

ROLL CALL:

Present:

Mayor	Joyce Hudson
Council Members	Jeff Kennedy
	Verlin Janssen
	J Buddenberg
	Jay Richeson
City Administrator	Gary Greer
City Clerk	Misty Bussinger
City Attorney	Mike Bacon

Press: *Gothenburg Leader* – Ellen Mortensen
Gothenburg Times – Katy Soller, Shiloh Schultz

Also present: Shane Gruber- Services Director, Tobin Buchanan-Public Finance Advisor, Randy Olson-Police Chief, Travis and Mindy Houchin-Special Use Applicant, Aravind Nienon-Two Rivers Health Representative. Citizens of Gothenburg-Kristen Rickertsen, Stephanie Warner, Rev. Jeff Cottingham, Linda and Dan Butterfield, Barry Holbrook, Clint and Theresa Demoret, Jenny Raymond, Richard Ristine, Todd Houchin, Sam & Charlene Leap, Henry Cross, Stacy Jeffries, Tiffany Hicken, Austin Fletcher, Anna and Matt Dalrymple, Betina Weidman, Deb Weidman, Cherry Alger, Chris Demoret, David and Jill Boyd, Dale and Diane Kinnan, Tinna Therrien, Carol Shackleton, Doug Viter, Kyle Schram, Evelyn and Jerry Schultz, Javan Ristine, Jesse Ambler, Lad Dishman, Steve and Fran Linegar, Mick Brandt, Becky Jobman, Justin Dowdy, Leon Vogel, Dawn Urman, Natalie Waskowiak, Dan Urman, Garrett Vetter, Alisa Crown, Connie Sitorius, Kim Crisman, Clifford Freeze Jr, Chadwick Smith, Elaine Smith, LuAnn Houchin, Kristen and Shane Butterfield, Pam Buddenberg, Gene and Bev Tharp, Cadyn Smith, Blake Frost, Mary Ristine, Keith Williamson.

Mayor Hudson opened the meeting at 5:34 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. Due to the interest of the Mask Mandate agenda item on the City of Gothenburg's Council Meeting was held in the Gothenburg High School Auditorium and a copy of the Open Meetings Act was posted on the south wall of the Auditorium.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

Houchin stated that the proposed request for Special Use Permit #159 was to be allowed to operate a commercial business in AG Zone at 3401 Lake Avenue. Kennedy asked if there was any outside storage. Houchin there would be no outside storage other than possibly spare roll off boxes. After no further discussion Kennedy moved, Janssen seconded to close the public hearing of Special Use Permit #159 to allowed Houchin to operate a commercial business in AG Zone at 3401 Lake Avenue. Roll call vote: Yea –Janssen, Kennedy, Buddenberg, Richeson. No – none.

Kennedy moved, Janssen seconded to approve Special Use Permit from Travis Houchin to be allowed to operate a commercial business in AG Zone at 3401 Lake Avenue with the conditions that the property is kept sightly and the Special Use Permit is tied to Houchin not the property. Roll call vote: Yea –Janssen, Kennedy, Buddenberg, Richeson. No – none.

CONSENT AGENDA:

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

- Council Minutes-December 1
- Cemetery Board Minutes – November 2
- Police Report - November
- Treasurer Report -November
- Planning & Zoning minutes – December 8
- Building Permits-November

Roll call vote: Yea –Janssen, Kennedy, Buddenberg, Richeson. No – none.

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

- Approve payment of \$115.00 to Goth-16 for OOR 16-HO-33067
- Approve payment of \$2,996.00 to Goth-02 and Electrical Services for OOR 16-HO-33067
- Approve payment of \$1,378.24 to Goth-02 and Schroeder Heating & Air Conditioning, Inc. for OOR 16-HO-33067
- Approve payment of \$448.92 to Goth-02 for OOR 16-HO-33067
- Approve Drawdown #35 for OOR 16-HO-33067
- Library Annual Statistical Report – November

Roll call vote: Yea –Janssen, Kennedy, Buddenberg, Richeson. No – none.

