

City Council Meeting  
City Council Chambers

May 2, 2017  
7:00 p.m.

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

Press: *Gothenburg Times* - Ellen Mortensen

Also present: Shane Gruber, Tobin Buchanan, Becky Jobman, Dan Yancy, Dale Gronewold, Jill Rubenthlaer.

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 – April 18 & 20

Treasurer's Report – March

Police Report – April

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

Kennedy moved, Janssen seconded, allowing payment of claims against the City \$56,083.59, except #3342 & #2836; Public Works Division \$89,799.04; and the April 19 payroll of \$35,436.38. Roll call vote: Yea – Waskowiak, Richeson, Janssen, Kennedy. Nay – None.

Waskowiak moved, Kennedy seconded, allowing payment of claim checks # 3342 to Gothenburg Irrigation in the amount of \$298.20 and #2836 to Gothenburg Irrigation in the amount of \$1,440.56. Roll call vote: Yea- Janssen, Kennedy, Waskowiak. Nay – None. Abstain – Richeson.

Community Comments:

- Tree City USA was in Lincoln. We received an award for 29 years.
- Tree Board planted 3 trees on Friday, Arbor Day in the snow at Lake Helen.
- Paulsen's is asphaltting 4<sup>th</sup> Street today.

Dan Yancy discussed the June 1 renewal of the employee health insurance. Since we have a sizeable side fund and it continues to grow, we need to pull it down a bit. Last year the City funded 90% and this year, Administrator Clymer suggested dropping that to 75%. That would make the single premium \$653.32/month with the employee contributing \$13.07 and the family

premium \$1454.51/month with the employee contributing \$174.54. The YMCA will pull the side fund balance down some also, but the City has been having good years so for now this would be the way to go.

Kennedy moved, Richeson seconded, to accept the 75% for a one year period. Roll call vote: Waskowiak, Janssen, Richeson, Kennedy. Nay – None.

Dale Gronewold bought property north of the trailer court and plans to develop it into 11 lots. He wants to piggy back on a new line that Tim Miller needs to repair and replace. Dale said he has permission to cross 2 waterways now, but would they have permission to go under the line that goes under the tail race and canal now. Clymer said it will take 2500' of pipe to go around the lake to Avenue A, but would cut off about 900' to go to Highland with more capacity. The City could possibly put 2" pipe in Lafayette so that at some point we can put sewer in also. There would eventually need to be a license to maintain their equipment on our property. Council would like Dale to look at the new plan and they will work together to decide what he can do. No action was taken.

Tobin Buchanan discussed the Solar panels at worst would break even the first 15 years and the lessor of 10% of the largest of the payments would be \$65,000.00. Clymer said to use the CD from the anytime account and put it in a separate account for use of this payment.

Kennedy introduced Ordinance 940 entitled:

*An Ordinance authorizing the issuance of electric revenue bonds, series 2017, of the City of Gothenburg, Nebraska, in the aggregate principal amount of not to exceed eight hundred twenty thousand dollars (\$820,000) for the purpose of providing for permanent financing of the costs of enlarging, expanding and improving the city's electric plant and distribution system; directing the application of the proceeds of said bonds; pledging and hypothecating the revenues and earnings of the electric system of said city for the payment of said bonds and interest thereon; providing for the collection, segregation and application of the revenues of said electric system; entering into a contract on behalf of the city with the holders of said bonds; and providing for publication of this ordinance in pamphlet form.*

and moved that the statutory rule requiring reading on three different days be suspended. The motion was seconded by Council member Janssen and on roll call vote the following Council members voted "Yea": Waskowiak, Richeson, Janssen, Kennedy. Nay – None. Mayor Hudson declared the motion adopted by full vote of the Council and the statutory rule suspended for consideration of said ordinance. The ordinance was then read by the title whereupon Council member Janssen moved for final passage and Council member Richeson seconded the motion.

Mayor Hudson asked the question "*Shall Ordinance #940 be passed and adopted?*" Roll call vote: Yea – Kennedy, Waskowiak, Richeson, Janssen. Nay – None.

Mayor Hudson declared Ordinance #940 adopted and signed it in the presence of the Council and the Clerk attested the signature.

Becky Jobman with Gothenburg Hospital Foundation requested to auto deduct monthly payments from any utility customers that want to pledge money for the YMCA. The utility customer would be able to sign up and pay on their monthly bill, and then the City would send the money over after it is collected each month. The money collected each month will go toward the City bill first and then the extra will go to the foundation. The customer can opt out at any time, but they are encouraged to pledge for 60 months. The foundation will need a contract for us.

Richeson moved, Janssen seconded, to authorize the mayor to sign a contract with the Hospital Foundation. Roll call vote: Yea – Kennedy, Waskowiak, Janssen, Richeson. Nay – None.

Kennedy moved, Waskowiak seconded, to appoint Ryan Kort and Cameron Bullock as firemen. Roll call vote: Yea – Janssen, Richeson, Waskowiak, Kennedy. Nay – None.

Richeson moved, Kennedy seconded, introduction of Ordinance 941 regarding Alternative Energy Systems in all zoning districts. Roll call vote: Yea – Waskowiak, Janssen, Richeson, Kennedy. Nay – None.

Discussion on ACH Direct Pay for Accounts Payable vendors was had. The Caselle software allows us to ACH Direct Pay and it would be less time and money than printing and signing all the checks. We would like to require all vendors to give the information needed and only print a check on certain occasions if need be.

Richeson moved, Janssen seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m. Roll call vote: Yea – Kennedy, Waskowiak, Janssen, Richeson. Nay – None. The next regular meeting will be May 16.

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Joyce Hudson, Mayor

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Brandi Kloepping, City Clerk