

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING

April 1, 2020; 5:30 p.m.

CALL TO
ORDER

A Special Meeting of the Council of the City of North Platte, Nebraska was convened in open and public session at 5:30 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers and the City Hall Conference Room at 211 West 3rd Street. Present were Nisley, Backenstose, Petersen, Lucas, Lee, Carman, Rieker, Ostendorf. Mayor Dwight Livingston presided and Dawn Miller, Director of Finance recorded the proceedings.

Mayor Livingston stated that a current copy of the Open Meetings Act of Nebraska is posted on the wall in the Council Chambers and the Conference Room.

Notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by posting in three public places in the City as follows: North Platte Public Library, Lincoln County Courthouse, City Hall Office, the designated method for giving notice (certificate of posting), being attached to these minutes. Proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

ITEM #2
SMALL
BUSINESS
TECHNICAL
ASSIST
PROGRAM

Nisley moved and Lee seconded the motion to authorize an expenditure up to \$250,000 from the Quality Growth Fund for the purpose of providing small grants to all profit and non-profit businesses to pay for independent third party costs associated with SBA technical assistance loan packaging and funding and related expenses, with the eligibility to be up to \$2,500 per operating business entity.

Gary Person, President & CEO/North Platte Area Chamber & Development, told the Council the funding will be used to reimburse North Platte area businesses for Professional Technical Assistance costs incurred in seeking SBA Economic Injury Loans due to COVID-19 pandemic. Person explained that this request comes from a COVID-19 Small Business Assistance Task Force as part of the North Platte Area Chamber and Development Corp; the Chamber & Development office will administer the program, and the grants will be capped at \$2,500 per business.

Councilman Lucas provided additional information regarding the various assistance programs and explained that he will be abstaining from voting on this item as a result of his involvement with the Task Force and his role at the Bank.

Roll call vote: "AYE": Nisley, Backenstose, Petersen, Lee, Carman, Rieker, Ostendorf. "NAY": None. "ABSTAIN": Lucas. Motion carried.

ITEM #3
NEBRASKA
MAIN
STREET
NETWORK
INC.

Lee moved and Petersen seconded the motion to approve the Quality Growth Fund Citizen's Review Committee application for the Nebraska Main Street Network Inc. for a workshop on Upper Floor development in the downtown in the amount of \$4,800.

Elizabeth Chase, Executive Director of the Nebraska Main Street Network Inc., told the Council this request is for a 40% matching grant to the Certified Local Government grant program. Funds will be used to host a workshop on redevelopment and revitalization of underutilized Upper Floors in downtown buildings. The workshop will be held at the Prairie Arts Center in North Platte in October or November. Chase said the workshop will be geared toward North Platte and will benefit North Platte directly. They will charge a registration fee but have not yet set the fee.

Roll call vote: "AYE": Nisley, Backenstose, Petersen, Lucas, Lee, Carman, Rieker, Ostendorf. "NAY": None. Motion carried.

ITEM #4
RAIL
ACCESS
PARK

Lee moved and Petersen seconded the motion to approve the Quality Growth Fund Citizen's Review Committee application for leverage grant funding for a proposed Rail Access Park in Lincoln County in the amount of \$75,000.

Gary Person, President & CEO/North Platte Area Chamber & Development, told the Council there have been decades of challenges regarding additional rail access in the Lincoln County area due to the uniqueness and congestion of rail traffic at Bailey Yard. With some of the efficiency changes now happening at UP along with diminished coal traffic, the Chamber & Development organization began working with Union Pacific Railroad officials last year on getting approval for a rail access yard. Certain areas were then identified that UP could allow for additional rail access for potential heavy commercial or industrial clients. With proper planning and preparation in advance, a good master plan could be put in place so things can happen much quicker when business prospects needing rail access come forward. A specific site has been identified that will remain confidential at present. The Quality Growth Fund request would be used for a 75 percent leverage match planning grant through the Nebraska Public Power District's Site Ready Assistance Program regarding a Rail Access Park in Lincoln County.

Roll call vote: "AYE": Nisley, Backenstose, Petersen, Lucas, Lee, Carman, Rieker, Ostendorf. "NAY": None. Motion carried.

ITEM #5
REVOLVING
FUND FOR
HOUSING

Lee moved and Petersen seconded the motion to approve Resolution to authorize the creation and funding of a revolving fund pursuant to the authority set forth in Section 151.257 of the North Platte Code of

Ordinances Housing, Maintenance and Occupancy Code in the amount of \$50,000.00; all disbursements from such fund to be approved by the City Administrator.

Roll call vote: "AYE": Nisley, Backenstose, Petersen, Lucas, Lee, Carman, Ostendorf. "NAY": Rieker. Motion carried.

ADJOURN Lee moved and Petersen seconded the motion to adjourn. Roll call vote: "AYE": Nisley, Backenstose, Petersen, Lucas, Lee, Carman, Rieker, Ostendorf. "NAY": None. Motion carried.

Adjourned at 6:44 p.m.



Angela Gilbert, City Clerk