CLAIMS:

Kennedy moved, Richeson seconded, allowing payment of claims against the General Fund, \$51,227.80; Enterprise Fund \$129,950.00; and the December 2nd payroll of \$42,529.32 and

Payroll Transmittals of \$20,454.04. Roll call vote: Yea –Janssen, Kennedy, Buddenberg, Richeson. No – none.

General Fund Claims: ASSURITY LIFE INSURANCE CO. \$150.75; YMCA OF THE PRAIRIE \$390.63; ARAMARK \$184.46; CARDMEMBER SERVICE \$1,325.51; CASELLE, INC. \$858.00; JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL/FARM PLAN \$136.65; MIDWEST CONNECT \$290.00; POWER PLAN \$447.70; VERIZON WIRELESS \$89.13; WESCO DISTRIBUTION INC \$2,810.36; ALL ANDERSON ELECTRIC \$1,654.51; BLACK HILLS ENERGY \$745.31; CITY OF GOTHENBURG \$66,970.19; COUNTRY PARTNERS COOPERATIVE \$2,394.64; DAN'S SANITATION, INC \$1,203.70; DUTTON-LAINSON COMPANY \$150.66; EAKES OFFICE SOLUTIONS \$559.94; FASTENAL COMPANY \$264.20; GOTHENBURG HEALTH FOUNDATION \$180.00; GOTHENBURG TIRE & SERVICE \$479.20; HICKEN LUMBER CO. \$65.80; ISLAND SUPPLY WELDING CO. \$105.60; KNAPP ELECTRIC INC \$84.53; MID-IOWA SOLID WASTE EQUIPMENT CO \$210.19; NAPA AUTO PARTS \$34.47; NEBRASKA RURAL WATER ASSOCIATION \$250.00; NEBTECH CALIBRATION \$159.55; ONE CALL CONCEPTS, INC. \$96.17; PETERSON'S SUPERMARKET \$280.41; PONY EXPRESS CHEVROLET \$125.00; PUBLIC WORKS DIVISION \$6,846.04; S & S AUTO PARTS INC. \$1,465.88; SCHABEN SANITATION INC. \$17,899.60; SCHABEN'S SANITATION-RECYCLING \$693.20; TRAVIS HOUCHIN \$20,282.90; VISION CARE DIRECT \$65.12.

Enterprise Fund Claims: ASSURITY LIFE INSURANCE CO \$344.26; YMCA OF THE PRAIRIE \$622.37; ALL ANDERSON ELECTRIC \$948.00; ALLO COMMUNICATIONS \$72.07; American Button Machines \$64.41; ARAMARK \$87.18; Cardmember Service \$585.26; CASELLE, INC. \$310.00; D & M SECURITY \$305.00; GALL'S LLC \$155.99; INGRAM BOOK COMPANY \$254.80; JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL / FARM PLAN \$31,744.69; LIBRARY \$48.12; NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE \$9.57; POWERPLAN \$372.22; Sharon Abbott \$18.00; SYNCB / AMAZON \$90.55; VERIZON WIRELESS \$367.50; AMERICAN LEGAL PUBLISHING CORP \$399.00; Black Hills Energy \$160.15; COUNTRY PARTNERS COOPERATIVE \$2,497.89; Crown Services \$950.00; CUBBY'S CORPORATE OFFICE \$141.77; DAWSON PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT \$168.06; EAKES OFFICE SOLUTIONS \$75.50; EASTSIDE ANIMAL CENTER \$157.00; ESSENTIAL SCREENS \$29.00; FASTENAL \$216.75; GOTHENBURG TIMES \$971.87; GOTHENBURG TIRE & SERVICE \$327.14; HICKEN LUMBER CO. \$121.08; IDEAL LINEN \$53.14; KEARNEY HUB \$211.95; OLIVER CONSULTING SERVICES, INC \$1,575.00; PAULSEN INC \$446.81; PETERSON'S SUPERMARKET \$59.35; PUBLIC WORKS DIVISION \$3,550.31; VISION CARE DIRECT \$669.26; PAULSEN INC \$2,046.78.

