

Regular City Council Meeting
City Council Chambers

October 20, 2009
7:00 p.m.

Present: Mayor – Joyce Hudson
Council members Jeff Kennedy
Jim Aden
Tim Strauser
Jeff Whiting
City Administrator Bruce Clymer
City Clerk Connie L. Dalrymple

Absent: City Attorney Mike Bacon

Press: Gothenburg Times - Beth Barrett

Also present: Kandi Stickelman, Shane Gruber

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 purpose of the public hearing is a request from Kandi Stickelman for a special use permit to operate a skin care business from her home at 802 16th Street. She is employed full time as a registered nurse and the home business will be on a part time basis.

As a result of a similar public hearing, the Planning & Zoning Commission recommended approval of the permit.

Whiting moved, Kennedy seconded, to close the public hearing at 7:03 p.m. Roll call vote: Yea – Aden, Strauser, Kennedy, Whiting. Nay – none.

Kennedy moved, Aden seconded, to approve the special use permit as requested by Kandi Stickelman. Roll call vote: Yea – Whiting, Strauser, Aden, Kennedy. Nay – none.

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

City Council minutes – October 6

Planning & Zoning Commission minutes – October 13

Treasurer's Report - September

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

Whiting moved, Strauser seconded, allowing payment of the claims against the City, \$41,873.03; Public Works Division \$332,076.51; and the October 15 payroll of \$29,512.59. Roll call vote: Yea – Kennedy, Aden, Strauser, Whiting. Nay - none.

Open Forum:

- ADA compliant door openers have been installed on City Hall, Council Chambers, and Police Department doors. Seventy-five per cent of the cost is covered by Downtown Revitalization funds.
- The Planning & Zoning Commission will meet on November 10 at 5:30 p.m. with Bill Jones of the Department of Natural Resources about the new floodplain mapping and the effects on the community. Letters will be sent to all known property owners within the floodplain. Mr. Jones will also be available to meet with individuals between 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. on November 10.

One of the recommendations of the Comprehensive Plan is to enhance the Highway 47 corridor from I-80. The Tree Board would like to participate in the *Shade Our Streets* grant. Grant funding comes through the Department of Transportation and is distributed by the Nebraska Forest Service. The project will plant 45 maturing trees in public right-of-way from I-80 to 10th Street. Trees will be spaced at 50-foot intervals. Total project cost is \$17,575, of which 20%, or \$3515, must be local match. If the Board is successful in an application to Central Platte Natural Resources District for a grant for the matching funds, there will be no out-of-pocket cost to the City. If either application is unsuccessful, the successful application will be declined.

Discussion was had and a motion made by Strauser, seconded by Aden, to proceed with the *Shade Our Streets* application as presented. Roll call vote: Yea – Strauser, Kennedy, Whiting, Aden. Nay – none.

Kennedy moved, Aden seconded, setting the employee recognition dinner for January 15. Roll call vote: Yea – Strauser, Whiting, Aden, Kennedy. Nay – none.

Aden moved, Whiting seconded, approving Drawdown #5 for \$6,569 to Miller & Assoc. for work done on 2008 Street Improvements. Roll call vote: Yea – Kennedy, Strauser, Whiting, Aden. Nay – none.

Three of the five CROWN homes on Jefferson Street are now occupied. Since the alley is not open, trash receptacles are in the front of the house. The alley on the north side of Jefferson Street is platted and could be opened allowing alley access for trash removal.

There was some discussion at an October Planning & Zoning Commission meeting, and will more at the November meeting, to recommend the valley be vacated. Discussion was had and it was the consensus of the Council that in most instances, lack of an alley creates more problems than it solves.

Whiting moved, Kennedy seconded, to open the platted alley north of Jefferson Street between Avenues J and L. Roll call vote: Yea – Strauser, Aden, Kennedy, Whiting. Nay – none.

Aden moved, Kennedy seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 p.m. Roll call vote: Yea – Strauser, Whiting, Aden, Kennedy. Nay – none. The next regular meeting will be November 3 at 7:00 p.m.

Joyce Hudson, Mayor

Connie L. Dalrymple, City Clerk

