

Regular City Council Meeting
City Council Chambers

December 18, 2012
7:00 p.m.

Present: Mayor –	Joyce Hudson
Council members	Jeff Kennedy
	Duane Oliver
	Tim Strauser
	Jeff Whiting
City Administrator	Bruce Clymer
Attorney	Steve Vinton
City Clerk / Treasurer	Connie L. Dalrymple

Press: *Gothenburg Times* - Beth Barrett

Also present: Gordon Block, Kevin Sitorius

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 was to consider a request for a special use permit from Eagle Crest Academy to place a sign outside the R-2 zoning setback requirements at 1710 Avenue A. Zoning regulations require signs to be placed no more than five feet from the building. The proposal would place the 2'8" x 26' sign ten feet inside the property line between the properties of 1710 and 1720 Avenue A.

Discussion was had and a motion made by Oliver, seconded by Kennedy, to close the hearing at 7:07 p.m. Roll call vote: Yea – Whiting, Strauser, Kennedy, Oliver. Nay – none.

Strauser moved, Kennedy seconded, to approve the Special Use Permit for sign placement ten feet from the front property line as requested. Roll call vote: Yea – Oliver, Strauser, Whiting, Kennedy. Nay – none.

Kennedy moved, Whiting seconded, approving the consent agenda that included:

- City Council minutes – December 4 & 6
- Police Report - November
- Treasurer's Report - November
- Planning & Zoning Commission minutes – December 11

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

Kennedy moved, Oliver seconded, allowing payment of claims against the City, \$36,021.33; Public Works Division \$333,609.04, except #4848; and the December 6 payroll of \$34,785.67. Roll Call vote: Yea – Whiting, Strauser, Oliver, Kennedy. Nay – none.

Whiting moved, Oliver seconded, allowing payment of claim #4848 to Jeff Kennedy. Roll call vote: Yea – Strauser, Whiting, Oliver. Nay – none.

Community Comments:

- We will be closed the afternoon of Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, and New Year Day. We will work regular hours on December 31.
- Councilmember Strauser is working with a Rotary committee to improve the northeast corner of Hiways 30 and 47. Ideas include repairing the north wall, a mural, and a metal sign with historical community information. The committee is hoping to be ready to move forward after January 1 and asked about using any available Downtown Improvement funds. They will set up a meeting with Administrator Clymer.
- Gordon Block asked to be on the January 15 agenda regarding placement of “school” signs near Eagle Crest Academy on Avenue A.

Strauser moved, Whiting seconded, to pass and approve Ordinance 879 regarding sexually oriented businesses on third and final reading. Roll call vote: Yea – Kennedy, Oliver, Whiting, Strauser. Nay – none.

Oliver moved, Kennedy seconded, to advance Ordinance 881 regarding a water management plan, to third and final ready. Roll call vote: Yea – Strauser, Whiting, Kennedy, Oliver. Nay – none.

The Public Works Division currently submits payments for energy improvements paid on utility bills to Energy Pioneer Solutions. EPS has partnered with Gothenburg State Bank to receive those payments instead. Nothing will change in the way the homeowner makes their payments, only in where the PWD directs them.

Kennedy moved, Whiting seconded, to authorize signature of an agreement with Gothenburg State Bank to receive payments for Energy Pioneer Solutions. Roll call vote: Yea – Strauser, Whiting, Kennedy. Nay – none.

The first Tuesday of January is New Year Day, therefore Council agreed to move all business to the next regular meeting which is January 15.

Whiting moved, Oliver seconded, to approve the Special Designated License requested by Don Graham of Gothenburg Links, Inc. for a February 9th fundraising event at the Nebraska Salt & Grain Facility, 520 10th Street. Roll call vote: Yea – Kennedy, Strauser, Oliver, Whiting. Nay – none.

Kennedy moved, Oliver seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 7:26 p.m. Roll call vote: Yea – Oliver, Whiting, Strauser, Kennedy. Nay - none. The next regular meeting will be January 15, 2012.

Joyce Hudson, Mayor

Connie L. Dalrymple, City Clerk