

Regular City Council Meeting  
City Council Chambers

January 2, 2008  
7:00 p.m.

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

Absent: Police Chief Randy Olson

Press: Gothenburg Times - Beth Barrett

Also present: Shane Gruber, Ken Christensen, Louis Bovitz, Stan Jordan, Eppie Sisneros, Jared Slagle, Travis Mason, Chris Healey

Mayor Hudson opened the meeting and 1-Year and 6-Year Road Program 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 road program hearing was held open until Travis Mason of Miller & Associates arrived.

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

- City Council minutes – January 8
- Planning & Zoning Commission minutes – December 11
- Treasurer’s Report – December
- Library Director’s report – Nov - January

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

Dudley moved, Aden seconded, allowing payment of the claims against the City, \$27,617.41; Public Works Division \$252,780.69; and the January 10 payroll of \$28,763.58. Roll call vote: Yea – Whiting, Kennedy, Aden, Dudley. Nay - none.

#### OPEN FORUM

- Mayor Hudson and the Council are happy with the Council Chambers remodel. The Mayor noted this is the first meeting with the sound system and podium.
- There have been several calls to the office regarding an electrical problem with the 13<sup>th</sup> Street feeder line. We adjusted the breaker at the substation and the crew inspected the power lines but the ‘blink’ occurred again today at about 7:15 a.m. The crew switched some residents to a different line in an effort to balance usage. The problem is difficult to find if there isn’t a complete break in the line.
- Chuck Belden retired January 16 after eight years service.

- Atty. Bacon has received a call for the final documentation from Mann Hay. The buildings are gone, site compacted and inspected. The final payment will be made and a return of \$9030 to the City for damage to a transformer during demolition.

Kennedy moved, Aden seconded, setting the employee recognition dinner on February 1 and the 2008 floating holiday on February 18 as recommended by the Employee Relations Committee. Roll call vote: Yea – Dudley, Whiting, Aden, Kennedy.

The public hearing was taken up at 7:05 p.m.

Travis Mason explained that the 1-Year and 6-Year Road Program is a planning tool and requirement for receipt of highway allocation funds. We are not bound to follow the plan. We can do all, any part, more, or none of the projects included. The program as proposed is basically the same as last year. The one year program includes maintenance of existing roads and the addition of the road to the ethanol plant per the EDA grant. Paving 22<sup>nd</sup> Street between Avenue H and Avenue J was petitioned in as District #100 and will be done this year. The 6-year program includes:

Gravel – 27<sup>th</sup> Street from Lake Ave west to the corporate limits  
 Paving – 23<sup>rd</sup> Street between Avenue G and Avenue H  
 Paving – 22<sup>nd</sup> Street between Avenue G and Avenue H  
 Paving – 18<sup>th</sup> Street between Avenue A and Avenue B  
 Paving – 17<sup>th</sup> Street between Avenue L and Avenue M

Paving – Avenue I from 22<sup>nd</sup> Street north to the alley  
 Paving – Avenue K between 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Streets  
 Concrete – 6<sup>th</sup> Street between Hiway 47 and Cottonwood Dr  
 Drainage – Lakeview Dr across the Gothenburg Irrigation Canal.  
 Paving – 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave west to corporate limits

A portion of the road west of Lake Helen is outside corporate limits therefore replacing the bridge should not be included on any plan.

Dudley moved, Whiting seconded, to close the public hearing at 7:16. Roll call vote: Yea – Kennedy, Dudley, Aden, Whiting. Nay – none.

Aden moved, Dudley seconded, to approve the One Year and Six Year Road Program as proposed except moving Project 55, 13th Street, to the six year plan. Roll call vote: Yea – Whiting, Kennedy, Dudley, Aden. Nay – none.

Kennedy moved, Whiting seconded, to approve a loan from Sales Tax fund to The Buss Stop. The loan will be 15 years, interest at one-half of prime, and the City will hold a first mortgage lien position. Roll call vote: Yea – Dudley, Aden, Whiting, Kennedy. Nay – none.

In an effort to eliminate citizen complaints about fugitive dust and air quality, and in light of the Redevelopment Authority's recruitment issues regarding air quality, Dudley moved, Kennedy

seconded, to authorize a \$60,000 grant to Gothenburg Feed to help offset their costs for equipment. Roll call vote: Yea – Whiting, Aden, Kennedy, Dudley. Nay – none.

The removal of Mann Hay Co greatly improved air quality and elimination of fugitive dust and the addition of containment equipment at Gothenburg Feed will help further.

