

Regular City Council Meeting  
City Council Chambers

September 16, 2014  
7:00 p.m.

Present: Mayor –	Joyce Hudson
Council members	Jeff Kennedy
	Randy Waskowiak
	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: Casey Schmeackle, Michael Peterson, Steve Peterson, Joan Windrum, A.J. Whiting

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 the 2014-15 budgets of municipal funds and the hearing to set the levy were opened at 7:00 p.m. The final budget proposal is as approved for publication at the September 2 meeting. The total budget of \$22,064,552.00, excluding cash reserve, carries a tax request of \$654,041.20 based on a levy of .337864.

Brief discussion was had and a motion made by Kennedy, seconded by Strauser, closed the public hearing at 7:02 p.m. Roll call vote: Yea – Whiting, Waskowiak, Strauser, Kennedy. Nay – none.

Waskowiak moved, Kennedy seconded, to approve an additional 1% restricted funds authority. Roll call vote: Yea – Strauser, Whiting, Kennedy, Waskowiak. Nay – none.

Whiting moved, Waskowiak seconded, to adopt the 2014-15 budget of all municipal funds as presented. Roll call vote: Yea – Strauser, Kennedy, Waskowiak, Whiting. Nay – none.

The public hearing to set the levy for the 2014-15 budget was taken up. Following brief discussion Kennedy moved, Whiting seconded, to close the public hearing at 7:03 p.m. Roll call vote: Yea – Strauser, Waskowiak, Kennedy, Whiting. Nay – none.

Strauser moved, Waskowiak seconded, approving the 2014-15 tax request of \$654,041.20 and the levy of .337864. Roll call vote: Yea – Strauser, Whiting, Kennedy, Waskowiak. Nay – none.

Kennedy moved, Whiting seconded, to pass and approve Resolution 2014-12 setting the 2014-15 tax levy at .337864. Roll call vote: Yea – Strauser, Waskowiak, Whiting, Kennedy. Nay- none.

The public hearing on a request from Peterson’s Supermarket for a Class D liquor license was taken up at 7:05 p.m.

Steve Peterson told Council he had applied for the Class D license but the State Patrol suggested they amend the license to include catering so the store could offer samples on occasion. He has filed an amended application with the Liquor Control Commission that includes catering, but it is still in process. When received there will be another hearing.

Peterson said he has a lot of requests, especially from tourists, who are surprised that liquor is not available in the store. The liquor will be shelved near the deli in a section currently holding cleaning supplies.

Council received one letter in opposition to the license. The party was complimentary of the Peterson’s saying they have a very nice store and provide great service however; they do not feel it’s necessary to sell liquor in a grocery store.

Kennedy moved, Strauser seconded, to close the public hearing at 7:07 p.m. Roll call vote: Yea - Waskowiak, Strauser, Kennedy, Whiting. Nay – none.

Whiting moved, Kennedy seconded, to recommend to the Liquor Control Commission the approval of a Class D license for Peterson’s Supermarket. Roll call vote: Yea – Waskowiak, Strauser, Kennedy, Whiting. Nay – none.

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

- City Council minutes – September 2 and 9
- Building Permit report - August
- Treasurer’s Report – August
- Planning & Zoning Commission minutes – September 9
- Police Report – August
- Library Director’s Report – August

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

Kennedy moved, Whiting seconded, allowing payment of claims against the City, \$228,799.70, except #1010; Public Works Division \$81,019.3; and the September 11 payroll of \$35,876.16. Roll Call vote: Yea – Strauser, Whiting, Waskowiak, Kennedy. Nay - none.

Kennedy moved, Whiting seconded, allowing payment of claim #1010 to Gothenburg Schools Treasurer. Roll call vote: Yea – Strauser, Whiting, Kennedy. Nay – none. Abstain – Waskowiak.

#### Community Comments

- Administrator Clymer reported than neither of the two applications for owner occupied housing rehabilitation was funded by the Department of Economic Development.

- The Harvest Festival is this weekend.
- Our office software will be down from the September 17 thru the 26 for conversion to the new Blackbaud Financial Edge software.

Kennedy moved, Strauser seconded, approving the program guidelines relative to the Downtown Revitalization Project. Roll call vote: Yea – Whiting, Waskowiak, Strauser, Kennedy. Nay – none.

Waskowiak moved, Kennedy seconded, authorizing signature of an agreement with Miller & Assoc., to evaluate drainage issues on 4<sup>th</sup> Street and provide guidance for future remediation of those problems. Roll call vote: Yea – Strauser, Whiting, Kennedy, Waskowiak. Nay – none.

Gothenburg has never had a formal background checking process for new employees. A company called Essential Screens contacted Administrator Clymer and offered several packages for employee screening. They range from simple checks for employees that provide single, simple tasks such as mowing, to more in-depth screening processes for employees handling finances or with powers of arrest. Screenings are based on an offer of employment and employment can be denied based on the report received which will also guide us through the process of not hiring an individual. There is no on-going fee with the company as we can use their services when needed, and at whatever level is needed, and pay accordingly. The original thought was to use the service for new full time employees, but Councilman Strauser suggested it be applied to part time summer help as well.

Strauser moved, Whiting seconded, to authorize signature of an agreement and all documents required to move forward utilizing the services of Essential Screens. Roll call vote: Yea – Waskowiak, Kennedy, Whiting, Strauser. Nay – none.

Waskowiak moved, Strauser seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 7:26 p.m. Roll call vote: Yea - Kennedy, Williams, Strauser, Waskowiak. Nay - none. The next regular meeting will be October 7, 2014.

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Joyce Hudson, Mayor

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Connie L. Dalrymple, City Clerk