

Present: Mayor –	Joyce Hudson	Absent: Police Chief Randy Olson
Council members	Jeff Kennedy Jim Aden Roger Dudley Jeff Whiting	
City Administrator	Bruce Clymer	
City Clerk	Connie L. Dalrymple	
City Attorney	Mike Bacon	

Press: Gothenburg Times - Beth Barrett

Also present: Shane Gruber, Mike Teahon, Corey Scott, David Haynes, Eppie Sisneros, Les O'Donnel, Verlin Janssen, Jessie Hernandez of US Cellular, Cody Eggelston

Mayor Hudson opened the meeting and public hearings at 7:00 p.m. Advance notice and a copy of the agenda were given to the Council and members of the press. City Council meetings are conducted in accordance with the Open Meetings Act, a copy of which is available for public inspection on the north wall of the Council Chambers.

The public hearing on a request for special use permit from US Cellular was taken up first. US Cellular wants to install a 150-foot monopole at 1413 2nd Avenue, on property owned by Gothenburg Feed Products. The tower will improve cell phone coverage and will have sufficient space to add future carriers. The Planning & Zoning Commission has recommended approval.

Kennedy moved, Aden seconded, to close the hearing at 7:06 p.m. Roll call vote: Yea – Dudley, Whiting, Aden, Kennedy. Nay – none.

Dudley moved, Aden seconded, approving Special Use Permit 2007-1 for a cellular tower as proposed. Roll call vote: Yea – Aden, Kennedy, Whiting, Dudley. Nay – none.

The public hearing on a request for special use permit from Orscheln Farm and Home Store was taken up at 7:07 p.m. Orscheln has moved their merchandise display and storage to the southeast corner of Highways 30 and 47. They would like to secure the area with 6-foot cattle panel fencing but the code allows only 3.5 foot fencing. The Planning & Zoning Commission has recommended approval.

Kennedy moved, Dudley seconded, to close the hearing at 7:07 p.m. Roll call vote: Yea – Whiting, Aden, Dudley, Kennedy. Nay – none.

Whiting moved, Kennedy seconded, approval the Special Use Permit #2007-2 requested by Orscheln. Roll call vote: Yea – Dudley, Aden, Kennedy, Whiting. Nay – none.

A public hearing on a request for CDBG Reuse Funds was opened at 7:08 p.m. Council member Aden noted for the record that he holds a financial interest in Horizon Ag and will abstain from discussion and voting.

Cody Eggleston, along with principals Jim Aden and Roger Wahlgren, have purchased Horizon Ag, and are requesting \$120,000 reuse funds. The business will save six jobs from the failure of bankrupt Mid-States Irrigation. Project costs are \$515,000 of which the \$120,000 reuse money requested will be used for working capital. The reuse committee recommends approval of the loan that will carry a 15-year amortization with a balloon at seven years, interest fixed at 4.25%, and the city holding first lien on the real property. The project also carries the personal guarantee of the principal owners.

Kennedy moved, Whiting seconded, to close the hearing at 7:10 p.m. Roll call vote: Yea – Dudley, Whiting, Kennedy. Nay – none.

Dudley moved, Whiting moved, to approve the \$120,000 reuse loan to Horizon Ag. Roll call vote: Yea – Kennedy, Whiting, Dudley. Nay – none.

The public hearing on a redevelopment plan for All Points Co-operative grain storage expansion was opened at 7:11 p.m. and will be continued to Monday, March 26 at 5:30 p.m. pending the Community Redevelopment Authority and Planning & Zoning Commission making recommendation on the plan.

Aden moved, Kennedy seconded, to approve the consent agenda that included:

City Council minutes – March 6

Treasurer’s Report - February

Library Director’s Report – January – March 2007

Planning & Zoning Commission minutes – March 13

Roll call vote: Yea – Whiting, Aden, Dudley, Kennedy. Nay - none.

Kennedy moved, Aden seconded, allowing payment of the claims against the City, 35,556.56; Public Works Division \$239,719.71; and the March 8 payroll of \$28,246.79. Roll call vote: Yea – Whiting, Kennedy, Aden, Dudley. Nay - none.

Open forum:

- Former Department of Roads District 6 Engineer, Les O’Donnel, was present to see the proposed comprehensive plan.

- Christopher Reeve has been hired as an apprentice lineman on the electric crew. He will begin work May 10, upon graduation from lineman school.

Corey Scott of RDG Planning & Design reviewed the 2007 Comprehensive Plan. It covers growth and land use, traffic and extension of streets, parks, housing, and retail. While Gothenburg has great positive energy and has grown in an orderly fashion, the one area that does not produce the positive image of the community is the I-80 / Highway 47 area. Signage, lights and trees are some items that would be attractive.

There will be public hearings before the Planning & Zoning Commission and the City Council to formally accept the plan.

Aden moved, Kennedy seconded, to pass and approve Resolution 2007- 4 setting April 7 as the date for public auction of excess municipal property. Roll call vote: Yea – Whiting, Dudley, Kennedy, Aden. Nay – none.

Dudley moved, Kennedy seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 7:57 p.m. The next regular meeting will be April 3 at 7:00 p.m. Roll call vote: Yea – Aden, Whiting, Kennedy, Dudley. Nay – none.

Joyce Hudson, Mayor

Connie L. Dalrymple, City Clerk