

Regular City Council Meeting
City Council Chambers

August 18, 2015
7:00 p.m.

Present: Mayor –	Joyce Hudson
Council members	Jeff Kennedy
	Randy Waskowiak
	Verlin Janssen
	Jay Richeson
City Administrator	Bruce Clymer
City Attorney	Mike Bacon
City Clerk / Treasurer	Connie L. Dalrymple

Press: *Gothenburg Times* - Beth Barrett

Also present: Logan Ricely, Jeremy Hendricks, Mike & Lori Hoesel, Atty. Patrick Heng, Ken Christensen, Shane Gruber, Mick Brandt, Travis Mason, Devin Brundage,

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.

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

- City Council minutes – August 4
- Cemetery Board minutes – May 4
- Cemetery Board report – April thru June

Roll call vote: Yea – Janssen, Richeson, Kennedy, Waskowiak. Nay – none.

Kennedy moved, Richeson seconded, allowing payment of claims against the City, \$64,097.59, except #1151; Public Works Division \$86,958.44; and the August 13 payroll of \$44,481.67. Roll Call vote: Yea -Waskowiak, Janssen, Richeson, Kennedy. Nay - none.

Waskowiak moved, Janssen seconded, allowing payment of claim #1151 to Gothenburg Irrigation in the amount of \$290.20. Roll call vote: Yea – Kennedy, Waskowiak, Janssen. Nay – none.

Community Comments:

- Our application from Housing Trust Funds for owner-occupied housing improvements was not funded; however, the application for Community Development Block grant owner-occupied rehab funds has been submitted to the Department of Economic Development.
- The employee pool party will be August 19 at 6:00 p.m. at the swimming pool. The pool closed for the season on the 16th and will be drained on the 20th.
- A purchase contract has been signed for one of the six new homes in the Hilltop Estates Subdivision and other homes have been spoken for.

No bids were received for the improvements to the northeast corner of Highways 30 and 47. Two contractors got plans from Miller & Assoc. but one company had no experience with the columns proposed in the design. The other was willing to do the project but their construction schedule would not allow them to meet the completion deadline. Administrator Clymer recommended we rebid the project for the completion next summer.

Travis Mason of Miller & Assoc. spoke regarding the Storm Water Study for the 4th Street area. The options presented are schematics but no final design will be prepared until we decide which way to go. The intention is to provide relief for the entire area. All options will require some easements and the State does not want us to use their lake area.

Option 1 is being designed to accommodate a 10 year storm. It is the most expensive of the options because it requires a lot of pipe, but will it carry water away the quickest.

Option 2 is cheaper and requires less pipe but includes a three foot deep retention pond approximately 100 x 50 feet.

Option 3 is the cheapest option but if the river is at flood stage it could back up. There also could be a flat gate installed to ease the flooding.

In discussion Mr. Mason said a fourth option might be to open a channel to the holding pond then pipe the water to the river. It would be a mid-price range of the other options. The channel would have a flat bottom concrete base, six feet wide to help move water and be easily cleaned of debris.

Mr. Mason will put the four options together in a booklet format for discussion among the Council and property owners in the 4th Street area. Other considerations in the study include size of culverts under the roads and drives, gas lines in the area, and assuring relief from overpass runoff at Landmark.

TL Sund Construction was the contractor on the new Avenue I sidewalks between 16th and 20th Streets. He has agreed to install sidewalks going south from the school, 13th Street to Jefferson Street at the same unit price as the original contract. The Street Fund is able to absorb the cost, anticipated to be between \$25,000 and \$35,000 and the contractor can start next week.

Waskowiak moved, Richeson seconded, to extend the contract for an additional two blocks of sidewalk on Ave I from 13th Street to Jefferson Street. Roll call vote: Yea- Kennedy, Janssen, Richeson, Waskowiak. Nay – none.

On other projects Travis Mason of Miller & Assoc reported that the Lake Helen rehabilitation is pretty much complete. The sewer project is also nearing completion and the industrial site infrastructure is in the water testing stage.

NPPD has tested our electrical equipment and gear in the past and has asked for an agreement that will outline expectations from both entities. Janssen moved, Kennedy seconded, to approve

the agreement with Nebraska Public Power District to test personal protective equipment. Roll call vote: Yea – Waskowiak, Janssen, Kennedy, Richeson. Nay – none.

