

ROLL CALL:

Present:	Not Present:
Mayor	Will Rahjes
Council Members	Jeff Kennedy
	J Buddenberg
	Jay Richeson
	Verlin Janssen
Assistant City Attorney	Colten Venteicher
City Administrator	Gary Greer
City Clerk	Misty Bussinger

Press: *Gothenburg Leader* – Ellen Mortensen

Also present: Shane Gruber-Building and Facility Director, Rob Will-Building Inspector, Noah Dea-Park Director, Eric Lehmkuhl, Kyle Carlson-Police Officer, Kim Maurer, Janice Viter, Doug Viter, Lonnie Warner, Austin Partridge-Northland, Tobin Buchanan-Northland, Keith Johnson, Teresa Smith, Melissa Smith, Dan Butterfield, Linda Butterfield, Dan Urman, Dawn Urman, Noah Dea, Kami Brandt, Robin Stevens, and Lindsey Tederman.

Mayor Rahjes opened the meeting at 5:30 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.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

A public hearing was opened at 5:30 for Request for Class CK liquor license – Charm LLC dba Charm Market.

Lindsey Tederman discussed the request for the liquor license and the business plan for Charm Market. Doug Viter spoke in opposition to the liquor license as the business would be within 150' of the Faith Chapel church. Kennedy discussed the zoning ordinance, and the church would no longer be allowed in C1 District where it is now if a new church came in.

Kennedy moved, Janssen seconded, to close the public hearing at 5:47 p.m. Roll call vote: Yea – Kennedy, Buddenberg, Richeson, Janssen. No – none. Motion carried.

Kennedy moved, Buddenberg seconded, to approve Request for Class CK liquor license – Charm LLC dba Charm Market. Roll call vote: Yea – Kennedy, Buddenberg, Janssen. No – Richeson. Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA:

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

- a) City Council minutes – March 19
- b) City Council minutes – March 26
- c) Park & Recreation Board Minutes – March 20
- d) Strategic Plan 2024
- e) Approve payment of \$3,000.00 from LB840 to Community Redevelopment Authority for GIC REDLG Loan.
- f) Approve payment of \$4,277.39 from LB840 to Gothenburg Improvement Company Authority for Curbtender Project.

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

CLAIMS:

Richeson moved, Kennedy seconded, allowing payment of claims against for the General Fund \$69,313.26; Enterprise Fund \$74,839.20; April 3 payroll of \$55,658.72, and Payroll Transmittals of \$26,919.71 except claim # 40224026. Roll call vote: Yea –Kennedy, Buddenberg, Richeson, Janssen. No – none. Motion carried.

Janssen moved, Kennedy seconded, allowing payment of claim #40224026. Roll call vote: Yea – Kennedy, Buddenberg, Janssen. No – None. Abstain-Richeson. Motion carried.

Claims Codes: Bu- Building Upkeep, Eq-Equipment, Ex-Expense, Ma-Maintenance, Mi-Mileage, Misc-Miscellaneous, Re-Repairs, Se-Service, Su-Supplies, Ut-Utilities, CI-Capital Improvement, GU-Grounds Upkeep, Reim-Reimbursement, Tax-Tax, Ps-Personnel, Du-Dues.

General Fund Claims: ALLO COMMUNICATIONS LLC \$370.67 Ut; Blue Cross Blue Shield \$48,617.47 Ps; CHARTER COMMUNICATIONS \$129.98 Ut; CULLIGAN \$40.80 Bu; Mutual of Omaha \$2,555.48 Ps; SITEONE LANDSCAPE SUPPLY LLC \$4,820.03 Gu; AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES \$492.74 Ex, Su; ARAMARK \$94.04 Se; BEVERLY BOGLE LOUTHAN, P.C. \$600.00 Se; CENTRAL NEBRASKA BOBCAT \$3,161.25 CI; DAWSON PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT \$46.47 Ut; EAKES OFFICE SOLUTIONS \$420.14 Ex; FRANZEN INC. \$26.35 Bu; FYR-TEK \$599.72 Su; GOTHENBURG IRRIGATION \$56.00 Gu; HOMETOWN LEASING \$186.49 Ex; IDEAL LINEN \$75.05 Bu; NORTH PLATTE POLICE DEPARTMENT \$5,646.63 Se; PAULSEN INC \$777.00 Ma; Pinpoint Communications \$391.46 Ut; SYNDICATE PUBLISHING LLC \$205.49 Ex.

