

Regular City Council Meeting
City Council Chambers

August 4, 2015
7:00 p.m.

Present: Mayor –	Joyce Hudson	Absent: Council member Randy Waskowiak
Council members	Jeff Kennedy	
	Verlin Janssen	
	Jay Richeson	
City Administrator	Bruce Clymer	
City Attorney	Mike Bacon	
City Clerk / Treasurer	Connie L. Dalrymple	

Press: *Gothenburg Times* - Beth Barrett

Also present: Shane Gruber, Anne Anderson, Emma Ackerman, Elise Ackerman, Kassidy Kottwitz

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, Richeson seconded, approving the consent agenda that included:

City Council minutes – July 21 & 31

Roll call vote: Yea – Janssen, Richeson, Kennedy. Nay – none. Absent and not voting – Waskowiak.

Richeson moved, Janssen seconded, allowing payment of claims against the City, \$51,785.10; Public Works Division \$97,334.42; and the July 30 payroll of \$46,603.69. Roll Call vote: Yea – Kennedy, Janssen, Richeson. Nay - none. Absent and not voting – Waskowiak.

Community Comments:

- An Airport Authority resolution received on July 30 requests \$46,721.72 in taxes for 2015 - 16 fiscal year. Council will need to consider the request at their budget work session and notify the Authority of their decision by September 1.
- Anne Anderson expressed concern about weeds in sidewalks and alleys and asked the City to either remove the weeds or apprise property owners of their responsibility to do it.
- The Council room sound system was taken to Hinton Lock & Alarm for repairs. It will be about \$200 less to refurbish it than to purchase a new one for \$1000. We opted for a new system.

The City's current safety program has two categories and awards are Swede Bucks. Awards are available to full time employees, based on the calendar year, and presented at the annual Employee Recognition Dinner.

1 year award: available to all personnel: Accident free 1 year - \$10.00

3 year award: available to street / utility employees and police excluding office staff - \$50.00

5 year award: available to office staff and library - \$50.00

A proposed new plan defines “Accident Free”, Hazardous and Non-Hazardous personnel and awards. All full time employees are eligible for a one year award of \$10.00

Hazardous Duty employees are full time employees of the street, utility, and police departments excluding office staff. If eligible for multiple year awards, the annual \$10.00 award is not made.

3 year award \$50	20 year award \$150
6 year award \$75	25 year award \$175
10 year award \$100	30 year award \$200
15 year award \$125	35 year award \$225

Non-Hazardous employees are full time office staff and library personnel.

5 year award \$50	25 year award \$90
10 year award \$60	30 year award \$100
15 year award \$70	35 year award \$200

In reviewing records back to 2000 and applying the proposed changes, it was found there isn't much difference in the cost but it provides an incentive to strive for continued safety on the job.

Discussion was had and a motion made by Kennedy, seconded by Janssen, to adopt the new Safety Award Program as proposed and make it retroactive to 2006. Roll call vote: Yea – Richeson, Janssen, Kennedy. Nay – none. Absent and not voting – Waskowiak.

On behalf of the Rotary-After-Dark club, John LeViner requested use of the Ave I tennis courts and restrooms at the softball field for a dance for 7 – 12 grade students from 8:00 – 11:00 p.m. in conjunction with the Harvest Festival on September 19. The Rotary Club will provide one sponsor for every 10 student attendees.

Richeson moved, Kennedy seconded, to allow the use of the tennis courts for a teen dance as proposed by LeViner. Roll call vote: Yea – Kennedy, Richeson, Janssen. Nay – none. Absent and not voting – Waskowiak.

Richeson moved, Kennedy seconded, to authorize signature of Drawdown #5 and payment to Hicken Lumber in the amount of \$15,000 on the Downtown Revitalization project. Roll call vote: Yea- Janssen, Kennedy, Richeson. Nay – none. Absent and not voting – Waskowiak.

Kennedy moved, Richeson seconded, to authorize signature of Drawdown #6 and payment to Dawson Area Development in the amount of \$3500 for administration of Downtown Revitalization project. Roll call vote: Yea - Janssen, Richeson, Kennedy. Nay – none. Absent and not voting – Waskowiak.

All Points Co-op has asked to purchase some of excess dirt from the Lake Helen excavation. Other citizens have also made requests and now that the construction phase of the lake rehabilitation is nearly complete we feel there will be extra dirt.

Janssen moved, Kennedy seconded, to allow sale of the excess dirt from the Lake Helen excavation for \$2.00 / cubic yard. The buyer will load and haul the dirt and report their loads to the office. Roll call vote: Yea – Richeson, Kennedy, Janssen. Nay – none. Absent and not voting – Waskowiak.

Kassidy Kottwitz, Emma Ackerman, and Elise Ackerman, representing GHS cheerleaders, asked for use of the Avenue I tennis courts on August 14 for a dance from 9 – 12 p.m. for students in grades 9 thru 12. Each cheerleader will bring a parent to sponsor the event. Admission will be \$3.00 and they will sell snacks. The event is to be a fundraiser for cheering competitions.

Janssen moved, Richeson seconded, allowing use of the tennis courts for a teen dance as proposed by GHS cheerleaders. Roll call vote: Yea – Kennedy, Richeson, Janssen. Nay – none. Absent and not voting – Waskowiak.

Kennedy moved, Richeson seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 7:16 p.m. Roll call vote: Yea – Janssen, Richeson, Kennedy. Nay - none. Absent and not voting – Waskowiak. The next regular meeting will be August 18, 2015.

Joyce Hudson, Mayor

Connie L. Dalrymple, City Clerk