Payroll Transmittal: INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICES \$13,436.89; MASS MUTUAL \$5,953.42; AFLAC \$691.26; NEBRASKA CHILD SUPPORT \$372.47.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS:

Jeff Kennedy complimented the City crew for doing a great job on snow removal.

Mayor Hudson thanked the school for accommodating our meeting for this evening.

Mayor Hudson thanked all the health care workers for all their hard work in these hard times.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Dr. Anna Dalrymple asked for consideration of a Mask Mandate in the current times with COVID-19. The following people spoke in favor of instituting a Mask Mandate: Dr. Carol Shackleton, Aravind Nienon. The following people spoke against a Mask Mandate: Kristen Rickertsen, Rev. Jeff Cottingham, Linda Butterfield, Clint Demoret, Austin Fletcher, Diane Kinnan, Keith Williamson.

After hearing all the public input for and against the Mask Mandate Kennedy states that a Resolution would be a more appropriate way to accomplish the task at hand. This resolution will encourage the citizens to wear masks but not require them. Kennedy asked Chief Olson to discuss what officers will be responding to. Chief Olson stated that officers will only be responding to non-emergency calls by phone as much as possible but will continue to respond to all emergency calls. After no further discussion Kennedy moved, Janssen seconded to motion to move forward with Resolution at a special meeting Thursday December 17, 2020 at 8:30 a.m.

Administrator Greer discussed Resolution 2020-22 REDLG Application #5 Hospital Upgrade #4 Medication Dispenser. The issue at hand requires the Council to accept USDA rules through a resolution in order to receive the grant. After no further discussion Richeson moved, Kennedy seconded to approve Resolution 2020-22 REDLG Application #5 Hospital Upgrade #4 Medication Dispenser. Roll call vote: Yea –Janssen, Kennedy, Buddenberg, Richeson. No – none.

Tobin Buchanan-City Fiscal Agent introduced Ordinance 997 to authorize issuance of up to \$1,725,000 in Sewer Revenue Bonds to refinance outstanding loans from the Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy. Buchanan explained that this will take the NDEQ loans C317395, C317568, and C317781 and refinance them for a savings of approximately \$72,000.00. Janssen moved, Richeson seconded that the statutory rule requiring reading on three different days be suspended. Roll call vote: Yea –Janssen, Kennedy, Buddenberg, Richeson. No – none.

The motion to suspend the rules was adopted by a three-fourths vote of the Council and the statutory rule was declared suspended for the consideration of said ordinance.

Ordinance 997 was then read by title

ORDINANCE NO. 997

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF SEWER REVENUE REFUNDING BONDS, SERIES 2021, OF THE CITY OF GOTHENBURG, NEBRASKA, IN THE AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF NOT TO EXCEED \$1,725,000 FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING FOR PERMANENT FINANCING AND REFINANCING OF THE COSTS OF ENLARGING, EXPANDING

AND IMPROVING THE CITY'S SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM BY PAYING AND REDEEMING THE CITY'S CURRENTLY OUTSTANDING SEWER REVENUE NOTES TO THE NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY; DIRECTING THE APPLICATION OF THE PROCEEDS OF SAID BONDS; PRESCRIBING THE FORM, TERMS AND DETAILS OF SAID BONDS; PLEDGING AND HYPOTHECATING THE REVENUES AND EARNINGS OF THE SEWER 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 SEWER 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.

After reading Janssen moved, Kennedy seconded final passage Ordinance 997.

Mayor Hudson then asked, *Shall Ordinance 997 be passed and adopted?*” Roll call vote: Yea – Janssen, Kennedy, Buddenberg, Richeson. No – none.

The passage and adoption of said ordinance having been concurred in by a majority of all members of the Council, the Mayor declared the ordinance adopted and the Mayor, in the presence of the Council, signed and approved the ordinance and the City Clerk attested the passage and approval of the same and affixed her signature thereto and ordered the ordinance to published in pamphlet form as provided therein.

Buddenberg moved, Janssen seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 6:35 p.m. Roll call vote: Yea – Janssen, Kennedy, Buddenberg, Richeson. No – none.

Joyce Hudson, Mayor

Misty Bussinger, City Clerk