

SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING

NO. 2008-16

JULY 28, 2008

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Chadron, Nebraska met in special session in the City Hall Council Chambers at 234 Main Street on the 28th day of July 2008, at 5:00 o'clock P.M. The following individuals were present: Mayor Donny Grantham, Vice Mayor John Gamby, Councilmembers John Chizek, Rob Harvey, and Don Thompson, City Manager Sandra Powell, City Clerk Donna Rust, and Finance Officer Melany Hughes. Employees and Supervisors representing their departments included: Police Lieutenant Rick Hickstein, Records Supervisor Margaret Keiper, E-911/Communications Supervisor Tony Serbousek, Street Supervisor Terry Birnbaum, Parks/Cemetery Supervisor Scott Schremmer, Interim Library Director Rossella Tesch, and Utilities representative Tom Emick, Absent: Public Works Director Milo Rust, City Attorney Megan Failla, Chief of Police Tim Lordino, and Zoning/Building Official Janet Johnson.

Notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by publishing notice in The Chadron Record as shown by the affidavit of publication filed in the City Clerk's office. Notice of the meeting was simultaneously given to the Mayor and all members of the City Council and a copy of their acknowledgment of receipt of notice and the agenda is attached to the minutes and is filed in the City Clerk's office. Availability of the agenda was communicated in the advance notice and in the notice of the Mayor and City Council of this meeting. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

Mayor Grantham called the meeting to order and declared a quorum present. The Mayor also read the following before continuing with the meeting: "As required by Section 84-1412, subsection of the Nebraska Statutes, notice is hereby given that a copy of the Open Meetings Act is posted for your examination on the wall inside the door to these City Council Chambers."

Councilmember Gamby introduced the following Resolution and moved for its adoption:

RESOLUTION NO. 2008-78

WHEREAS, JEDI Enterprises dba Over Draft Lounge, License #C-66944, Chadron, NE 69337, has applied for a Special Designated License from the Nebraska Liquor Control Commission, and the City Council finds that the Special Designated License should be approved so long as said consumption of alcohol is in accordance with and pursuant to licenses granted by the Nebraska Liquor Control Commission.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHADRON, NEBRASKA:

1. The City Council being the governing body of the City of Chadron does hereby authorize the consumption of alcoholic liquors by adults between the hours of 6:00 o'clock P.M. and 12:00 Midnight on August 16, 2008, at the Chadron Arts Center, in an area which is 100' x 48' and located at 371 King Street, Chadron, Nebraska.

2. It is recommended that approval be granted for a Special Designated License to JEDI Enterprises dba Over Draft Lounge, Chadron, NE 69337, between the hours of 6:00 o'clock P.M. and 12:00 Midnight on August 16, 2008, at the Chadron Arts Center, in an area which is 100' x 48' and located at 371 King Street, Chadron, Nebraska, for a dance and reception, pursuant to the rules and regulations of the Nebraska Liquor Control Commission and in accordance with any license issued by said Commission.

3. The City Clerk is hereby directed to send a copy of this Resolution by first class mail prepaid to the Nebraska Liquor Commission.

The foregoing Resolution having been read, Councilmember Chizek seconded the motion for its passage and adoption, and after consideration thereof, the roll was called on the passage and adoption of said Resolution and the following Council members voted Aye: Gamby, Chizek, Harvey, Thompson, Grantham. The following voted Nay: None. The passage of the Resolution having been consented to by more than a majority of the members elected to the Council was declared passed and adopted this 28th day of July, 2008.

CITY OF CHADRON

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk

(S E A L)

The Council met in workshop session to review the annual budget for the 2008-2009 fiscal year. City Manager Powell commended Finance Officer Melany Hughes, the Department Heads, Supervisors, and office staff for their assistance in preparing the annual budget. She stated that major cuts were taken from each department to meet budget requirements. City Manager Sandy Powell and Finance Officer Melany Hughes presented the annual budget, highlighting the major expenditures, revenues and changes in the proposed budget.

It was noted that the total property tax request for the 2007-2008 fiscal year was \$469,997.64. The property tax request in the proposed budget for the 2008-2009 fiscal year is \$523,037.92. It is projected that the taxable valuation will increase \$3,367,227.00 this year, from \$167,129,934.00 to \$170,497,161.00. Due to the double digit inflation in costs, the City Manager proposed increasing the property tax levy from 0.281217 to 0.306772 per \$100.00 of assessed valuation to help defray the budget shortfall.

