October 16, 2007 7:00 p.m.

Present: Mayor – Joyce Hudson Absent: Council member Jeff Kennedy

Council members Jim Aden Police Chief Randy Olson

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, Chris Healey, Kyle Conry.

Mayor Hudson opened the meeting and public hearing 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.

The public hearing on a special use permit for a free-standing, oversize, tenant sign for Pamida was taken up at 7:00 p.m. The sign will stand on the former Dawson Public Power lot and will have sign space to accommodate future businesses in the area. The Planning & Zoning Commission has approved the request.

Dudley moved, Whiting seconded, to close the public hearing at 7:04 p.m. Roll call vote: Yea – Aden, Whiting, Dudley. Nay – none. Absent and not voting – Kennedy.

Dudley moved, Whiting seconded, approval of the special use permit for a tenant sign as requested by Pamida at 4th Street and Highway 47. Roll call vote: Yea – Aden, Whiting, Dudley. Nay – none. Absent and not voting – Kennedy.

Whiting moved, Aden seconded, to approve the consent agenda that included:

City council minutes – October 24

Planning & Zoning commission minutes – October 9

Treasurer's Report - September

Roll call vote: Yea – Dudley, Aden, Whiting. Nay - none. Absent and not voting – Kennedy.

Dudley moved, Whiting seconded, allowing payment of the claims against the City except #1047, \$50,113.43; Public Works Division \$289,503.69; and the October 4 payroll of \$27,743.27. Roll call vote: Yea – Aden, Dudley, Whiting. Nay - none. Absent and not voting – Kennedy.

Aden moved, Whiting seconded, allowing payment of claim #1047 to the Animal Hospital. Roll call vote: Yea – Aden, Whiting. Nay – none. Absent and not voting – Kennedy

Open Forum:

- Work has begun on the sidewalks along 20th Street at the Senior Center.
- Cemetery Board members have been helping city employees trim trees in the cemetery.
- Jason Anderson has moved to the electric department. Allen Weidman was hired to replace him in the water / sewer department. Tim Lauer has taken the new position as Park / Cemetery Manager and Corey Cooper has replaced Tim in the water / sewer department.
- Renovation is scheduled to begin on the Council Chambers this week.

Dudley moved, Aden seconded, to advance Ordinance 820 to third and final reading. Roll call vote: Yea – Whiting, Aden, Dudley. Nay – none. Absent and not voting – Kennedy.

No public comments have been received after the discussion at last meeting on the removal of the sand volleyball court at Lake Helen. Council discussed allowing future monuments and memorials on public property and on how long the City should be responsible for replacement of memorial trees in the parks. The Tree Board has discussed a 5-year limit on replacement.

Dudley moved, Aden seconded, to remove the sand volleyball court at Lake Helen by removing the sand, bringing in dirt to level the area and plant seed. The Gary Geiken memorial stone will remain as is for now. Roll call vote: Yea – Whiting, Aden, Dudley. Nay – none. Absent and not voting – Kennedy.

There has been no change in the use fees, deposits, and rental fees for many years. After a meeting with the department heads Administrator Clymer reviewed a proposal for updating the use fee resolution. Changes include the method of applying labor costs, raising minimum fees, establishing a penalty for beginning construction without a permit, maximum building permit fees, and referencing state fees instead of actual dollar amounts for liquor licenses. Council will review the proposal for discussion at the November 6 meeting.

Chris Healey of Gothenburg Feed Products came before the Council to protest the electrical bill and peak created during an on-peak billing period. No action was taken but the issue will be discussed further at the next meeting.

Dudley moved, Whiting seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 7:53 p.m. Roll call vote: Yea – Aden, Whiting, Dudley. Nay – none. Absent and not voting – Kennedy. The next regular meeting will be November 6 at 7:00 p.m.

Joyce Hudson, Mayor	Connie L. Dalrymple, City Clerk