Whiting moved, Kennedy seconded, to approve Mayor Hudson’s recommendations for committee and personnel appointments and fire department roster:

<b>Board of Adjustment:</b>	Mike Hilderbrand Jim Ambler (P & Z rep)
<b>Cemetery Board</b>	Don Abbott Sharyl Munster
<b>Housing Authority</b>	Bret Tiller
<b>Library Board</b>	Terri Bruntz Cathy Simon
<b>Planning &amp; Zoning Comm.</b>	Jim Ambler Dan Tinlin Deb Mroczek Pam Slack
<b>Recreation Committee</b>	Tot Holmes Angie Barkmeier
<b>Community Redevelopment Auth Tree Board</b>	Matt Williams Jeff Kennedy Terry Healey

#### **PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS – 2008**

City Attorney	Mike Bacon
City Prosecutor	Willard Weinhold
City Clerk / Treasurer	Connie L Dalrymple
Police Chief	Randy Olson
Police Sgt	Matthew Langley
Police Officers	Ryan Randolph Joe Humphrey Dustin Cullen Jill Ostergard
Fire Chief	Dale Franzen
Electrical Inspector	Mike Libich
Building Inspector	Shane Gruber
City Physician	Dr. Craig Bartruff
Municipal Engineer	Miller & Assoc

## Fire Dept Roster

Ron Alexander	Brock Anderson	Allen Ballmer
Mark Ballmer	Dennis Bihlmaier	Chris Brede
Dan Butterfield	Shane Butterfield	Justin Carlson
Eric Coulter	Richard Crown	Adam Finke
Craig Franzen	Dale Franzen	Larry Franzen
Lyle Franzen	Rodney Franzen	Troy Franzen
Justin Geiken	Wade Geiken	Kirk Haynes
James Hecox	John Hecox	John Hudson
Joe Keiser	Kent Kline	Dan Meisinger
Travis Miller	Troy Munster	Mark Ostergard
Mike Ostergard	Robb Ostergard	Aaron Pelzer
Randy Rossell	Casey Russman	Christopher Scott
Walter Trimble	Garland Underwood	Lane Van Natta
Jason Wagner	Michael Wagner	Keith Williamson
Bill Walker		

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

The city has been awarded a grant for Crown Housing which is a rent-to-own project, aimed at low-to-moderate income persons. The lots will also be open to spec houses and duplexes. Homes will be located at Jefferson Street and Avenue J, near Parker Tech Seal. The water, sanitary sewer, and paving needs to be installed before the project can move forward. The Pony Express Foundation currently owns the property and the Housing Development Corporation has paid for infrastructure design.

Council member Dudley introduced Ordinance 824 entitled

*An ordinance creating Water Extension District #2008-1; defining the boundaries and limits thereof; providing for the construction of water mains and other necessary and incidental work; providing for the payment of such improvements and other incidental expenses by the issuance of warrants, bond anticipation notes, and bonds; providing for assessment of the costs of such improvements against the property especially benefited thereby and the levy of general taxes; providing for the publication of this ordinance; and related matters*

and moved that the statutory rule requiring reading on three different days be suspended. Council member Whiting seconded the motion and on roll call vote the following voted “Yea”: Aden, Kennedy, Dudley, Whiting. “Nay”: none.

Mayor Hudson declared the motion adopted by a full vote of the council and the statutory rule suspended for consideration of said ordinance. Ordinance 824 was then read by title whereupon Councilmember Aden moved for final passage and Council member Kennedy seconded the motion. Mayor Hudson asked the question “*Shall Ordinance 824 be passed and adopted?*” On roll call vote the following voted “Yea”: Whiting, Dudley, Kennedy Aden. “Nay”: none.

Mayor Hudson declared Ordinance 824 adopted and signed it in the presence of the Council and the Clerk attested the signature.

Council member Aden introduced Ordinance 825

*An ordinance creating Sewer Extension District #2008-1; defining the boundaries and limits thereof; providing for the construction of sewer mains and other necessary and incidental work; providing for the payment of such improvements and other incidental expenses by the issuance of warrants, bond anticipation notes, and bonds; providing for assessment of the costs of such improvements against the property especially benefited thereby and the levy of general taxes; providing for the publication of this ordinance; and related matters*

and moved that the statutory rule requiring reading on three different days be suspended. Council member Aden seconded the motion and on roll call vote, the following voted "Yea": Kennedy, Dudley, Aden, Whiting. "Nay": none.

Mayor Hudson declared the motion adopted by a full vote of the Council and the statutory rule suspended for consideration of the ordinance. Ordinance 825 was read by title whereupon Council member Aden moved for final passage and Council member Kennedy seconded the motion.

Mayor Hudson asked the question "*Shall Ordinance 825 be passed and adopted?*" On roll call vote, the following Council members voted "Yea": Kennedy, Aden, Dudley, Whiting. "Nay": none.

Mayor Hudson declared Ordinance 825 adopted and signed it in the presence of the Council and the Clerk attested the signature.