Enterprise Fund Claims: ALLO COMMUNICATIONS \$253.32 Ut; CULLIGAN \$61.20 Bu; DEERE & COMPANY \$7,087.81 CI; MUNICIPAL SUPPLY, INC. \$175.69 CI; SITEONE LANDSCAPE SUPPLY, LLC \$132.00 Ma; ALTEC INDUSTRIES, INC. \$140.50 Su; AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES \$77.95 Su, CI; ARAMARK \$238.76 Se; CENTRAL NEBRASKA BOBCAT \$9,483.75 CI; CITY OF GOTHENBURG \$705.41 Ex; DAN'S SANITATION, INC \$3,132.86 Se; DUTTON-LAINSON COMPANY \$376.61 Ma; EAKES OFFICE SOLUTIONS \$240.22 Ex; ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING & EQUIPMENT COMPA \$1,513.61 Ma; FRANZEN INC. \$2,313.80 Ma; MACQUEEN EQUIPMENT \$630.35 Ma; METERING & TECHNOLOGY \$1,438.08 CI; PINPOINT COMMUNICATIONS \$118.91 Ut; SCHABEN SANITATION INC. \$45,677.27 Se; SCHABEN'S SANITATION-RECYCLING \$735.00 Se; STATE HEALTH LAB \$60.00 Se; WESCO DISTRIBUTION INC \$246.10 Su.

Payroll Transmittals: INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE \$17,368.41; EMPOWER RETIREMENT \$8,297.80 Ps; NEBRASKA CHILD SUPPORT \$738.94 Ps; South Dakota Division of C \$126.92 Ps; Credit Management Servic \$163.43 Ps; County Court of Buffalo \$224.21 Ps.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS:

City Administrator Greer stated the City of Gothenburg has received the growth award for 3rd year in row and the Tree City designation for 37 years in a row.

City Administrator Greer stated the State of Nebraska has reviewed and approved the Emergency Response Plan for the City of Gothenburg.

City Administrator Greer stated the City prepared and submitted a grant through Senator Fischer's office for infrastructure on 16th Street in the amount of \$454,300.

City Administrator stated that the City conducted a pre-construction meeting with Nielson Contracting concerning the 2024 Infrastructure program. They are planning to start work on the project April 22nd and estimated work to flow as follows: 16th Street May-June; 20th Street May-June; Ave G/12th-15th Street May-August; Ave I May-August; Storm Sewer South August-December.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Austin Partridge-Northland introduced Ordinance 1032 Authorize Issuance of the City's Municipal Improvement Bonds in a principal amount not to exceed \$5,450,000, and related matters. Partridge stated the preliminary rate is 4.45-4.50% and estimated payment of \$415,000

per year with a repayment source being variety of funding to include highway allocation, utility revenue, sales tax revenue.

Janssen moved, Richeson seconded that statutory rule requiring reading on 3 different days be suspended for introduced Ordinance. Roll call vote: Yea –Kennedy, Buddenberg, Richeson, Janssen. No – none. Motion carried. Mayor Rahjes declares motion adopted by vote of Council and statutory rule suspended for consideration of Ordinance 1032.

City Clerk Bussinger read Ordinance 1032. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF TAX SUPPORTED MUNICIPAL IMPROVEMENT BONDS, SERIES 2024, OF THE CITY OF GOTHENBURG, NEBRASKA, IN THE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF NOT TO EXCEED FIVE MILLION FOUR HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$5,450,000) FOR THE PURPOSE OF PAYING THE COSTS OF CERTAIN CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS TO BE OWNED BY THE CITY; PRESCRIBING THE FORM OF SAID BONDS; PLEDGING FUNDS TO BE RECEIVED BY A SALES AND USE TAX AND PROPERTY TAX FOR THE PAYMENT OF SAID BONDS; PROVIDING FOR THE LEVY AND COLLECTION OF SAID TAXES TO PAY THE SAME; PROVIDING FOR THE SALE OF THE BONDS; AUTHORIZING THE DELIVERY OF THE BONDS TO THE PURCHASER; PROVIDING FOR THE DISPOSITION OF BOND PROCEEDS; AND ORDERING THE ORDINANCE PUBLISHED IN PAMPHLET OR ELECTRONIC FORM

Richeson moved, Kennedy seconded to approve final passage of the Ordinance 1032. Roll call vote: Yea –Kennedy, Buddenberg, Richeson, Janssen. No – none. Motion carried.

