

Present: Mayor Joyce Hudson
Council members Jeff Kennedy
Verlin Janssen
Jay Richeson
Randy Waskowiak
Police Chief Randy Olson
City Attorney Mike Bacon
City Administrator Bruce Clymer
Deputy City Clerk Jill A. Rubenthaler

Press: none

Also present: Shane Gruber, Kyle Carlson.

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.

Janssen moved, Richeson seconded, approving the consent agenda that included:
City Council minutes –March 7
Building Permit report – February
Treasurer’s report – February
Planning and Zoning minutes – February
Library Annual Statistical Report – 2016

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

Richeson moved, Kennedy seconded, allowing payment of claims against the City, \$161,986.48; Public Works Division \$198,516.04; and the March 8 payroll of \$30,910.08. Roll Call vote: Yea – Waskowiak, Janssen, Kennedy, Richeson. Nay - none.

Community Comments:

- Administrator Clymer reported that the City received \$3,883.00 from ACE, making a total of \$37,997.00 to date returned back to Gothenburg from them.

Kyle Carlson was introduced by Chief Olson. Kyle is the newest member of the Police force. He will be in field training here at Gothenburg for 12 weeks, and then will attend the Police Training Academy in Grand Island starting in August for 16 weeks of training with a projected graduation date of December 15.

Richeson moved, Waskowiak seconded, to approve Mayor Hudson’s appointment of Kyle Carlson as a Gothenburg Police Officer. Roll call vote: Yea – Kennedy, Janssen, Waskowiak, Richeson. Nay – none.

Discussion was held regarding the design of Ave J at the 23rd Street intersection. The proposal is to have narrower lanes to slow traffic, and the possibility of putting in a tree on each side as a way to slow traffic down. Clymer reported that the possible bump-outs for that corner would be approximately 2 car lengths according to Miller & Associates Engineer Gary Steele. Also a pedestrian crossing would be added with potentially a sign added for pedestrian traffic. Clymer told that there have been concerns from citizens about potential speeding once the street is complete. Clymer will contact Gary Steele and have him go ahead with a design. Janssen also recommended getting a price which would include cost of a 6’ sidewalk on the South West side of Avenue J.

Kennedy moved, Janssen seconded, to approve Change Order #3 to Adams Civil Resources for 4th Street Drainage for \$9,346.00. Roll call vote: Yea – Waskowiak, Richeson, Janssen, Kennedy. Nay – none.

Richeson moved, Kennedy seconded, to approve Pay Request #4 to Adams Civil Resources for 4th Street Drainage for \$72,914.20. Roll call vote: Yea –Waskowiak, Janssen, Kennedy, Richeson. Nay – none.

Janssen moved, Waskowiak seconded, to approve the appointment of Dr. Garret Shaw as new City Physician following Mayor Hudson's recommendation. Dr. Craig Bartruff has resigned from this position. Roll call vote: Yea – Kennedy, Richeson, Waskowiak, Janssen. Nay – none.

Janssen moved, Richeson seconded, to approve the appointment of Mike Bacon to the Airport Authority after Mayor Hudson's recommendation. Dr. Craig Bartruff has resigned from this board as well. Roll call vote: Yea – Kennedy, Waskowiak, Richeson, Janssen. Nay – none.

Discussion was had regarding restricting access to only authorized person ½ block west of Avenue A on the West side of Lake Helen and restricted parking at the turn around west of Lafayette Park and north of the NPPD Canal. Janssen moved, Kennedy seconded, to have Bacon start drafting an Ordinance to restrict access part the tail race and to eliminate all parking at the turn around west of Lafayette Park and north of the NPPD Canal. Roll call vote: Yea - Waskowiak, Richeson, Kennedy, Janssen. Nay – none. Clymer, Bacon and Olson will check into different signs that could be put up.

Janssen moved, Kennedy seconded, to authorize the Mayor to sign a contract with Dan & Mary Meisinger regarding 1518 Avenue B. Roll call vote: Yea – Kennedy, Waskowiak, Richeson, Janssen. Nay – none.

Waskowiak moved, Janssen seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 7:34 p.m. Roll call vote: Yea – Waskowiak, Kennedy, Richeson, Janssen. Nay – none. The next regular meeting will be April 4, 2017.

Joyce Hudson, Mayor

Jill A. Rubenthaler Deputy City Clerk