Council member Dudley introduced Ordinance 826 entitled:

*An ordinance creating Street Improvement Project #2008-1; defining the boundaries and limits thereof; providing for paving, grading, curbing, guttering, and other necessary and incidental work; providing for the payment of such improvements and other incidental expenses by the issuance of warrants, bond anticipation notes, and bonds; providing for assessment of the costs of such improvements against the property especially benefited thereby and the levy of general taxes; providing for the publication of this ordinance; and related matters*

and moved that the statutory rule requiring reading on three different days be suspended. The motion was seconded by Council member Aden and on roll call vote the following voted "Yea": Kennedy, Whiting, Dudley, Aden. "Nay": none

Mayor Hudson declared the motion adopted by a full vote of the Council and the statutory rule suspended for consideration of said Ordinance. Ordinance 826 was then read by title, whereupon Council member Aden moved for final passage and Council member Whiting seconded the motion.

Mayor Hudson asked the question "*Shall Ordinance 826 be passed and adopted?*" On roll call vote, the following voted "Yea": Kennedy, Dudley, Whiting, Aden. "Nay": none.

The Crown Housing area has been declared blighted and substandard and qualifies for tax increment financing to capture excess property tax dollars to use against the cost of infrastructure construction. Infrastructure bids will be advertised immediately with construction of five Crown houses and one spec house to begin in April. The developer will own the homes for 15 years. During that time, a property manager will make monthly inspections to ensure homes are properly maintained. Some of the monthly rent goes to home equity and after 15 years will be a down payment on the home. It can then be purchased for 88% of the original construction cost. The tenant keeps the equity that could be used on another home. Homes will be single level, with no basement.

Stan Jordan came before Council to ask permission to use Ehmen Park on June 7 for an event to raise awareness and money for a trade school scholarship he and Monte Kenning will offer to a foster child from the area. The day will be a family event, with no alcohol, and will include a poker run, bike and car show, and barbeque. He has several sponsors and is working with the Police Dep't. He'd like to have 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> Streets and Avenue F by the park blocked to traffic for the car show.

Dudley moved, Kennedy seconded, to allow the use of Ehmen Park on June 7 and to close the requested streets for the event from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Avenue F will be the last street closed and will remain open if not needed for the car show. Roll call vote: Yea- Dudley, Aden, Kennedy, Whiting. Nay – none.

Dudley moved, Whiting seconded, renewal of Maintenance Agreement #56 with the Nebraska Department of Roads for surface maintenance of State roads within corporate limits. Roll call vote: Yea – Aden, Kennedy, Whiting, Dudley. Nay – none.

Aden moved, Dudley seconded, authorizing signature of contracts with Miller & Associates to design the street improvements for the Crown Housing project. Roll call vote: Yea – Kennedy, Whiting, Dudley, Aden. Nay – none.

Kennedy moved, Aden seconded, to recommend to the Liquor Control Commission the approval of Special Designated Licenses for Lakeside Fun Center's bowling tournaments on February 3 and February 17, 2008. Roll call vote: Yea – Whiting, Dudley, Aden, Kennedy. Nay – none.

Bids were received for new playground equipment in Ehmen Park from Sterling West and Outdoor Recreation Products. Sterling West of Gothenburg provided the low bid of \$24,360.00. An additional \$216 is required for cement to anchor the equipment. The installation cost of \$7000 will be donated by Sterling West. The playground committee recommends approval of the bid. Funding will be:

- \$8000 Peter Kiewitt grant
- \$2000 Pamida donation
- \$2000 Women's Club donation
- \$500 Rotary Club donation
- \$2500 Tourism Committee.

The remaining \$9576 will be from city funds and other donation sources.

The equipment will be placed on the north side of the park and some of the existing equipment will be reconfigured in the area. Some of the old equipment has already been removed at the request of the insurance company.

Dudley moved, Aden seconded, to accept the bid of Sterling West for play ground equipment in Ehmen Park. Roll call vote: Yea – Whiting, Kennedy, Aden, Dudley. Nay - none.

Administrator Clymer had a sample of mulch made from recycled tires that can be used around playground equipment. Mulch is not a budgeted item but Council had discussed pea gravel at the 4-plex. The advantage of tire mulch is that it does not blow away like wood mulch and it

drops when thrown unlike gravel. The KENO fund has been earmarked for recreational purposes and the current budget has \$6000 for concrete and umbrellas at the pool, leaving \$13,000 that could be used for mulch.

The Department of Environmental Quality is offering a grant of up to 50% of the cost of recycled tire mulch. Mulch must be made from Nebraska tires. The total estimated cost of mulch we would need is \$17,791.00

Discussion was had and Aden moved, Kennedy seconded, to authorize application for the DEQ grant Roll call vote: Yea – Whiting, Dudley, Kennedy, Aden. Nay – none.

Kennedy moved, Whiting seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 p.m. Roll call vote: Yea – Dudley, Aden, Whiting, Kennedy. Nay – none. The next regular meeting will be February 5 at 7:00 p.m.

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Joyce Hudson, Mayor

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Connie L. Dalrymple, City Clerk