

**Kearney, Nebraska**  
**July 16, 2019**  
**4:00 p.m.**

A Joint City/County Budget Meeting of the City Council of Kearney, Nebraska and the Buffalo County Board of Commissioners was convened in open and public session at 4:02 p.m. on July 16, 2019 in the Peterson Senior Activity Center, 2020 West 11th Street, Kearney, Nebraska. Present were: Mayor Stanley A. Clouse; Council Members Randy Buschkoetter, Bruce Lear, Tami James Moore. Absent: Jonathan Nikkila. County Commissioners present: Chairman William McMullen, Ivan Klein, Myron Kouba, Sherry Morrow, Dennis Reiter. Absent: Timothy Higgins and Ron Loeffelholz. City Staff present: Lauren Brandt, City Clerk; Wendell Wessels, Director of Finance; Mike Tye, City Attorney; Eric Hellriegel, Assistant City Manager; Shawna Erbsen, Administrative Services Director; Bryan Waugh, Police Chief; Nate Mollring, I.T. Director; Tony Jelinek, Director of Utilities; Scott Hayden, Park & Recreation Director; Matthew Williams, Library Director; and Jason Whalen, Fire Administrator. County Staff present: Jan Giffin, County Clerk; Shawn Eatherton, County Attorney; and Neil Miller, Sheriff.

Notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by publication in the Kearney Hub, the designated method for giving notice, a copy of the proof of publication being attached to these minutes. Advance notice of the meeting was also given to the City Council and a copy of their acknowledgment or receipt of such notice is attached to these minutes. Availability of the Agenda was communicated in the advance notice and in the notice to the Mayor and City Council. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

Mayor Clouse announced that in accordance with Section 84-1412 of the Nebraska Revised Statutes, a current copy of the Open Meetings Act is available for review and is posted in the room.

Director of Finance Wendell Wessels presented the following proposed 2019-2020 budget:

The total County share for 2018-2019 was \$911,646 with the total County share for 2019-2020 being \$948,051.05. This is an increase of \$36,405.44 or is approximately a 3.99 percent increase from last year. The City's total share for the 2018-2019 was \$748,551 with the total City share for 2019-2020 being \$775,700. This is an increase of \$27,149 or a 3.63 percent increase from last year.

### **Bookmobile/Library**

The total requirement from the County in this budget is \$255,624. Some of the notable expenditures include: (1) Chairs for meeting rooms - \$10,000; (2) Save for bookmobile - \$50,000.

### **Cottonmill Park**

The total tax requirement in this budget for Cottonmill Lake Park is \$482,283. There was a credit of \$78,770 which brings the total tax requirement to \$403,513 with the County's portion being \$201,756.50. Some of the notable expenditures include: (1) pave boat

ramp/repave existing roads - \$65,000, this is a carry over to next year, the County will receive a credit as this has already been paid for; (2) boat replacement - \$7,000, (3) replace picnic tables, benches and grills - \$5,000 and (4) purchase a tilt trailer for - \$8,000.

### **Law Enforcement Center**

The Law Enforcement Center includes: County Attorney Information Technology Agreement, Police Records Services, Police Evidence, Police Building and Police Data Processing. The total requirement from the County on this budget is \$457,543.33 and the City's requirement is \$695,976. Some of the notable expenditures include; (1) office chairs - \$4,690; (2) exchange email server upgrade - \$28,000, (3) replace and update office furnishings - \$12,000; (4) equipment sinking fund - \$10,000.

### **Peterson Senior Activity Center**

The 2018-2019 City of Kearney budget to staff and operate the facility was \$588,908 and the projected 2019-2020 budget is \$594,715. There were no notable expenditures.

### **Emergency Management Agreement**

The City and County entered into an agreement for the purpose of providing emergency management services to both the City and the County. Buffalo County agreed to employ the Emergency Management Director as a full-time employee and will fund this position. The Emergency Management Director shall act in an advisory capacity only to the City of Kearney.

### **Prosecution Agreement**

This agreement has been entered into between the City and County for prosecuting services. The City currently reimburses the County in the amount of \$75,000 annually for these services.

### **Vehicle Gasoline Purchase Agreement**

The City, County, School and ESU entered into an interlocal agreement to provide for the purchasing of gasoline.

### **Airport Road Re-Location Financing Agreement**

The City and County entered into an interlocal agreement setting forth the specifics of the County's agreement to reimburse the City for all construction costs with reference to the relocation of Airport Road and any road improvements along Highway 30. The current estimated cost for the road portion of the project is \$1,275,000. The City, at the request of Buffalo County, has agreed to oversee the road improvements with the County to reimburse the City for the cost by paying the annual debt service for a period of twenty (20) years.

### **Kearney Area Solid Waste Agency**

The Kearney Area Solid Waste Agency Landfill began operation in April of 1994. The Kearney Area Solid Waste Agency Landfill is governed by the Kearney Area Solid Waste Agency Board which is composed of City Council members, Administrative Staff and a County Official. The Landfill serves Buffalo County and surrounding area. The Landfill is expected to last approximately 36 years. The twenty-five (25) year agreement was recently updated in 2017.

### **Kearney Area Animal Shelter**

The agreement is not in place yet, it will need to be approved by the County Board and City Council. It is being proposed the City will contribute \$120,000 annually beginning October 1, 2019 with a 3% annual increase and the County will contribute \$20,000 annually with a 3% annual increase as well. This will help fund the Animal Shelter.

Mayor Clouse questioned if funding is being provided to the Animal Shelter or should there be elected official on the Animal Shelter Board? County Commissioner Sherry Morrow stated their Board had already voted to approve the agreement at their last meeting. City Attorney, Michael Tye and County Attorney, Shawn Eatherton both agreed the agreement is a good idea and both attorneys agreed elected officials should serve on the Animal Shelter Board. Mayor Clouse also believes the elected officials should have the ability to vote.

Mayor Clouse requested Assistant City Manager Eric Hellriegel, give a report on the clean-up efforts from the July 9th flooding. Assistant City Manager stated curbside cleanup has begun and the flood response email is going well. There are still some people without power but those citizens should have power back on by the end of the week. Mr. Younes is hoping to have one facility open by August 1st. Trail inspections have begun and the damage is not as bad as was expected. There is some infrastructure on Archway Boulevard that will need work and some pumps at the Waste Water Treatment Plant that will need replaced. Mr. Hellriegel stated everyone is still waiting on the disaster declaration from the Governor's Office. County Commissioner Dennis Reiter stated this flooding was not as bad as the March flooding for Buffalo County; the July 9th flooding resulted in approximately twenty (20) miles of county road closures but most of those roads have since opened.

Moved by Buschkoetter seconded by Lear to accept the proposed 2019-2020 budget as presented. Roll call resulted as follows: Aye: Clouse, Lear, Moore, Buschkoetter, Klein, Kouba, Morrow, Reiter, McMullen. Nay: None. Absent: Nikkila, Higgins, Loeffelholz. Motion carried.

### **ADJOURN**

Moved by Lear seconded by Moore that the meeting adjourn at 4:30 p.m. Roll call resulted as follows: Aye: Clouse, Moore, Buschkoetter, Lear, Kouba, Morrow, Reiter, McMullen, Klein. Nay: None. Absent: Nikkila, Higgins, Loeffelholz. Motion carried.

**ATTEST:**

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**STANLEY A. CLOUSE  
PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL  
AND EX-OFFICIO MAYOR**

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**LAUREN BRANDT  
CITY CLERK**