

Regular City Council Meeting
City Council Chambers

March 7, 2017
7:00 p.m.

Present:	Mayor	Joyce Hudson
	Council members	Jeff Kennedy Verlin Janssen Jay Richeson Randy Waskowiak
	City Attorney	Mike Bacon
	City Administrator	Bruce Clymer
	City Clerk	Brandi Kloeping

Press: *Gothenburg Times* – Ellen Mortensen

Also present: Shane Gruber, Jill Rubenthaler, Jen McKeone, Gary Steele, Curt Carskadon, Matt Weiss, Dee Miller, Ken Christensen, Troy Franzen, Lan VanNatta, Attorney Colten Venteicher.

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.

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

City Council minutes –February 21

Police Report - February

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

Kennedy moved, Waskowiak seconded, allowing payment of claims against the City, \$184,164.40 except #3187; Public Works Division \$389,477.36; and the February 22 payroll of \$31,995.95. Roll Call vote: Yea – Janssen, Kennedy, Waskowiak, Richeson. Nay - none.

Kennedy moved, Waskowiak seconded, allowing payment of claims #3187 Gothenburg Irrigation in the amount of \$17.60. Roll call vote: Yea – Janssen, Waskowiak, Kennedy. Nay – none. Abstain – Richeson.

Community Comments:

- There are 2000 trout to be released at Lake Helen on March 17 and another 2000 to be released in the fall. They probably won't live through the summer.
- The new fire truck will be here Thursday.

Mayor Hudson moved the last item on the agenda up. Jen McKeone with Dawson Area Development said there are new guidelines for the CDBG #16-HO-33067. Jen said it's the same assistance and income levels. The applications will be available in approximately a couple months. They will be prioritized on maintenance, disability, seniors, lower income, etc. When asked if City employees can apply, Jen said yes as long as they meet the income guidelines and are not involved in the decision making. Therefore, Council, Clerk etc. are not able to apply.

Waskowiak moved, Janssen seconded, approving Program Guideline Amendment for CDBG #16-HO-33067. Roll call vote: Yea - Kennedy, Richeson, Janssen, Waskowiak. Nay – none.

Curt Carskadon with the Cemetery Board discussed that some are abusing the rules at the Gothenburg Cemetery. There are rules and regulations to what and how much can be placed on the graves. Carskadon thought they could document what is abused and send out a letter or possibly put it in the paper. He said there are about 3 dozen that need to come back in to compliance. There is a copy of the Rules and Regulations posted at the Cemetery. Council said to move forward with a letter and the rules and then remove what is not picked up by that time.

Discussion was had regarding the design of Ave J at the 23rd Street intersection. There could be concrete bump out lanes to slow traffic or put in a tree on each side with grass creating a reason to slow traffic down. This will be on the next agenda.

Janssen moved, Kennedy seconded, to approve Resolution 2017-3 regarding stop signs on Avenue J from 21st Street to 27th Street. Roll call vote: Yea – Waskowiak, Richeson, Kennedy, Janssen. Nay – none.

Janssen moved, Richeson seconded, to approve Troy Franzen with Gothenburg Fire Department to light fireworks for the July 4th display at Lake Helen. Roll call vote: Yea – Kennedy, Waskowiak, Richeson, Janssen. Nay – none.

Matt Weiss discussed the Pony Express Station visitors and the new layout for more display, less gift shop. He mentioned many of the plans for this year and is requesting \$15,000.00 and the contract be signed with him to run the Pony Express Station. Waskowiak moved, Kennedy seconded, approving the contract for the Pony Express Station management. Roll call vote: Yea – Janssen, Richeson, Kennedy, Waskowiak. Nay – none.

Bonding contracts for solar project was removed from the agenda and not discussed.

The YMCA is asking for funds to help run the pool; it would not cost the tax payers more. Janssen moved, Waskowiak seconded, approving \$34,000.00 management fee to the YMCA. Roll call vote: Yea – Richeson, Kennedy, Waskowiak, Janssen. Nay – none.

Kennedy moved, Janssen seconded, to approve the Redevelopment Authority request for Sales Tax funds for Gothenburg Improvement Company's payment of REDLG loan for January 2015 – March 2017 (\$81,000.00) and to authorize \$3,000.00/month payment going forward for full payment of \$360,000.00 loan. When this money is repaid it will stay in Gothenburg to be reused in the future. Roll call vote: Yea – Richeson, Waskowiak, Janssen, Kennedy. Nay – none.

Richeson moved, Kennedy seconded, to approve RDA request for Sales Tax funds for payment #10 Final request for GIC Industrial site infrastructure- \$62,790.52. Roll call vote: Yea – Janssen, Waskowiak, Kennedy, Richeson. Nay – none.

Troy Franzen discussed the internal audit the Fire Department goes through every year and costs usually go up, but the ambulance fees have not. The fire departments current rates are very low compared to the range they are given and even with the amount they would like to add, will still be under the range. They would like to raise them both \$50 so that the ambulance emergency run will be \$475 and non-emergency run will be \$350. Clymer discussed other fees to change would be to take

out the swimming pool and 4-plex fees since they will be through the YMCA and to used wooden and metal poles rather than just poles.

Richeson moved, Janssen seconded, to approve resolution 2017-4 Fee Resolution. Roll call vote: Yea – Kennedy, Waskowiak, Janssen, Richeson. Nay – none.

Discussion was had regarding replacement of 1983 sewer jet with vacuum/jetting system. The vacuum will collect debris rather than sending it down the lines to the next area and reduce Johnson's coming in with the bigger truck to catch more debris. Kennedy moved, Janssen seconded, to get bids on new equipment. Roll call vote: Yea – Richeson, Waskowiak, Janssen, Kennedy. Nay – none.

Waskowiak approved, Richeson seconded, to approve Manager Application on GIPH Restaurants LLC DBA Pizza Hut liquor license. Roll call vote: Yea – Kennedy, Janssen, Richeson, Waskowiak. Nay – none.

Waskowiak moved, Janssen seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 8:14 p.m. Roll call vote: Yea – Waskowiak, Kennedy, Richeson, Janssen. Nay – none. The next regular meeting will be March 21, 2017.

Joyce Hudson, Mayor

Brandi Kloepping, City Clerk