

Present: Mayor - Larry Franzen

Council members Jeff Kennedy
 Jim Aden
 Roger Dudley
 Gary Norseen
City Administrator Bruce Clymer
City Clerk Connie L. Dalrymple

Absent: City Attorney Mike Bacon
 Police Chief Randy Olson

Press: Gothenburg Times - Beth Barrett

Also present: Eppie Sisneros, Stephan Johnson, Kendell Nelson of Kinder Morgan, Inc, Shane Gruber

Mayor Franzen 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.

Dudley moved, Norseen seconded, to approve the consent agenda that included:

City Council minutes - February 21
Police report - February

Roll call vote: Yea - Kennedy, Aden, Norseen, Dudley. Nay - none.

Kennedy moved, Aden seconded, allowing payment of the claims against the City, \$102,318.01; Public Works Division \$95,643.12, except #4901; and the February 23 payroll of \$27,331.58. Roll call vote: Yea – Norseen, Dudley, Aden, Kennedy. Nay - none.

Dudley moved, Norseen, seconded, allowing payment of claim 4901 to Quality Fire Extinguishers. Roll call vote: Yea – Aden, Norseen, Dudley. Nay – none.

Dudley moved, Kennedy seconded, to pass and approve Ordinance 804 regarding Tree Board membership on third and final reading. Roll call vote: Yea – Aden, Norseen, Kennedy, Dudley. Nay – none.

Kennedy moved, Norseen seconded, introduction of Ordinance 805 to vacate platted 3rd Street west of Avenue A. Roll call vote: Yea – Aden, Dudley, Norseen, Kennedy. Nay – none.

No action was taken on the proposed resolution to sell excess property.

Dudley moved, Norseen seconded, to pass and approve Resolution 2006-1 updating the Emergency Water Plan. Roll call vote: Yea – Kennedy, Aden, Norseen, Dudley. Nay – none.

The employee health insurance does not allow open enrollment. If an employee or family opts out of the plan at employment they cannot come on to the plan later without a qualifying event such as termination of spouse's employment, birth, or marriage. The purpose is to protect the City from employees taking advantage of the insurance when a catastrophic situation arises. Discussion was had on the advantages and disadvantages and the possible amendment of the plan.

Ultimately, Dudley moved, Aden seconded, approval of Plan Amendment #1 allowing for open enrollment in December of each year for January effectiveness. The amendment is effective January 1, 2006. Roll call vote: Yea – Kennedy, Norseen, Aden, Dudley. Nay – none.

Kennedy moved, Norseen seconded, approving Mayor Franzen's recommendation appointing Diane Trullinger to a three-year term on the Tree Board. Roll call vote: Yea – Dudley, Aden, Norseen, Kennedy. Nay – none.

The City's franchise with Kinder Morgan expired in 1985 and has never been replaced. K-M is requesting a franchise that will state current practices and duties of the City and the gas company. K-M will pay the City an annual franchise fee of between \$8000 and \$9000.

Discussion was had on the assignment of costs for moving lines, ratepayer versus taxpayer expense, and on franchise fees as another cost assessed to the ratepayers. No action was taken on the franchise proposal.

The Oregon Trail Baptist Association has requested use of Ehmen Park July 31 – Aug 4 for a Vacation Bible School. They may also contact us later about use of the pavilion or scout cabins at Lafayette Park.

Council questioned the numbers and hours of use and want to be sure the parties understand it is a public park and there is no way to reserve specific areas. Otherwise, Council has no objection.

Kennedy moved, Dudley seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 7:37 p.m. The next regular meeting will be March 21, 2006.

Larry Franzen Mayor

Connie L. Dalrymple, City Clerk