

Regular City Council Meeting
City Council Chambers

January 3, 2012
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 / Treasurer Connie L. Dalrymple

Press: *Gothenburg Times* - Beth Barrett

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, Strauser seconded, approving the consent agenda that included:

City Council minutes – December 20

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

Whiting moved, Kennedy seconded, allowing payment of claims against the City, \$50,958.73; Public Works Division \$96,762.45; and the December 22 payroll of \$32,682.47. Roll Call vote: Yea – Strauser, Fritch, Kennedy, Whiting. Nay - none.

Community Comments:

- The recent auction netted \$6200.
- The annual Employee Recognition Dinner will be January 27.

Fritch moved, Whiting seconded, to pass Ordinance #868 regarding utility rates on third and final reading. Roll call vote: Yea – Strauser, Kennedy, Whiting, Fritch. Nay – none.

Kennedy moved, Strauser seconded, to pass Ordinance #869 amending Section 50.02 of the Municipal Code, regarding utility billing, on third and final reading. Roll call vote: Yea –Fritch, Whiting, Strauser, Kennedy. Nay – none.

Strauser moved, Whiting seconded, to pass Ordinance #870, amending Section 150.059 of the Municipal Code, regarding review of building plans by the Fire Marshall, on third and final reading. Roll call vote: Yea – Kennedy, Fritch, Whiting, Strauser. Nay – none.

The passage of the ordinances regarding rates and utility billing make it necessary to update the Public Works Division Policies and Procedures. Therefore, a motion was made by Kennedy, seconded by Strauser, to approve the amendment of Section 1.08 of the Utility Policy and Procedure Manual. Roll call vote: Yea – Fritch, Whiting, Strauser, Kennedy. Nay – none.

Waste Plant Operator Mike Peters and Administrator Clymer have been working with HOA Solutions of Lincoln on a system to automate the plant with frequency drives on the blowers. Two

VFD's would be alternated among the four blowers that pump air into the aeration basins. The plant is 18 years old and was designed to do the job, which it does very well, but it is not energy efficient. Peters can turn switches on and off during the day but overnight and weekends they run constantly which results in too much air being injected into the basins. The equipment cost of \$27,230, plus installation of approximately \$4000, will result in an energy savings of at least \$3800 / year, probably more.

Discussion was had and a motion made by Strauser, seconded by Kennedy, approving the purchase of the VFD blowers for the waste plant as proposed. Roll call vote: Yea – Fritch, Whiting, Kennedy, Strauser. Nay – none.

Strauser moved, Fritch seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 7:29 p.m. Roll call vote: Yea – Kennedy, Whiting, Fritch, Strauser. Nay - none. The next regular meeting will be January 17, 2011.

Joyce Hudson, Mayor

Connie L. Dalrymple, City Clerk