

## THE OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE GERING CITY COUNCIL, JUNE 12, 2023

A regular meeting of the City Council of Gering, Nebraska was held in open session on June 12, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. at Gering City Hall, 1025 P Street, Gering, NE. Present were Mayor Ewing and Councilmembers Shields, Gillen, Backus, Bohl, Wiedeman, O'Neal, Morrison, Cowan. Also present were City Administrator Pat Heath, City Clerk Kathy Welfl and City Attorney Jim Ellison. Notice of the meeting was given in advance by publication in the Star-Herald, the designated method of giving notice. All proceedings hereafter were taken while the meeting was open to the attendance of the public except as otherwise indicated.

### CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Ewing called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and stated that there was a quorum of the Council present and City business could be conducted.

1. Recital of the Pledge of Allegiance and Prayer
2. Roll Call
3. Excuse Council Member absence

**Councilmember O'Neal made a motion to excuse the absence of Councilmember Shields from the May 22, 2023 regular City Council meeting. Second by Councilmember Bohl. There was no discussion. The vote was called. "AYES": Shields, Gillen, Backus, Bohl, Wiedeman, O'Neal, Morrison, Cowan. "NAYS": None. Abstaining: None. Absent: None. Motion Carried.**

### OPEN MEETINGS ACT - NEB.REV.STAT. CHAPTER 84, ARTICLE 14

Mayor Ewing stated: As required by State Law, public bodies shall make available at least one current copy of the Open Meetings Act posted in the meeting room. Agenda items may be moved up or down on the agenda at the discretion of the Mayor. As required by State Law, additions may not be made to this agenda less than 24 hours before the beginning of the meeting unless they are considered under this section of the agenda and Council determines that the matter requires emergency action.

### CONSENT AGENDA:

(Items under the Consent Agenda are proposed for adoption by one action for all items unless any member of Council requests that an item be considered separately.)

1. Approve minutes of the May 22, 2023 Regular City Council meeting
2. Approve Claims
3. Approve Special Designated License (SDL) application submitted by the Oregon Trail Association for a beer garden at the Oregon Trail Days Mud Volleyball Tournament on July 15, 2023 at Five Rocks Amphitheater
4. Approve Special Designated License (SDL) application submitted by the Oregon Trail Association for a beer garden at the Oregon Trail Days Chili Cook-off on July 15, 2023 at Five Rocks Amphitheater
5. Approve Special Designated License (SDL) application submitted by the Oregon Trail Association for the Oregon Trail Days Beer and Wine Tasting Event on July 15, 2023 at the Oregon Trail Days Building, 1125 J Street, Gering, NE

