

Present: Mayor - Larry Franzen
Council members Jeff Kennedy
Jim Aden
Roger Dudley
Gary Norseen
City Administrator Bruce Clymer
City Clerk Connie L. Dalrymple
Police Chief Randy Olson

Absent: City Attorney Mike Bacon

Press: Gothenburg Times - Beth Barrett

Also present: Eppie Sisneros, Shane Gruber, Stephen Johnson, Del Siel, Heather Clement and Blake Munster, Tony Alvarez, John Paul, Nick Parkhill

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 – April 4 and 18
- Treasurer's Report – March
- Planning & Zoning Commission minutes – April 14

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

Dudley moved, Kennedy seconded, allowing payment of the claims against the City, \$67,472.83; Public Works Division \$275,712.66; and the April 6 and 20 payrolls, \$54,466.52. Roll call vote: Yea – Norseen, Aden, Dudley, Kennedy. Nay - none.

- Mayor Franzen welcomed two members of the school Speech Class.
- Chief Olson reported, in response to a citizen query last meeting, that the trailer ordinance as it is works well. Any change would allow boats, campers, and other small trailers on the streets. He recommends the ordinance be left as is since it allows for loading and unloading and citizens have the option of putting small trailers in their driveway or yard off alleys.
- Tony Alvarez expressed his concern at the speed of traffic on his street, the 1100 block of 17th Street. Vehicles, particularly one family, repeatedly travel at 45 – 50 mph causing safety concerns for the entire neighborhood. He has called the police on numerous occasions and they have always responded, but he would like stop signs or speed bumps to slow the traffic.

The Clerk's office has received several complaints from citizens in the neighborhood of 17th Street and Avenue J in the past couple weeks. The Police Dept has been monitoring traffic there and will be doing more even though there have been several citations issued already. The Department is reluctant to recommend stop signs because the problem would just move to either 16th or 18th Streets.

- The clerk reported receiving notice that the fees for grave opening and closing will increase \$25, to \$275, on June 1.

Estimated cost of repairing the 16th Street well to increase pumping efficiency is \$17,000. Sargent Irrigation will do the work.

Kennedy moved, Dudley seconded, allowing Phase I environmental site assessment at the proposed ethanol site. Miller and Assoc will do the assessment for \$2000. Roll call vote: Yea – Aden, Norseen, Dudley, Kennedy. Nay – none.

Norseen moved, Dudley seconded, authorizing draw down #4 on the Senior Center project in the amount of \$5240.00. Roll call vote: Yea – Kennedy, Aden, Dudley, Norseen. Nay – none.

Discussion was had on a utility vehicle or 4-wheeler to be used by the Recreation Dept. We rented a 4-wheeler last year that worked well. Utility vehicles have more space for hauling tools and are slower moving. Used utility vehicles are available for around \$8900 and new at \$10,000. They can be equipped with winch kits and snowplows and would be handy for street painting, cleaning storm drains, weed spraying, and cleaning snow from parks and sidewalks, to avoid using larger more costly equipment.

Aden moved to buy a utility vehicle but withdrew the motion after further discussion. It was then decided to allow the administration to check current prices on new and used vehicles and attachments and other uses besides the Recreation Dept. It will be taken up at next meeting.

Dudley moved, Norseen seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 7:31 p.m. The next regular meeting will be May 16 at 7:00 p.m.

Larry Franzen Mayor

Connie L. Dalrymple, City Clerk