meeting; that the said minutes from which the foregoing proceedings have been extracted 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.

(SEAL)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Danielle Klabenes, City Clerk