

Regular City Council Meeting
City Council Chambers

April 3, 2012
7:00 p.m.

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

Press: *Gothenburg Times* - Beth Barrett

Also present: Travis Mason, Ken Christensen, Ed Weuhler

Mayor Hudson opened the meeting and the 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 to determine the sufficiency of any objections to the creation of Street Improvement District #2012-1 (Lake Avenue 4th Street to 7th Street) was taken up at 7:00 pm. There were no objections to the district however, Ed Weuhler had questions as to the time frame for the construction as he sells fireworks along Lake Avenue in the area of construction and is concerned about access to his business.

According to Travis Mason of Miller & Assoc. bid documents only specify a completion date, which is September, to allow contractors to set their own schedule and work around weather. They will start mid-June by removing paving, then install water on one side of the street and sewer in the middle for point repairs so there will probably be no paving from then until mid-August. Administrator Clymer added that there is access to all affected areas but it will not be as convenient.

Kennedy moved, Whiting seconded, to close the hearing at 7:05 p.m. Roll call vote: Yea – Strauser, Fritch, Whiting, Kennedy. Nay – none.

Whiting moved, Strauser seconded, to pass and approve Resolution 2012-7 which states there were no objections to creation of the district and approved the engineer's plans, specifications and estimates of cost. Roll call vote: Yea – Fritch, Kennedy, Strauser, Whiting. Nay – none.

The public hearing regarding the passage of the Resolution of Necessity for Lake Avenue sewer improvements was taken up at 7:08 p.m.

Hearing no objections Fritch moved, Kennedy seconded, to close the public hearing at 7:09 p.m. Roll call vote: Yea – Whiting, Strauser, Kennedy, Fritch. Nay – none.

Strauser moved, Kennedy seconded, final approval of Resolution 2012-8, a Resolution of Necessity for sewer improvements as proposed for adoption on March 6. Roll call vote: Yea – Whiting, Fritch, Kennedy, Strauser. Nay – none.

Whiting moved, Strauser seconded, to pass and approve Resolution 2012-9 ordering construction of the sewer in Lake Avenue. Roll call vote: Yea – Kennedy, Fritch, Strauser, Whiting. Nay – none.

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

City Council minutes – March 20

Police Report – March

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

Whiting moved, Kennedy seconded, allowing payment of claims against the City, \$83,341.71; Public Works Division \$85,200.25; and the March 29 payroll of \$35,125.05. Roll Call vote: Yea – Fritch, Strauser, Kennedy, Whiting. Nay - none.

Community Comments: none

Current regulations only allow non-powered or electric powered motors on Lake Helen. The Nebraska Game & Parks Commission has suggested changing the boating regulations to 5 mph / no wake. This would allow the use of gas engines and would open availability to Motorboat Access money that could be used during the proposed lake project to construct a boat ramp and parking area.

Alteration of published boating regulations is an arduous task for the state and is not done on a regular basis, the last time being in 2000. Any change we make would go into effect January 1, 2013. Currently Lake Helen is not listed at all in the State’s Administrative Code.

Discussion was had and Atty. Bacon was directed to draft an ordinance to change boating regulations on Lake Helen.

A proposal has been offered for employee life insurance.

Current carrier - City

\$10,000 employee
5,000 spouse
1,000 dependent children
Age 65 coverage reduces to 50%
Life rate / \$1000 .60
AD & D rate / \$1000 .06
Estimated annual cost \$3109.68

Proposed - City

\$10,000 employee
10,000 spouse
5,000 dependent children
Age 65 – 69 coverage reduces to 65%
Age 70 – 74 coverage reduces to 45%
Age 75 – 79 coverage reduces to 30%
Age 80+ coverage reduces to 20%
Life rate / \$1000 .34
AD & D rate / \$1000 .03
Estimated annual cost \$1212.12

Fire Dep't Current

Benefit Amount: \$10,000
Life rate / \$1000 .294
AD &D rate / \$1000 .05
Estimated annual cost \$1692.48

Fire Dep't Proposed

Benefit Amount: \$10,000
Life rate / \$1000 .27
AD & D rate / \$1000 .04
Estimated annual cost \$1551.24

Following discussion, a motion was made by Kennedy, seconded by Whiting, to utilize EMC Life Insurance as the City's life insurance carrier. Roll call vote: Yea – Fritch, Strauser, Whiting, Kennedy. Nay – none.

Kennedy moved, Whiting seconded, introduction of Ordinance 873 adopting statutory amendments to the Municipal Code. Roll call vote: Yea – Kennedy, Strauser, Whiting, Fritch. Nay – none.

Travis Mason of Miller & Assoc. reported two bids were received for the Lake Avenue paving, water, and sewer improvements. Specifications were drafted so that the project could be accepted in total or in part. The eight foot sidewalk is \$25,000 and can be removed without jeopardizing the rest of the project. The same with the water loop for an additional line later. The bids were:

Paulsen's Inc. of Cozad \$607,039.00
Blessing LLC of Kearney \$616,501.00

The budget holds \$414,800 for Lake Ave repairs but since several additions were made to the project, i.e. water, sewer, and sidewalks, the price is higher. We also budgeted \$500,000 for miscellaneous projects so we do have funds for the entire project if the bid is accepted. Water and sewer funds will pay for the improvements to its system.

Discussion was had on various aspects of the project and it was decided to do the sidewalks and the water line. All felt it's good planning to do some projects in segments when we can instead of trying to do very large projects at one time.

Strauser moved, Kennedy seconded, to accept the bid from Paulsen Inc for the Lake Avenue improvements. Roll call vote: Yea – Fritch, Whiting, Kennedy, Strauser. Nay – none.

Kennedy moved, Strauser seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 7:31 p.m. Roll call vote: Yea – Whiting, Fritch, Strauser, Kennedy. Nay - none. The next regular meeting will be April 17, 2012.

Joyce Hudson, Mayor

Connie L. Dalrymple, City Clerk