

Regular City Council Meeting
City Council Chambers

January 15, 2013
7:00 p.m.

Present: Mayor –	Joyce Hudson
Council members	Jeff Kennedy
	Duane Oliver
	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: Shane Gruber, Tim Miller, Mark Franzen, Charles Franzen, Mr. & Mrs. Mike Wolff, Gordon Block, Joe Wahlgren, Steve Peterson, Matt Olson, Sharon Meyer

Mayor Hudson opened the meeting and the public hearing 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 purpose of the public hearing was to amend the I-2 zoning regulations to allow for sexually oriented businesses as provided for by Ordinance 879. Such businesses are to be allowed by special use permit and that allowance needs to be stated in the regulations.

There being no public comment, a motion was made by Kennedy, seconded by Strauser, to close the hearing at 7:05 .m. Roll call vote: Yea – Oliver, Whiting, Strauser, Kennedy. Nay – none.

Kennedy moved, Whiting seconded, to direct the City Attorney to draft the necessary ordinance to incorporate the required language to allow sexually oriented businesses by special use permit in I-2 areas. Roll call vote: Yea – Strauser, Oliver, Whiting, Kennedy. Nay – none.

Strauser moved, Kennedy seconded, approving the consent agenda, except item ‘c’:

- City Council minutes – December 18
- Board of Adjustment minutes – December 21
- Cemetery Board report – Oct thru Dec 2012
- Treasurer’s Report - December
- Planning & Zoning Commission minutes – January 8
- Library Directors report – November 13, 2012 – January 7, 2013
- Police Report – December

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

Whiting moved, Kennedy seconded, approving item ‘c’, Cemetery Board Report. Roll call vote: Yea - Oliver, Kennedy, Whiting. Nay – none.

Kennedy moved, Oliver seconded, allowing payment of claims against the City, \$89,848.73, except #1868; Public Works Division \$424,208.60, except #4901; the December 20 payroll of \$34,452.21 and January 3 payroll of \$35,026.01. Roll Call vote: Yea – Whiting, Strauser, Oliver, Kennedy. Nay - none.

Oliver moved, Whiting second, allowing payment of claims #1898 and #4901 to Quality Fire Extinguishers. Roll call vote: Yea – Strauser, Whiting, Oliver. Nay – none.

Community Comments:

- There will be a meeting with Pat Pope of NPPD on March 5, 2013 at 1:30 p.m.
- The Employee Recognition Dinner will be January 25.
- Joe Wahlgren advised Council of plans to host a June 22 outreach event similar to Block Stop last year. Instead of having it downtown, they are working with the school foundation to use their property along the east side of Avenue I (formerly a mobile home park). They will have speakers, several bands, and food vendors and anticipate between 500 and 1000 attendees. As they plan now, the stage will encroach on the City's parking lot at the 4-plex ball park for off-street parking. They have made arrangements for electric generators, portable toilets, and trash receptacles. They plan to set up for the event on the 21st and anticipate final clean up on the 23rd.

Following discussion, Council had no objection to the proposal but cautioned him to be sure Avenue I is kept open as it is the emergency route to the hospital.

- Lake Helen is still draining, but the ice cap has slowed the progress.

Whiting moved, Strauser seconded, to pass and approve Ordinance 881 regarding a water management plan on third and final reading. Roll call vote: Yea – Kennedy, Oliver, Strauser, Whiting. Nay- none.

Oliver moved, Kennedy seconded, to pass and approve Resolution 2013-1 authorizing placement of school signs near Eagle Crest Academy at 1710 Avenue A as requested by Gordon Block on December 18. Roll call vote: Yea – Whiting, Strauser, Kennedy, Oliver. Nay – none.

Kennedy moved, Strauser seconded, to authorize signature of the updated pharmacy agreement that's part of the employee health insurance. Roll call vote: Yea – Oliver, Whiting, Strauser, Kennedy. Nay – none.

Sharon Meyer spoke with Council regarding the Rotary Club desire to repair and clean up the vacant area on the northeast corner of Hiways 30 and 47. Jeff Bonifas can prep the walls for future improvements that are as yet undecided. His offer includes power washing, repairing the cracks, sealer, prime and paint for \$3800. The Club is requesting financial assistance with this part of the project. The floor also needs repair to fill holes but there may be some grant funds available in early summer since 2013 is the 100th anniversary of the Lincoln Highway. The Downtown Revitalization Committee has recommended using any funds they have available. There is currently \$49,500 in the fund at the present time but there are also other requests for the money which rests in the NDO fund at Dawson Area Development.

Kennedy moved, Oliver second, to recommend the use of Downtown Revitalization Project funds for the repair and painting of the northeast corner of Highways 30 and 47. Roll call vote: Yea – Whiting, Oliver, Kennedy, Strauser. Nay – none.

According to Atty. Bacon, the City received Community Development Block Grant funds from the State Department of Economic Development (DED) for construction of the Baldwin Filters plant. As Baldwin repaid the money, it was loaned out to help other businesses get started. In the years since Baldwin Filters was constructed, the money has never lost its federal ties and the process of re-loaning it has become a daunting task due to federal regulations and processes. He therefore recommends we work with Dawson Area Development and allow their certified staff to administer applications and projects, thereby meeting federal guidelines. The City has two members on the DAD Board. The funds would remain Gothenburg's money to continue loaning. The other option will be to return the money to the DED.

Discussion was had and a motion made by Strauser, seconded by Whiting, to authorize signature of an agreement with Dawson Area Development, acting as a Non-Profit Development Organization (NDO), for the administration of Gothenburg's future revolving loan funds. Roll call vote: Yea – Kennedy, Oliver, Whiting, Strauser. Nay – none.

Tom Franzen's business at the south end of the overpass has truck deliveries from Lake Avenue and the trucks proceed out of his property going north on the 'traveled way'. Recently a truck caught the power pole guy wire and broke it. As a result, Franzen asked the City to move the power pole. The cost of moving it is approximately \$1800 which would be an expense to Franzen. Instead of moving the pole we could post 'no parking' signs to help keep the area open. Tim Miller, owner of the trailer court to the north, opposed the signage because he has no control when people return U-Haul trucks or trailers after hours and park them anywhere. If the area is designated 'no-parking' he could be liable for a citation.

Mark Franzen spoke with Council about their delivery dock and efforts to make deliveries easier. It is not a solution to move the dock because of the layout of the building.

Moving the pole is not an easy solution due to the storm water grate that is below grade and carries water from the overpass.

Since this is the first accident, it was decided to leave things as they are and Tim Miller agreed to work with the Franzen's as to future needs and he will try to keep the corner open.

Mike Wolff said Gothenburg will host the Dawson County Relay for Life in 2013 and 2014. Since the Lake Helen area worked well in the past, they would like to use it again for the July 12 event. The main trailer will be placed by the restroom shelter and could use the electricity hook-ups there. Participating groups will supply their own generators. The relay walk area will be shortened this year.

Since the main construction and work on Lake Helen will be south of the restroom shelter it should not be a problem with the Relay. Discussion was had and there were no objections to use of Lake Helen for the Relay for Life event on July 12.

Kennedy moved, Whiting seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m. Roll call vote: Yea – Oliver, Strauser, Whiting, Kennedy. Nay – none. The next regular meeting will be February 5, 2013.

Joyce Hudson, Mayor

Connie L. Dalrymple, City Clerk