Having received no comments, questions, or concerns from the public, Kennedy moved and Richeson seconded, allowing the renewal of a Class C liquor license for Nebraska Barn and Grill. Roll call vote: Yea – Waskowiak, Janssen Richeson, Kennedy. Nay - none.

The hospital has asked the school and the City to consider a joint venture for a community wellness center that will be attached to the hospital but operated by a separate entity made up of the joint operators. It would include a swimming pool, walking areas, gym, exercise area, and incorporate ongoing programs in each area. The school board has not discussed the proposal yet and while council members feel it's a nice idea, it will require a significant budgetary obligation that can be discussed at the budget work session on August 25.

Logan Ricely and Jeremy Hendricks are scuba divers for Central NE Public Power & Irrigation. They would like to use Lake Helen as a training area to stay familiar with equipment and experience different diving areas. They currently go to Elm Creek but Lake Helen would provide a local option for them. They would like to dive at least once before winter sets in.

Administrator Clymer said there is no swimming allowed at the lake due to the structures on the lake bottom for fish habitat but this exercise is for training certified divers. Council members expressed approval of the proposal but we may need some sort of ordinance allowing it. Administrator Clymer and Atty. Bacon will look into current statutes and prepare any documents necessary for Council to consider.

Olsson Associates has been looking at electrical needs for the industrial site and has provided an amendment to their contract, which will require an additional \$3000.00. Kennedy moved, Waskowiak seconded, approving Amendment #1 to the Olsson Assoc. contract for design services at the industrial site. Roll call vote: Yea – Janssen, Richeson, Waskowiak, Kennedy. Nay – none.

Waskowiak moved, Janssen seconded, approving the proposed September 19 Harvest Festival events including use of Lake Avenue / Highway 47, from 27th Street to 9th Street for the parade. The event will be from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The City will meet all requirements of Subsection (2) of LB589/NRS 39-1359. Roll call vote: Yea – Kennedy, Richeson, Janssen, Waskowiak. Nay – none. (Motion omitted from original minutes and corrected by motion 9-1-15)

The City has received a resolution from the Airport Authority asking for action to remove elected Authority Board member Lori Hoesel. By State Statute, any such action will go before the District Court. Mayor Hudson and Administrator Clymer have discussed the request and while they have information from Hoesel and her attorney, there is no specific written information from the Airport Authority Board. To be fair, Council should have the Authority's issues and reasons as well. The Council agreed and a motion was made by Kennedy, seconded by Richeson, to request information from the Airport Authority Board relevant to the issues leading to the resolution. The information should be provided no later than August 26 and the

matter will be placed on the September 1 agenda. Roll call vote; Yea – Waskowiak, Janssen, Richeson, Kennedy. Nay – none.

The Game & Parks Commission has recommended gun type equipment that will launch ‘bangers and shooters’ to disrupt resident geese and ducks at the lake. Currently, only the Police Dep’t is allowed to discharge such weapons and it seems appropriate for some city personnel to do it.

Council member Janssen introduced Ordinance 921 and moved that the statutory rule requiring reading on three different days be suspended. Council member Richeson seconded the motion and on roll call vote, the following voted “Yea”: Waskowiak, Kennedy, Richeson, Janssen. “Nay”: none. Mayor Hudson declared the motion adopted by a full vote of the Council and the statutory rule suspended for consideration of the ordinance.

Ordinance 921 was read by title whereupon Council member Janssen moved for final passage and council member Waskowiak seconded the motion. Mayor Hudson asked *Shall Ordinance 921 be passed and adopted?* On roll call vote the following voted “Yea”: Waskowiak, Kennedy, Janssen, Richeson. “Nay”: none.

Mayor Hudson declared Ordinance 921 adopted and signed it in the presence of the Council and the Clerk attested the signature.

Council agreed to a budget work session on August 25 at 4:00 p.m.

Waskowiak moved, Kennedy seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m. Roll call vote: Yea - Richeson, Janssen, Kennedy, Waskowiak. Nay - none. The next regular meeting will be September 1, 2015.

Joyce Hudson, Mayor

Connie L. Dalrymple, City Clerk