### Claims 5/23/23 thru 6/12/23

A & A PORTA POTTIES \$450.00, AC ELECTRIC MOTOR SERVICE \$1,766.68, ACE HARDWARE \$1,311.70, ACTION COMMUNICATIONS, INC. \$965.36, ACUSHNET COMPANY \$1,449.28, AJ MOORE \$919.50, ALLO COMMUNICATIONS \$3,107.96, AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES \$148.01, AMERITAS LIFE INSURANCE COPR. \$581.28, ANGELA COCHRAN \$75.00, AT&T MOBILITY \$212.70, ATLAS \$305.00, B & C STEEL \$293.26, BENZEL PEST CONTROL \$100.05, BIG MACK HEATING & COOLING \$1,305.92, BLACK HILLS ENERGY \$1,010.77, BLUFFS FACILITY SOLUTIONS \$3,121.78, BORDER STATES INDUSTRIES, INC \$2,726.89, BRETHOURS HONEYWAGON EXPRESS \$200.00, CALLAWAY GOLF COMPANY \$5,313.25, CASCADE ENGINEERING \$19,950.00, CENGAGE LEARNING/GAGE \$39.99, CENTRAL PROGRAMS, INC \$43.74, CITY OF GERING \$24,566.66, COLLIN HAVENGAR \$1,230.00, CONNECTING POINT \$869.06, CONSOLIDATED MANAGEMENT COMPAN \$269.75, CONTRACTORS MATERIALS, INC. \$2,172.28, CONTRYMAN ASSOCIATES, P.C. \$1,100.00, CRESCENT ELECTRIC SUPPLY CO. \$337.02, CROELL, INC \$1,331.00, DBO DIGITAL MARKETING \$500.00, DEARBORN LIFE INSURANCE COMPAN \$147.92, DEMCO, INC \$320.52, DIAMOND VOGEL PAINT CENTER \$128.88, DOOLEY OIL \$216.78, DOUG PARKER \$340.60, DUTTON-LAINSON COMPANY \$2,101.73, EAKES INC \$13,687.92, ECOLAB \$195.90, ELLISON, KOVARIK & TURMAN LAW \$8,320.00, ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS SOUTH, INC. \$1,291.67, FASTENAL COMPANY \$696.11, FEDEX \$374.98, FIELDTURF USA, INC. \$118,342.12, FIRST NATIONAL BANK OMAHA - POLICE \$550.00, FLOYD'S TRUCK CENTER, INC. \$507.08, FRANK PARTS COMPANY \$975.89, FRASER STRYKER PC LLO \$4,590.00, FRESH FOODS INC. \$22.90, FYR-TEK, INC. \$2,206.00, GALLS, AN ARAMARK COMPANY \$898.73, GERING VALLEY PLUMBING & HTG., INC. \$4,956.96, GERING VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPT. \$996.00, GOLF AND SPORT SOLUTIONS, LLC \$2,432.84, GREATAMERICA FINANCIAL SERVICE \$100.00, GREY HOUSE PUBLISHING \$242.00, HACH COMPANY \$655.80, HEALTHBREAK, INC. \$625.00, HEARTLAND BANK \$143,793.75, HOLIDAY INN KEARNEY \$119.95, HOME DEPOT CREDIT SERVICES \$93.52, HOMETOWN LEASING \$144.52,

