

Regular City Council Meeting
City Council Chambers

February 1, 2011
7:00 p.m.

Present: Mayor – Joyce Hudson
Council members Jeff Kennedy
Gary Fritch
Tim Strauser
Jeff Whiting
City Administrator Bruce Clymer
City Attorney Mike Bacon
City Clerk Connie L. Dalrymple

Press: *Gothenburg Times* - Beth Barrett

Also present: Shane Gruber, Larry Alger, Ron Wilson

Mayor Hudson 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, Whiting seconded, approving the consent agenda that included:

City Council minutes - January 18

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

Kennedy moved, Fritch seconded, allowing payment of claims against the City, \$36,234.30, except #1868; Public Works Division \$105,684.34, except #4901; and the payroll of \$33,495.92. Roll Call vote: Yea - Whiting, Strauser, Fritch, Kennedy. Nay - none.

Whiting moved, Strauser seconded, allowing payment of claim #1868 to Quality Fire Extinguishers. Roll call vote: Yea - Fritch, Strauser, Whiting. Nay - none

Strauser moved, Fritch seconded, allowing payment of claim #4901 to Quality Fire Extinguisher. Roll call vote: Yea - Whiting, Fritch, Strauser. Nay - none.

Community Comments:

- Corey Cooper was named 2010 Employee of the Year. Thank you to the Mayor and Council for hosting the employee dinner.
- Officer Randolph testified before the legislature on LB 183 and LB 206. If passed, the bills will allow municipalities to treat inoperable and unlicensed boats and campers the same as unlicensed and inoperable vehicles.
- The lift station has been repaired and the bills submitted to FEMA for reimbursement.

Second reading of Ordinance 860 regarding flood plain management regulations was removed from the agenda and will be submitted to the Planning & Zoning Commission before coming back to the Council.

Approve renewal of Maintenance Agreement #56 with NE Department of Roads was removed from the agenda and not discussed.

Chief Randy Olson requested bids for a 2011 Impala police vehicle. Pony Express Chevrolet submitted the successful bid but since the budget was approved there has been some discussion regarding the vehicle rotation process. We currently use a 3-year rotation where in year one and year two new vehicles are purchased. Year three there is no purchase. This allows a trade at about 80,000 miles before costly repairs. Lower mileage vehicles work well as a travel or administrative vehicle.

For an average vehicle 80,000 miles is not a lot, but on a police cruiser it is and that's about when water pumps, transmissions, and fuel pumps need replaced. For example, the 2008 cruiser currently has an issue with an internal computer that operates light functions and we've already replaced the water pump. The new cruisers have hour meters which will give a good report of time the vehicle is running. All major parts are still in use when the vehicle is running but not moving, such as a traffic stop or monitoring traffic flow. In such cases the mileage is not increasing but the wear and tear on the vehicle components is ongoing.

There is a statewide purchase arrangement on police vehicles but those dealers are in the Lincoln area and there is a \$400 destination charge. Pony's bid was \$300 above the state purchase price.

If we go to a 4-year rotation, we would purchase a vehicle in year 1, none in years two and three, then a new car in year four. This option would save \$4300, based on available information and use, but would add miles to the cruisers, prompting major repairs and possibly making them unfit for use by other staff. Since we have a small fleet, a major repair also leaves the department without a vehicle for an extended period of time.

Discussion was had and it was felt that since the current vehicle is in poor condition, it would be best to purchase this year but Council would like to collect data, through the hour meters and perhaps work toward a four year rotation.

Kennedy moved, Strauser seconded, authorizing purchase of a 2011 Chevrolet Impala from Pony Express Chevrolet for \$22,790. Roll call vote: Yea - Whiting, Fritch, Strauser, Kennedy. Nay - none.

Strauser moved, Whiting seconded, approval of Drawdown #18 for \$12,147 on the Owner Occupied Housing project, and payment to Jason Fiese. Roll call vote: Yea - Kennedy, Fritch, Whiting, Strauser. Nay - none.

Fritch moved, Strauser seconded, allowing payment of \$2023 to Cozad Services Inc for ductwork outside the contract on the Police Dep't renovation. Roll call vote: Yea - Whiting, Kennedy, Strauser, Fritch. Nay - none.

Kennedy moved, Whiting seconded, allowing final payment of \$12,815.74 to Paulsen, Inc on the Police Dep't renovation. Roll call vote: Yea - Fritch, Strauser, Whiting, Kennedy. Nay - none.

Strauser moved, Whiting seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 7:31 p.m. Roll call vote: Yea - Kennedy, Fritch, Whiting, Strauser. Nay - none. The next regular meeting will be February 15, 2011.

Joyce Hudson, Mayor

Connie L. Dalrymple, City Clerk