

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF THE NELIGH MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL  
August 17, 2023

A special meeting of the City Council of the City of Neligh was held on Thursday, August 17, 2023 at 5:30 P.M. at the City Council Chambers. Present were Mayor Joe Hartz, Council Members Dale Wilkinson, Stephanie Lundgren, and Leonard Miller. Absent was Ted Hughes. Also in attendance were City Attorney Jim McNally, City Supt. Dan Donaldson, Electric Generation Supervisor Josh Capler, Library Director Amy Baker, Police Chief Logan Lawson, Economic Development Director Lauren Sheridan-Simonsen, City Clerk Danielle Klabenes, and Deputy Clerk Rhonda Heithoff. Notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by posting in four public places on August 7, 2023. A copy of their acknowledgement of receipt of notice and the agenda is attached to the minutes. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public. Mayor Hartz presided over the meeting and noted that a copy of the Open Meetings Law, located on the east wall of the Council Chambers was available for the public. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Clerk Klabenes recorded the minutes.

**BUDGET FOR 2023-2024 FISCAL YEAR**

A budget work meeting for the 2023-2024 fiscal year budget was held. Clerk Klabenes presented a summary of each department individually and collectively. She reported on the city valuation increase compared to last year. The City Council then reviewed each proposed City operation fund and made the following additions or deletions:

General: Consideration for office chair and outdoor table \$1,500.

Lottery: Consideration for \$15,000 for Inclusive Playground Phase 2 and \$5,000 for Police camera upgrade for Phase 2.

Economic Development: Consideration for fiber line to office \$2600.

LB840: Consideration for administrative expenses of \$38,000, loan disbursement of \$125,000, rural workforce housing grant of \$25,000, demo fund of \$35,000, and New Moon Theater engineer plans of \$15,000.

CDBG De-obligated: Consideration for demolitions \$19,000.

Street: Consideration for asphalt road improvements to Riverside Park Road and County Road 11 to the Tree Dump estimated at \$491,000. A discussion was held for financing half the project with Neligh Paving funds and half with a bond. Discussion was held for asking the county for cost sharing. Consideration for crack seal city streets \$50,000 and snowplow truck \$20,000.

Water: Consideration for re-piping north well \$27,500, VFD \$30,000, water meter upgrade \$22,500. Consideration for East Highway 275 water project of \$3,643,000 with an original total of engineering fees. Consideration for an increase of the monthly rate of \$.75 and usage fee of \$.05 per thousand gallons.

Sewer: Consideration for sewer jetter head \$3,000. Consideration for East Highway 275 sewer project of \$910,770 with an original total of engineering fees. Consideration for sewer cleaning and maintenance contract hire \$17,500, repairs on sewer plant or equipment \$20,000.

Fire: Consideration for 3 sets of bunker gear replacement \$9,000. Consideration for concrete project on east side of firehall \$7,000, final Pumper Truck payment \$10,255. Consideration for creating a certificate of deposit for unused equipment budget for future equipment purchase.

Police: Consideration for academy training for new officer \$3,200, uniforms and vests \$5,000, camera upgrade phase 1 of \$10,230.

Dial-A-Ride: Discussion for budget of first year of bi-annual budget with NDOT previously set in March. Discussion for new employee wage to increase January 1, 2024.

Solid Waste: Discussion for contract hauling and tipping contract rates to change January 1, 2024, baler with matching grant \$20,000, garbage truck \$205,000 with 5-year loan interest rate options for \$48,000 total annual payments.

Pool: Consideration for concrete deck replacement and fence removal and re-install \$10,200. Consideration for new minimum wage January 1, 2024. Pool Improvements funds discussion for possible lounge chairs or public announcement system.

Park: Consideration for field drag \$2700, cameras \$1,400. Discussion for 3 teeters totter boards.

Park Foundation: Consideration for signage of the Pavilion. It was noted the funds held separately in Park Foundation for the Swinging Bridge and Inclusive Playground.

Library: Consideration for lighting project \$15,000 to partner with Library Foundation, replace two computers in rotation \$3,000.

Theater: Consideration for insurance, utilities and real estate taxes \$5,000.

Electric and Electric Generation: Consideration for 5% rate increase. Discussion was held for controlling costs by system maintenance year. Discussion for Electric loan payment for November loan payment as a result of February 2021 extreme weather event. Discussion was held for anticipated monthly income following the installation of automatic controls for the generation plant. Discussion was held for the level or wrap-around bond options for payment of automatic controls. Discussion for electric meter upgrade equipment project.

Consideration for 5% cost of living increase to salaries and wages and 3% increase to health savings account contributions for employee health insurance.

There being no further business to conduct Council member Miller motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Lundgren. Roll call votes in favor were Wilkinson, Lundgren, and Miller. Opposed: None. Absent: Hughes. Thereupon Mayor Hartz declared the meeting adjourned. Time: 8:45 P.M.

City of Neligh

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Joe Hartz, Mayor

(ATTEST)

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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 August 17, 2023 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 at the meeting for examination and copying by members of the public; 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)

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Danielle Klabenes, City Clerk