

Mayor Hudson opened the meeting and public hearing on the One Year and Six Year Road Program 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.

Present: Mayor Joyce Hudson
City Administrator Bruce Clymer

Absent: Council members
Jeff Kennedy
Randy Waskowiak
Verlin Janssen
Jay Richeson
City Attorney Mike Bacon
City Clerk / Treasurer Connie L. Dalrymple

Due to blizzard conditions and lack of a quorum, the meeting and public hearing were held open until Wednesday, February 3 at 11:00 a.m.

At 11:00 a.m. on February 3, Mayor Hudson reconvened the meeting. 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.

Present: Mayor Joyce Hudson
Council members Jeff Kennedy
Randy Waskowiak
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: Mark Ballmer

The purpose of the public hearing was to establish a program of street improvements and is the planning tool required for Highway Allocation funds. The plan can be modified through the year, but we are not bound to it. Travis Mason submitted the following plan:

One Year Project: Replace sanitary sewer on 10th St from Ave G to Ave I
Paving Avenue K from 19th to 20th Street
Paving Ave J from 23rd to 27th Street including the 24th Place cul-de-sac

Six Year Projects: Overlay 27th St from Lake Ave to west corporate limits
Paving 18th Street from Avenue A to Avenue B
Pave 17th Street from Ave L to Ave M and Ave L from 17th Street to 18th Street
Pave 6th Street from Hiway 47 to Cottonwood Dr.
1000 feet storm drainage west from Cottonwood Dr.
Pave 13th Street from Ave I to Ave H
Pave 1st Street from Ave A approximately 800 feet
Pave Ave K from Hiway 30 to Washington Street; Ave J from 10th St to Washington Street;
Washington St from Ave J to Ave L; 11th St from Ave I to Ave K; 10th St from Ave I to Ave L
Pave Ave L from 21st St to 22nd St
Pave Jefferson St from Ave J to Ave L
Drainage structure across Gothenburg Irrigation Canal

Discussion was had on the condition of Ave M and the possibility of working with the County the next time they overlay roads.

Waskowiak moved, Richeson seconded, to close the public hearing at 11:05 a.m. Roll call vote: Yea - Janssen, Kennedy, Richeson, Waskowiak. Nay - none.

Kennedy moved, Janssen seconded, to pass and approve Resolution 2016-1, approving the 1 & 6 Year Road Program as presented. Roll call vote: Yea – Waskowiak, Janssen, Richeson, Kennedy. Nay – none.

Janssen moved, Richeson seconded, approving the consent agenda that included:

- City Council minutes – January 12
- Building permit report - December
- Cemetery Sexton report – October thru December 2015
- Library Director’s Report – November thru January
- Board of Health minutes – January 26
- Police Report - January

Roll call vote: Yea – Waskowiak, Kennedy, Richeson, Janssen. Nay – none.

Kennedy moved, Waskowiak seconded, allowing payment of claims against the City, \$87,035.91; Public Works Division \$139,597.11; and the January 28 payroll of \$33,973.06 except #2111 and #1864. Roll Call vote: Yea – Richeson, Janssen, Waskowiak, Kennedy. Nay - none.

Waskowiak moved, Richeson seconded, allowing payment of claim #2111 and #1864 to Quality Fire Extinguishers. Roll call vote: Yea – Richeson, Waskowiak, Janssen. Nay – none.

Community Comments:

- The crew is working hard on snow removal. One snow plow was down with a flat tire and we haven’t been able to get to Lexington to get a new one. The emergency routes are open and 25% of other streets are done.

No action was taken on the third reading of Ordinance 928 to ban use of paper lanterns. The State is considering similar legislation and if it passes, there will be no need for a local ordinance.

AIG is no longer supporting long term disability insurance but has recommended we move our employee policy to Hartford Insurance. The policy and costs will remain the same.

Richeson moved, Kennedy seconded, approving the change to Hartford Insurance for the employee LTD insurance. Roll call vote: Yea – Waskowiak, Janssen, Kennedy, Richeson. Nay – none.

NPPD wants to abandon their 34.5 KV line that runs from their south substation to Barry McDiarmond’s Blue Heron Campground. The City can gain ownership of the line for \$1.00 but will be required to install bird deflectors on it. Discussion was had and Kennedy moved, Janssen seconded, to authorize signature of the contract to acquire NPPD’s 34.5 KV line. Roll call vote: Yea – Waskowiak, Richeson, Janssen, Kennedy. Nay – none.