City Manager Powell reminded the Council that per the City of Chadron's proposed Pay Plan Guideline and proposed pay plan, employees do not receive annual cost of living increases and that pay adjustments are based on performance and comparability. Due to the required comparability, some of the employee positions require adjustment. Whereas the benefits are comparable to like cities, no change in benefits is recommended at this time. The pay adjustments were included in the proposed budget.

Groups requesting Keno funds are budgeted at the same level as last year, with the addition of \$300.00 for the Chadron Youth Council. Due to increased revenues from Keno operations, an additional \$10,000.00 was moved back from the general fund expenditures to the Keno fund.

Capital expenditures in the General Fund and Public Works Departments total \$48,300.00 . The proposed expenditures include: purchase of office equipment and computers for various departments in the amount of \$10,800.00, a mower for the parks department - \$7,000.00, weed eater and sprayer mount for the airport - \$550.00, and radio equipment for the police department - \$500.00, and fire - \$500.00. Also included as capital expenditures, are \$5,000.00 for fire fighting and \$5,000.00 special equipment for the fire department, special equipment for the police department and library - \$1,050.00, and system improvements; parks - \$8,000.00, water \$6,300.00, and wastewater - \$3,600.00. Proposed expenditures from the Public Safety Debt Service account includes \$32,500.00 for digital pagers and a base station, and \$100,000.00 for purchase of a chassis for the new fire truck.

The land enterprise budget includes \$236,500.00 for assessable alley and paving projects and \$181,000.00 for assessable sewer mains. Also budgeted is \$15,000.00 for an engineering study for City owned property along East Niobrara Avenue and \$6,000.00 for abatement. General Obligation bonds are budgeted, if needed, for assessable districts in the Debt Service Fund. The Debt Service budget also includes loan proceeds of \$6,700.00 related to the purchase of the airport fuel farm, and \$6,720.00 for payments to Nebraska Department of Aeronautics.

The Street Department budget includes \$115,000.00 for street maintenance contracts for completion of Centennial Drive.

The Water Department budget includes \$85,644.00 in loan payments to First National Bank of Chadron for improvements made to the water treatment plant. Final payment for this loan is scheduled for December 15, 2010.

The Wastewater Department includes \$4,212,782.00 for construction of the wastewater treatment system. Budgeted revenues include \$3,397,684.00 loan proceeds. A new fund has been created, Wastewater Bond (84), to reserve at least an annual bond payment for the treatment facility. The monthly

sewer use fee increase previously passed in the fee ordinance was included in the budget. The increase will help cover the costs of the wastewater project.

Grant project expenditures include \$130,254.00 for a Federal fire fighting FEMA grant. State grant expenditures include \$40,000.00 for miscellaneous grant projects that may become available, \$40,000.00 for a comp plan and \$100,000.00 for airport improvements.

MIRF funds were completely expended in FY 2007/08 with the installation of the fuel tanks at the airport.

Department representatives spoke in regard to their departments budget.

After discussion, the Council was of the consensus to direct staff to increase the property tax levy for additional revenue. City Manager Powell advised that if there are additional revenues to work with, she would propose putting part-time employees back in the Street Department, Parks/Cemetery Department, and Communications Department. She would also recommend putting dollars back in the budget for a tractor/mower for the Airport and to put the remaining dollars in the Street Department for street and alley projects.

Councilmember Thompson moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 o'clock P.M. Seconded by Councilmember Harvey. The following Councilmembers voted Aye: Gamby, Chizek, Harvey, Thompson, Grantham. The following voted Nay: None. Motion carried.

CITY OF CHADRON

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk

(S E A L)

STATE OF NEBRASKA)
)
County of Dawes) ss
)
City of Chadron)

I, the undersigned City Clerk for the City of Chadron, Nebraska, hereby certify that all of the subjects included in the attached proceedings were contained in the agenda for the special meeting of July 28, 2008 kept continually current and 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 the said minutes of the City Council of the City of Chadron were in written form and available for public inspection within ten working days and prior to the next convened meeting of said body.

City Clerk

(S E A L)