

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

Press: *Gothenburg Times* - Beth Barrett, KRVN – Ben Schwartz

Also present: Anne Anderson, Arlene Franzen, Judy Williams, Nancy Fisher, Carol Gronewold

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 to rezone Goshen and Goshen 2<sup>nd</sup> Subdivision from R-2 to R-3. The area is bounded by Jefferson and Washington Streets between Avenues H and L. Dana Pointe Development is planning to construct three duplexes for low-to-moderate income senior citizens on the west end of the block as part of a construction program that includes similar homes in Cozad and Lexington. R-2 zoning does not allow multi-family dwellings and additional property would have to be purchased to meet the density requirements. The Planning & Zoning Commission has considered the request for change and has recommended the Council agree to the change and order the zoning map changed.

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

Kennedy moved, Oliver seconded, to direct Atty. Bacon to provide an ordinance to change the Goshen Subdivision and Goshen 2<sup>nd</sup> Subdivision area to R-3 and to change the official zoning map accordingly. Roll call vote: Yea – Whiting, Strauser, Oliver, Kennedy. Nay – none.

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

- City Council minutes – February 5
- Police Report - January
- Cemetery Board minutes – November 5
- Treasurer's Report - January
- Planning & Zoning Commission minutes – February 11

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

Oliver moved, Kennedy seconded, allowing payment of claims against the City, \$51,024.83 except #1868; Public Works Division \$456,748.01; and the February 13 payroll of \$33,932.42. Roll Call vote: Yea – Strauser, Whiting, Kennedy, Oliver. Nay - none.

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

Community Comments:

- Administrator Clymer reported on the status of the Corps of Engineers permit required for the rehabilitation of Lake Helen. An *Individual Permit* is more comprehensive and was submitted to the Corps but they decided the project required a *Maintenance Permit* so Miller & Assoc. redid the permit and submitted it but now the Corps wants a different permit. Elements of both permits are in the project so we need a combination of the two. Miller's are working with the Corps and anticipate a decision on the permit with a month. Miller & Assoc. anticipated receipt of the permit last Friday; however, if we receive within a month it should not affect the construction schedule.

Oliver moved, Kennedy seconded, to approve the Special Designated License requested by Monte Kenning of OK Bottle Shoppe for a February 21 Open House event hosted by Horizon Ag 1900 E 8<sup>th</sup> Street in Gothenburg. The event will be from 4:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m. Roll call vote: Yea – Whiting, Strauser, Kennedy, Oliver. Nay - none.

Nancy Fisher came before the Council requesting they consider allowing Ehmen Park to become an Affiliated Arboretum Site through the Nebraska Statewide Arboretum. Some of the benefits of membership include on-site signage, plant labels, professional development opportunities, and access to affiliate site grant programs. The State has been enthusiastic about Ehmen Park for several years due to the number and variety of trees in the park. The current annual membership fee is \$130. The local Garden Club offered to maintain data and act as curator.

Discussion was had and a motion made by Strauser, seconded by Oliver, to approve the application for Ehmen Park to become an Affiliated Arboretum Site thru the Nebraska Statewide Arboretum and to pay the \$130 membership fee. Roll call vote: Yea – Kennedy, Whiting, Olivier, Strauser. Nay – none.

Kennedy moved, Oliver seconded, approving the automatic renewal of liquor licenses:

R & C Petroleum dba Time Saver #18	Class B
Western Staab (Pizza Hut)	Class A
Pete's Lounge	Class I
Walker's Steakhouse	Class IB
Lakeside Bowl	Class I
OK Bottle Shoppe	Class D
Pit Stop, Inc	Class B
Shopko Hometown	Class D

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

Kennedy moved, Whiting seconded, to approve the Special Designated License requested by Monte Kenning of OK Bottle Shoppe for a March 14 Business After Hours event hosted by McMeen Physical Therapy at 523 10th Street in Gothenburg. The event will be from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Roll call vote: Yea – Oliver, Strauser, Whiting, Kennedy. Nay - none.

The City can appoint someone to approve special designated licenses instead of having them all come before the City Council for approval. The applicant is still required to meet liquor commission regulations; including the 10-day requirement but such an arrangement can eliminate the council meeting timing element. Administrator Clymer offered the resolution from the City of Kimball as an example. The resolution requires first time applicants to submit their application to the City Council but thereafter it is approved by the Police Chief or, in his absence, the next ranking officer.

Discussion was had and Atty. Bacon will be asked to prepare a resolution for consideration at the March 4 meeting.

The property at 1804 Avenue C is the subject of liens totaling \$18,185.79 for mowing, inspections, and demolition. There are undoubtedly delinquent property taxes against it as well so it's unlikely the City will ever see reimbursement; however, if we move forward with enforcement of the liens to get the lot sold, we would not have to continue mowing it. It's a nice corner lot and has a two-car garage so it would be a nice construction site.

Strauser moved, Kennedy seconded, to move forward in an effort to collect the liens against 1804 Avenue C. Roll call vote: Yea – Whiting, Oliver, Kennedy, Strauser. Nay – none.

Strauser moved, Kennedy seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 7:32 p.m. Roll call vote: Yea - Whiting, Strauser, Oliver, Kennedy. Nay - none. The next regular meeting will be March 4 , 2014.

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Joyce Hudson, Mayor

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Connie L. Dalrymple, City Clerk