IDEAL LAUNDRY AND CLEANERS, INC. \$443.65, INDEPENDENT PLUMBING & HEATING \$244.79, INDOFF INCORPORATED \$775.50, INGRAM LIBRARY SERVICES \$919.96, INNOVATIVE EQUIPMENT SOLUTIONS, INC \$23,000.00, INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE \$48,442.03, INTRALINKS, INC. \$4,594.00, IRBY TOOL & SAFETY \$7,916.03, J & A TRAFFIC PRODUCTS \$985.00, J RODZ \$225.00, JIRDON AGRI CHEMICALS, INC \$1,636.80, JOHN CRANE INC. \$781.13, JOHN HANCOCK USA \$15,838.64, JOHN HANCOCK USA FIRE \$690.93, JOHN HANCOCK USA POLICE \$7,457.84, JOHNSON CASHWAY CO. \$93.39, JUNIOR LIBRARY GUILD \$24.00, JUSTIN BERNHARDT \$360.00, KANSAS GOLF & TURF INC \$2,484.34, KOIS BROTHERS EQUIPMENT CO. \$687.31, LEE ENTERPRISES \$316.57, LONDON FLATS, LLC \$1,230.75, MAC EQUIPMENT \$545.85, MALY MARKETING \$160.00, MASEK DISTRIBUTING INC \$625.72, MATHESON TRI-GAS INC \$294.57, MEAT SHOPPE \$32,027.36, MEL'S MOBILE LOCK & KEY \$120.00, MENARDS \$979.61, MIDWEST CONNECT \$3,776.23, MIKE DAVIES \$300.00, MOBIUS COMMUNICATIONS COMPANY \$30.00, MUNICIPAL SUPPLY, INC. OF NE. \$30,452.66, MUTUAL OF OMAHA \$4,322.36, NEBRASKA DEPT. ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY \$750.00, NEBRASKA CHILD SUPPORT PAYMENT CENTE \$567.70, NEBRASKA FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION \$125.00, NEBRASKA MUNICIPAL POWER POOL \$500.00, NEBRASKA PUBLIC HEALTH ENVIRO LAB \$468.00, NEBRASKA SAFETY AND FIRE EQUIPMENT, INC \$585.50, NEBRASKA STATE VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER \$840.00, NEBRASKA UNEMPLOYMENT \$1,639.94, NEMNICH AUTOMOTIVE LLC \$4,652.76, NKC TIRE \$108.99, NORTHWEST PIPE FITTINGS, INC \$642.73, ONE CALL CONCEPTS, INC \$117.38, PANHANDLE COOP ASSOCIATION \$15,618.71, PANHANDLE ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICE, INC. \$2,498.00, PATTLEN ENTERPRISES, INC \$59,500.00, PAUL REED CONSTRUCTION & SUPP \$1,047.67, PING INC \$941.88, POWER SCREENING, LLC \$7,298.44, PRAISE WINDOWS \$600.00, PT HOSE AND BEARING \$32.56, QUADIENT POSTAGE FUNDING \$51.31, RED BARN SHOP, LLC \$156.50, REGIONAL CARE INC. \$142,226.85, RIVERSTONE BANK \$580.56, RON'S TOWING & RECOVERY, LLC \$750.00, RUDY PEREZ \$520.00, SAMANTHA MCCLOUD \$75.00, SANDBERG IMPLEMENT, INC. \$128,707.33, SANDRY FIRE SUPPLY \$1,262.50, SARAH WYNN \$425.00, SCB. COUNTY SHERIFF OFFICE \$59.28, SCHANK ROOFING SERVICE \$754.00, SCOTTS BLUFF COUNTY \$46,575.00, SCOTTSBLUFF-GERING UNITED WAY \$221.25, SHAWNA WINCHELL \$1,120.00, SHERWIN WILLIAMS \$39.06, SIMON CONTRACTORS \$6,676.38, SOUTHWESTERN EQUIPMENT COMPANY \$270.34, SPEAK WRITE \$209.77, STAPLES CREDIT PLAN \$136.77, SUGAR VALLEY FEDERAL CREDIT \$528.37, SUNBELT SOLOMON \$6,430.00, SUNSHINE FILTERS OF PINELLAS, INC \$365.10, SWANA \$245.00, TAYLOR MADE GOLF COMPANY \$1,113.52, TEAM CHEVROLET \$375.00, THE LIBRARY STORE, INC. \$1,030.93, TITAN MACHINERY INC. \$101,500.00, TORRINGTON SOD FARMS \$434.00, TRANSUNION RISK AND ALTERNATIV \$75.00, TRANSWEST \$512.38, TWIN CITY DEVELOPMENT ASSOC \$200,000.00, TYLER TECHNOLOGIES \$41,686.60, USA BLUE BOOK \$438.70, UTILITY BILL REFUNDS \$1,335.29, VALLEY AUTO LOCATORS LLC \$580.94, VERIZON CONNECT \$76.76, VERIZON WIRELESS SERVICES, LLC \$1,159.00, W L CONSTRUCTION SUPPLY, INC \$422.93, WESCO RECEIVABLES CORP. \$1,463.09, WESTERN COOPERATIVE COMPANY \$640.50, WESTERN PATHOLOGY CONSULTANTS \$506.00, WESTERN STATES BANK \$9,220.61, WILLIAM DWAYNE REIN III \$350.00, Total \$1,385,473.86

**Councilmember Morrison made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Second by Councilmember Wiedeman. There was no discussion. The vote was called. "AYES": Shields, Gillen, Backus, Bohl, Wiedeman, O'Neal, Morrison, Cowan. "NAYS": None. Abstaining: None. Absent: None. Motion Carried.**

#### **CURRENT BUSINESS:**

**1. Approve and authorize the Mayor to sign Agreement for Mosquito Control by and between the City of Gering and the City of Terrytown**

**Councilmember Gillen made a motion to approve and authorize the Mayor to sign Agreement for Mosquito Control by and between the City of Gering and the City of Terrytown. Second by Councilmember Cowan. There was no discussion. The vote was called. "AYES": Shields, Gillen, Backus, Bohl, Wiedeman, O'Neal, Morrison, Cowan. "NAYS": None. Abstaining: None. Absent: None. Motion Carried.**

