

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

Absent: City Attorney Mike Bacon

Also present:

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.

Kennedy moved, Aden seconded, approving the consent agenda that included:

City Council minutes - February 16

Police Report - February

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

Aden moved, Whiting seconded, allowing payment of claims against the City, \$63,447.96; Public Works Division \$109,252.07; and the March 4 payroll of \$31,475.25. Roll Call vote: Yea - Strauser, Kennedy, Whiting, Aden. Nay - none.

Open forum:

- NPPD has published a book entitled *The Only State, A History of Public Power in Nebraska*. There will be a copy in the office and the library and anyone can order a copy for \$29.95.

- We have received a letter from Vierro Wireless exercising their option for an additional five year lease to place their equipment on the water tower. Lease payments will be as specified in the lease. The money is set aside for water tower maintenance.

- According to a letter from FEMA, there will be a public notice in the Lexington Clipper regarding flood plain mapping in Dawson County. The notice will specify a 90-day period during which anyone can appeal the updated map. Some of the changes will impact property in Gothenburg. Unfortunately, appeals are expensive and require an engineering study.

Administrator Clymer informed Council there area a couple sections in the old code that are not in the recodification. Sections 1-825 and 1-826 regarding sales tax use are two of them. Sections 6-315 and 6-316 regarding abandoned vehicles are also omitted, probably because there was discussion on state law at the time the code was being formed. Atty. Bacon will verify them and they will be incorporated into the new code.

Strauser moved, Whiting seconded, to pass on third and final reading, Ordinance 854 adopting the Municipal Code as recodified and adding the omitted sections as discussed. Roll call vote: Yea - Aden, Kennedy, Whiting, Strauser. Nay - none.

Kennedy moved, Aden seconded, allowing payment of \$4867.13 to Dee's Floral & Gifts, from Downtown Revitalization grant funds. Roll call vote: Yea - Strauser, Whiting, Aden. Kennedy. Nay - none.

Per discussion at the February 16 meeting, a deduct meter has been installed at Electric Rain to gather data on water being used by the heat pump. The only change in the proposed utility rate ordinance gives customers the option of the meter and sets a \$20 / month fee for its use.

Aden moved, Kennedy seconded, to introduce Ordinance 855 regarding utility rates and deduct meters. Roll call vote: Yea - Whiting, Strauser, Kennedy, Aden. Nay - none.

Whiting moved, Kennedy seconded, to pass and approve Resolution 2010-4 incorporating increases in cemetery lot fees into the user fee structure. Roll call vote: Yea - Strauser, Aden, Kennedy, Whiting. Nay - none.

Aden moved, Kennedy, seconded, to recommend to the Liquor Control Commission the approval of a special designated license for an event at Horizon Ag to be catered by O & K Bottle Shoppe on March 19, 2010 from 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Roll call vote: Yea – Whiting, Aden, Kennedy, Strauser. Nay – none.

Strauser moved, Whiting seconded, allowing payment of \$707.16 to First State Insurance from the Downtown Revitalization grant. Roll call vote: Yea - Kennedy, Aden, Whiting, Strauser. Nay - none.

Kennedy moved, Aden seconded, allowing payment of \$3531.75 to Randy Strohmyer from Downtown Revitalization Funds. Roll call vote: Yea - Strauser, Whiting, Aden, Kennedy. Nay - none.

Aden moved, Whiting seconded, approving Jason Fiese as the contractor for Owner Occupied Housing grant applicant #08-HO-3074-04. Contract costs will be \$20,000. Roll call vote: Yea - Kennedy, Strauser, Whiting, Aden. Nay - none.

Whiting moved, Aden seconded, approving Drawdown #8 and payment to West Central NE Development District for administration of the owner occupied housing grant in the amount of \$2542. Roll call vote: Yea - Strauser, Kennedy, Aden, Whiting. Nay - none.

Administrator Clymer met with Director Donna Portiner, and Board President Stacy Anderson, to discuss the heat pump situation at Building Blocks Day Care. The Day Care operates on a minimal budget and has no funding for a new heat pump. Eustis Plumbing offered the low bid of \$7308.99 and the Board has asked the City to assist with the cost since we own the building.

Discussion was had and a motion made by Aden, seconded by Kennedy, to pay the full installation of a new heat pump at Building Blocks Day Care as proposed by Eustis Plumbing. Roll call vote: Yea - Whiting, Strauser, Kennedy, Aden. Nay - none.

Kennedy moved, Aden seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 7:21 p.m. Roll call vote: Yea - Kennedy, Strauser, Whiting, Aden. Nay - none. The next regular meeting will be March 16, 2010.

Joyce Hudson, Mayor

Connie L. Dalrymple, City Clerk