Teresa Smith discussed extension regarding Unsafe Building located at 902 22nd Street. Smith stated the new garage is up and waiting on the electrical inspector to finish and demolish the unsafe building. The council discussed that action will be taken at the June 4, 2024, meeting if not completed by then.

Buddenberg moved, Kennedy seconded, to approve extension regarding the Unsafe Building located at 902 22nd Street to be complete by June 4th. Roll call vote: Yea –Kennedy, Buddenberg, Richeson, Janssen. No – none. Motion carried.

Assistant City Attorney Colten Venteicher acted as hearing officer and stated that the purpose of the meeting was to hold a determination hearing on a potentially dangerous dog owned by Eric Lehmkuhl.

Venteicher stated he will start with the evidence regarding the City's case. Venteicher stated the incident report was for March 12, 2024, a copy of the potentially dangerous dog notification was provided to Eric Lehmkuhl once determined the dog to be potentially dangerous. Eric Lehmkuhl did provide written notice of appeal within the time frame which was also provided to the council.

Venteicher asked Kyle Carlson a Police Officer for the City to provide some testimony. Carlson stated he received a call that a pitbull mix (Zena) was running loose and attacked pug through the fence. Council asked Carlson if seen any blood on Zena and Carlson stated that he didn't observe any.

Eric Lehmkuhl stated that Zena has never had any problems in the past and is a very friendly dog. Lehmkuhl stated not sure how Zena would have got the pug's eye through fence. Keith Johnson also stated that he has been in contact many times and has never seen any problems.

Kim Maurer stated that the pug had lost an eye due to the Zena attacking it as her dogs were in her fenced in area.

Venteicher read Potentially dangerous dog under Ordinance 90.031 is defined as a dog that, when unprovoked inflicts bites on a human or domestic animal either on public or private property, or chases or approaches a person upon the streets, sidewalks or any public grounds in a menacing fashion or apparent attitude of attack; or any dog with a known propensity, tendency or disposition to attack unprovoked, to cause injury or to otherwise threaten the safety of humans or domestic animals. Venteicher states based on the dog was unprovoked and bit a human the Ordinance in this case has been met.

Janssen moved, Kennedy seconded, to close the appeal hearing. Roll call vote: Yea –Kennedy, Buddenberg, Richeson, Janssen. No – none. Motion carried.

Janssen moved, Kennedy seconded, to deny appeal for Potentially Dangerous Dog – Eric Lehmkuhl. Roll call vote: Yea –Kennedy, Buddenberg, Richeson, Janssen. No – none. Motion carried.


Mayor Rahjes discussed the Appointment of Alex Ballmer to the Cemetery Board.

Richeson moved, Buddenberg seconded, to appoint Alex Ballmer to the Cemetery Board. Roll call vote: Yea –Kennedy, Buddenberg, Richeson, Janssen. No – none. Motion carried.

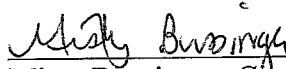
Noah Dea discussed the Gothenburg Rotary Pavilion Proposal. The rotary will pay for and install shingles on the new picnic shelter in return for putting the symbol on the shelter.

Janssen moved, Kennedy seconded, to approve the Gothenburg Rotary Pavilion Proposal. Roll call vote: Yea –Kennedy, Buddenberg, Richeson, Janssen. No – none. Motion carried.

Buddenberg moved, Janssen seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 6:18 p.m. Roll call vote: Yea – Kennedy, Buddenberg, Richeson, Janssen. No – none. Motion carried.



Will Rahjes, Mayor



Misty Bussinger, City Clerk