

Present: Mayor – Joyce Hudson  
Council members Jeff Kennedy  
Jim Aden  
Tim Strauser  
Jeff Whiting  
City Administrator Bruce Clymer  
City Clerk Connie L. Dalrymple  
City Attorney Mike Bacon

Press: Gothenburg Times - Beth Barrett

Also present: Shane Gruber, Jeanne Janssen, Louis Bovitz, Pam Diehl, Nancy Sitorius

Mayor Hudson opened the meeting 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.

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

City Council minutes – January 27

Roll call vote: Yea - Strauser, Whiting, Aden. Nay – none. Absent and not voting – Kennedy.

Whiting moved, Strauser seconded, allowing payment of the claims against the City, \$8,398.97; Public Works Division \$47,046.98; and the January 22 payroll of \$29,721.59. Roll call vote: Yea – Aden, Strauser, Whiting. Nay - none. Absent and not voting – Kennedy.

Council member Kennedy entered the meeting.

OPEN FORUM:

- The employee recognition dinner will be February 12, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. at the shop.

An amendment to Ordinance 842 eliminating the increase in water and sewer charges was filed with the Clerk on January 28. Aden moved, Kennedy seconded, approving the amendment as filed. Roll call vote: Yea – Whiting, Strauser, Kennedy, Aden. Nay – none.

Strauser moved, Whiting seconded, to pass and approve Ordinance 842 on third and final reading. Roll call vote: Yea – Kennedy, Aden, Whiting, Strauser. Nay – none.

The Employee Relations Committee has requested Council consider allowing eight hours additional personal time instead of a floating holiday. This would allow employees on call to have the day off and would keep the City operational instead of complete closure for a day. They also request consideration of four weeks vacation after twenty years service. No action was taken on the request.

Administrator Clymer has arranged a meeting with Tim Carson of Corporate Plan Management for February 12<sup>th</sup> or 13<sup>th</sup> to discuss the employee's health insurance. He will be coming from Topeka, KS.

Aden moved, Whiting seconded, setting a Council retreat for February 12 at 11:00 a.m. Roll call vote: Yea – Kennedy, Strauser, Aden, Whiting. Nay – none. Retreat discussions will include the health insurance and provisions of the personnel policy.

Kennedy moved, Whiting seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 7:06 p.m. Roll call vote: Yea – Strauser, Aden, Whiting, Kennedy. Nay – none. The next regular meeting will be February 17 at 7:00 p.m.

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Joyce Hudson, Mayor

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Connie L. Dalrymple, City Clerk