

Present: Mayor - Larry Franzen
Council members Jeff Kennedy
Jim Aden
Roger Dudley
Jeff Whiting
City Administrator Bruce Clymer
City Clerk Connie L. Dalrymple
City Attorney Mike Bacon

Press: Gothenburg Times - Beth Barrett

Also present: Shane Gruber, Eppie Sisneros, Ken Christensen, Joyce Hudson, Sandy Widholm, Jennifer Bartlett, Dan Kreis, Roxanne, Kimberly, Aaron and Tyler Whiting

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. 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.

Kennedy moved, Aden seconded, approving Mayor Franzen's recommendation appointing Jeff Whiting to replace Gary Norseen as West Ward Council member. Roll call vote: Yea – Dudley, Aden, Kennedy. Nay – none.

Atty. Mike Bacon administered the oath of office to Jeff Whiting.

Mayor Franzen opened the public hearing on a request for liquor license for Lakeside Fun Center at 7:04 p.m. The Clerk reported receiving no concerns, questions, or objections and that Mr. Mak had held a license in the past for the Center.

Kennedy moved, Dudley seconded, to close the hearing at 7:05 p.m. Roll call vote: Yea – Aden, Dudley, Kennedy, Whiting. Nay – one.

Dudley moved, Whiting seconded, to recommend to the Liquor Control Commission the issuance of a Class I license to Louis Mak at Lakeside Fun Center. Roll call vote: Yea – Aden, Kennedy, Dudley, Whiting. Nay – none.

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

- City Council minutes – September 19
- Board of Adjustment minutes – September 15
- Police Report – September.

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

Aden moved, Kennedy seconded, allowing payment of the claims against the City, \$82,275.28; Public Works Division \$67,630.57; and the September 21 payroll of \$27,009.56. Roll call vote: Yea – Whiting, Aden, Kennedy, Dudley. Nay - none.

- Requests for bids for a transformer for the ethanol plant have not been published as stated at the Sept 19 meeting because the sale of the property for the plant has not been completed. It's also been learned that the transformer delivery date is less that anticipated. It was decided to hold the bid request for a while since we have a better grasp of the time frame and can eliminate some interest costs on delivery.
- A Design Workshop will be held on October 11 and 12 at which time the entire community will have an opportunity to participate in development of the Comprehensive Plan for Gothenburg. Workshop times will be 11 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. on both days. On Wednesday, November 11, at 5:30 p.m. there will be a community presentation of the workshop input. The public is encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity for input into the future plan for Gothenburg.
- Council member Kennedy reported receiving a compliment from a resident for the street crew's work repairing the intersection at 24th and Ave G.
- Council member Aden received a call about the crosswalk south of the bus barn on 12th Street. It's heavily used and cars move too fast on that street. Chief Olson will be asked to look into the situation.

Dudley moved, Kennedy seconded, approving draw #8 for \$12,575.00 and #9 for \$48, 847.00 from CDBG funds for the Senior Center renovation. Roll call vote: Yea – Aden, Whiting, Kennedy, Dudley. Nay- none.

Director Angie Barkmeier asked Council for assistance in constructing the retaining wall north of the Senior Center. The wall is long but is critical to drainage off the dam. She is anxious to complete the wall this fall so they can apply for the Peter Kiewit funds and reduce interest costs on borrowed funds..

Administrator Clymer expressed concern at the amount of time and expertise required. Contractors for TL Sund have agreed to set the first layer to be sure its level and correctly placed. After that, stacking the brick should not be difficult.

Council agreed to city crew helping and use of the skid steer to move dirt.

Atty. Bacon explained the purpose of the proposed ordinance annexing various areas totaling 500 acres. Some of the property is city owned and all of it is urban or suburban in character. If introduced, the ordinance must be read three times at three different meetings. Most of the parcels have all city services and some have some services, such as fire and police protection, but we must provide a plan within one year to provide services. RAE, the ethanol company, will close the purchase of their site on October 24 and the annexation needs to be in place by that time. An ordinance reading on October 5th and 6th will allow the completion of the 15 day publication requirement prior to sale and financing arrangements. The ethanol area meets the standards of blight and substandard allowing tax increment financing that will be used for the site, fill, (to raise out of the flood plain) and installation of infrastructure.

One property owner has requested annexation and the remaining ones will be contacted immediately to allow sufficient time for their input into the annexation process. The areas to be annexed are:

- Wastewater treatment plant

- 4-plex ball field

- Ethanol plant site

- Tracts along East Highway 30 including, former KK Appliance, Sargent Irrigation, Mid-States Irrigation

- 1122 Washington

- a 1.1 acre parcel 70 feet long south of the 15th Street / Avenue K intersection.

Discussion was had and a motion made by Dudley, seconded by Aden, introducing Ordinance 811 annexing various parcels. Roll call vote: Yea – Kennedy, Whiting, Aden, Dudley. Nay – none.

There will be special council meetings at noon on October 5 and October 6.

Council viewed a short video from the League of Nebraska Municipalities on the effects of a constitutional amendment, TABOR / SOS (Taxpayer Bill of Rights / Stop Over Spending), on Colorado schools, streets and highways, and health care. A similar measure will be presented for Nebraska as a constitutional amendment, Initiative 423.

Kennedy moved, Dudley seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 7:46 p.m. The next regular meeting will be October 17 at 7:00 p.m.

Larry Franzen Mayor

Connie L. Dalrymple, City Clerk