Waskowiak moved, Janssen seconded, to reappoint Police Officer Christopher Walkemeyer. Roll call vote: Yea – Richeson, Kennedy, Janssen, Waskowiak. Nay – none.

No action was taken on a request from Lazy RW for a special designated liquor license since there was no application and there was no representative present.

Atty. Steven Vinton is representing the City in the Roberts / Pruitt owner occupied housing loan default. The family has moved out of town and declared bankruptcy. The City is in a second lien position behind the US Bank which holds an \$84,000 loan. The property will go to trustee sale and the first lien holder will probably bid to the amount owed them so the City would have to bid higher to gain the property in an attempt to recoup our loan money. The appliances have been removed and the property appears to be worth less than \$84,000. The City would also incur some costs by bidding on the property but as is, will not lose money on the loan since it came about through Community Development Block Grant funds. However, we would lose the funds that would be available to re-loan on a similar project. No action was taken on the loan since it lacked financial feasibility.

Ordinance 929 was introduced on January 12 and would increase electrical rates by 4% and water rates by 5% and require an additional deposit for customers disconnected for non-payment of utilities. Following discussion Janssen moved, Kennedy seconded, to include additional utility deposits of \$300 for residential customers and \$450 for commercial customers, and that the statutory rule requiring reading on three different days be suspended. Roll call vote: Yea – Waskowiak, Richeson, Janssen, Kennedy. Nay – none.

Mayor Hudson declared the motion adopted by a full vote of the Council and the statutory rule suspended for consideration of said ordinance. Ordinance 929 was read by title, whereupon Council member Kennedy moved for final passage and Council member Waskowiak seconded the motion.

Mayor Hudson asked the question, “*Shall Ordinance 929 be passed and adopted?*” Roll call vote: Yea - Janssen, Richeson, Waskowiak, Kennedy. Nay – none.

Mayor Hudson declared Ordinance #929 adopted and signed it in the presence of the Council and the Clerk attested the signature.

The amended Public Works Division Policies and Procedures will contain two changes:

1. The additional deposit requirement as adopted in Ordinance 929
2. Customers will be allowed to make a payment plan after their utility payment, provided it is not past the 20th of the month following the disconnect date, one time per calendar year beginning in June 2016.

Kennedy moved, Janssen seconded, approving the amended Policies and Procedures. Roll call vote: Yea – Waskowiak, Richeson, Janssen, Kennedy. Nay – none.

Waskowiak moved, Richeson seconded, appointing Kyle Fornoff to the Housing Authority for to fill the term vacated by Allen Ballmer. The term will expire in 2019. Roll call vote: Yea – Janssen, Richeson, Kennedy, Waskowiak. Nay – none.

Item 6 j) *Matt Weiss – Pony Express update* was moved to the February 16 agenda.

The purpose of the Coordinating Committee for the Lake Helen Master Plan is to co-ordinate and facilitate interaction between the community, city staff, governing body, and Miller and Assoc. working as the planners. The committee will attend all public meetings regarding community feedback and help the planner initiate surveys of the community for feedback. Since all Council members will be involved with the Committee, meeting notices will be posted and / or published in compliance with the Open Meetings Act.

Coordinating Committee members include: City Council members, Jeff Kennedy, Verlin Janssen, Randy Waskowiak, Jay Richeson, Administrator Bruce Clymer, Police Chief Randy Olson, and City Services Director Shane Gruber. Community members will be Tim Strauser, Scott Bahe, Lizette Buckley, Jenny Daup, and a Representative of the Boy Scouts.

Fire Chief Mark Ballmer told Council the Rural Fire Board is going to build a new fire truck and the City Fire Dep’t is interested in partnering with them. In the past the cost for new trucks has been split 50 / 50 between the two departments. It will take a minimum of six months to develop specifications and a year to build, costing about \$300,000. It will be a single axle, 1000 gallon pumper truck. The rural truck, G5, will be eliminated from the fleet.

There has been \$30,000 budgeted in anticipation of needing a new fire truck and additional funds will be included in the 2016-17 budget. The City will support the Fire Dept in procuring a new truck.

Kennedy moved, Waskowiak seconded, approving pay request #7 to Van Kirk Bros in the amount of \$77,040.05 for materials to be used in 2016 sanitary sewer improvements. Roll call vote: Yea – Richeson, Janssen, Waskowiak, Kennedy. Nay – none.

Waskowiak moved, Kennedy seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 11:45 a.m. Roll call vote: Yea - Janssen, Richeson, Waskowiak, Kennedy. Nay - none. The next regular meeting will be February 16, 2016.

Joyce Hudson, Mayor

Connie L. Dalrymple, City Clerk