Regular City Council Meeting City Council Chambers November 18, 2014 7:00 p.m.

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

Press: Gothenburg Times - Beth Barrett

Also present: Verlin Janssen, Ken Christensen, Travis Mason

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.

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

City Council minutes – November 4 Police Report - October Building Permit Report – October Board of Adjustment minutes – November 7 Library Director's Report – September 9 thru November 10 Treasurer's Report – October Planning & Zoning Commission minutes – November 11 Roll call vote: Yea – Kennedy, Waskowiak, Strauser, Whiting. . Nay – none.

Kennedy moved, Strauser seconded, allowing payment of claims against the City, \$43,647.38, except #1010; Public Works Division \$354,828.60; and the November 5 payroll of \$33,410.62. Roll Call vote: Yea - Whiting, Kennedy, Strauser. Nay - none.

Kennedy moved, Whiting seconded, allowing payment of claim #1010 to Gothenburg Schools. Roll call vote: Yea – Strauser, Kennedy, Whiting. Nay – none.

Community Comments:

• The Certification of Ballots Cast on November 4 was:

East Ward:	Jay Richeson	267	Bruce Clark	266
West Ward:	Verlin Janssen	291	Koby Rickertsen	199
Mayor:	Joyce Hudson	927		

Kennedy moved, Waskowiak seconded, to advance Ordinance 897 regarding NET Metering to third and final reading. Roll call vote: Yea – Whiting, Strauser, Waskowiak, Kennedy. Nay – none.

Kennedy moved, Strauser seconded, introduction of Ordinance #898 that will vacate a portion of 6^{th} Street west of 1^{st} Avenue. Roll call vote: Yea – Waskowiak, Whiting, Strauser, Kennedy. Nay – none.

Atty. Bacon informed Council that the ordinance was prepared retaining utility easements according to recent changes in state statute. If there are no existing utilities in the easement, the easement is vacated. Administrator Clymer will double check but the city is not aware of utilities in the area of the parcel.

Ricley Subdivision would create Lots 1 & 2 in Block 36 First Addition by eliminating partial lots 9,10,and 11 and the acreages that make up Logan Ricley's property. He wants to define property lines as it is currently used. The Planning & Zoning Commission has approved the request.

Strauser moved, Whiting seconded, approving Ricley Subdivision as presented. Roll call vote: Yea – Kennedy, Waskowiak, Whiting, Strauser. Nay- none.

Item 5d.) Proposed resolution naming the street West of Block 9, Hiles & Reynolds Addition 1^{st} Avenue and the street west of Block 10, Hiles & Reynolds Addition 2^{nd} Avenue was removed from the agenda and not discussed.

Ken Christensen owns the property and 30 foot easement on 14th Street west of the alley on the west side of Avenue A. There are grain bins further west and no apparent use for the property so he requested the easement be vacated. Ron Kauffman owns the south 30 feet and has no objection to the vacation. Following discussion, the Council decided the property is of no use to the City and there are no utilities in it. Atty. Bacon was directed to draft the required ordinance to vacate the easement as requested.

By terms of Maintenance Agreement #56, the State Department of Roads will pay the City \$9,001.60 to maintain State Highways through town including snow removal, tarring. This arrangement has been the norm for many years.

Waskowiak moved, Kennedy seconded, authorizing signature of Maintenance Agreement #56 and the Certificate of Compliance with the Nebraska Department of Roads. Roll call vote: Yea – Strauser, Whiting, Kennedy, Waskowiak. Nay – none.

Work on Lake Helen has been moving forward for about one month and is going well. At the current rate, the contractors feel they can complete the project on schedule. Administrator Clymer will submit a pay request to the Department of Environmental Quality and Game & Parks Commission to help meet the current bill. Since the Environmental Trust reimburses quarterly, the next bill will be sent to them. At some point in construction we may have to secure a sort term bank loan or borrow from the public works until we can access funds from other entities that are party to the project.

Kennedy moved, Whiting seconded, allowing payment of pay request #1 in the amount of \$281,266.67 to Meyer Construction for work on the Lake Helen reclamation project. Roll call vote: Yea – Strauser, Waskowiak, Whiting, Kennedy. Nay – none.

Travis Mason of Miller & Assoc. noted that during a recent inspection, it was discovered that voids exist in the dam, possibly from muskrats. Since there is no water in the lake it is easier to find and repair the damage and eliminate future issues. We have received Change Order #1 in the amount of \$28,865.00 to Mayer Construction for repair costs.

Ken Christensen said there is often ground water accumulating in the metal garage at the Senior Center and asked if the dam area could be the problem.

Kennedy moved, Strauser seconded, approving change Order #1 in the amount of \$28, 865.00 to Meyer Construction for repair of the Lake Helen dam. Roll call vote: Yea – Waskowiak, Whiting, Strauser, Kennedy. Nay – none.

According to Administrator Clymer there will be a meeting on Monday, the 24th at 1:00 p.m. at Lake Helen. Representatives the Game & Parks Commission, the Department of Environmental Quality, and the Nebraska Environmental Trust will give a presentation about Lake Helen at the weekly Rotary meeting and have agreed to meet with City staff and administration at the lake site.

Kennedy moved, Strauser seconded, introduction of Ordinance #899 that will vacate the partially platted alley in Block 3, Hiles & Reynolds Addition. Roll call vote: Yea – Whiting, Waskowiak, Strauser, Kennedy. Nay – none.

Kennedy moved, Whiting seconded, introduction of Ordinance #900 that will vacate a parcel on the north side of platted 4th Street west of 2nd Avenue. Roll call vote: Yea – Waskowiak, Strauser, Whiting, Kennedy. Nay – none.

Strauser moved, Whiting seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 7:24 p.m. Roll call vote: Yea – Kennedy, Waskowiak, Whiting, Strauser. Nay – none. The next regular meeting will be December 2, 2014.

Joyce Hudson, Mayor

Connie L. Dalrymple, City Clerk