**2. Approve Special Event Permit for a fireworks show at Oregon Trail Park Stadium on July 1, 2023 submitted by Western Nebraska Pioneers Baseball Club**

**Councilmember Shields made a motion to approve a Special Event Permit for a fireworks show at the Oregon Trail Park Stadium on July 1, 2023 submitted by Western Nebraska Pioneers Baseball Club. Second by Councilmember Gillen. There was no discussion. The vote was called. "AYES": Shields, Gillen, Backus, Bohl, Wiedeman, O'Neal, Morrison, Cowan. "NAYS": None. Abstaining: None. Absent: None. Motion Carried.**

**3. Approve and authorize the Mayor to sign Contingency Search Agreement with GPAC pertaining to succession planning for the Gering Civic Center**

Administrator Heath stated that this is an agreement to contract with GPAC, a recruiting company. The City has a special position in the hospitality industry. Staff advertised for RFPs for approximately six weeks and did not receive any proposals. Staff and the RFP Committee believe that the City needs to have someone recruit candidates. The person that will be the lead on the team (Millisa Reynolds) has 15 years of experience in the hospitality industry. Staff have reached out to other firms that do this and have not received any replies; some of that may be because our civic center is a smaller piece of the market. Most

convention centers are associated with hotels and other amenities. Gering has a stand-alone convention center (which is a little unusual). Administrator Heath thinks this is the right way to go. Regarding their fee, the agreement in the packet is their standard contract language. However, they followed up with an email stating that the compensation will be based on what the City agrees to with the new provider. It does not include anything for private catering, fees for beverage or meal services, etc.

Councilmember Wiedeman asked if Ms. Reynolds has done research on our space and if she is going to come out here or just look at the website to have an idea of what the facility is like. Administrator Heath replied that staff have sent her quite a bit of information on the facility. Staff did not ask her to come out, but he hopes she will come out at some point. Councilmember Backus asked if the RFP will be changed at all. Administrator Heath replied that staff and Ms. Reynolds both feel the RFP is fine.

**Councilmember Gillen made a motion to approve and authorize the Mayor to sign a Contingency Search Agreement with GPAC pertaining to succession planning for the Gering Civic Center. Second by Councilmember Wiedeman. There was no discussion. The vote was called. "AYES": Shields, Gillen, Backus, Bohl, Wiedeman, O'Neal, Morrison, Cowan. "NAYS": None. Abstaining: None. Absent: None. Motion Carried.**

**PUBLIC HEARINGS:** (None)

**BIDS/PROPOSALS:** (None)

**REPORTS:**

**1. Liaison Report – Airport Authority, Councilmember Bohl**

Councilmember Bohl stated the following:

- Congress released \$12.4 million for runway 1230. Construction is supposed to begin today.
- They are working on patch work in a couple different places around some of the general commercial aviation hangers.
- Nothing new from EAS other than some holds that have had to be placed as the months have gone by. There is still no agreement that has been made as far as EAS goes. Alliance and North Platte have both declined the latest proposals that came through a couple months ago. They Airport Authority is still sitting in limbo waiting to see what's going to happen there.
- There was a lightning strike that hit one of the towers about a month ago that affected some card readers. They're trying to get some of that squared away.
- Regarding boardings, in April they anticipated 925 boardings and ended up with 895. They had two cancellations and five delays. They've had 21 diversions so far this year which is more than what they're used to seeing.
- YTD, SkyWest has had 3093 boardings through April compared to 3611 for last year.
- Airlink will now be based out of Sidney while the runway work is being done in Scottsbluff.

**CLOSED SESSION:** (Council reserves the right to enter into closed session if deemed necessary.) None

**ADJOURN:**

**Motion by Councilmember Gillen to adjourn. Second by Councilmember Morrison. There was no discussion. The vote was called. "AYES": Shields, Gillen, Backus, Bohl, Wiedeman, O'Neal, Morison, Cowan. "NAYS": None. Abstaining: None. Absent: None. Motion Carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 6:12 p.m.

  
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Kent E. Ewing, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
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Kathleen J. Weiff, City Clerk

