

ROLL CALL:

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

Press: *Gothenburg Leader* – Ellen Mortensen

Also present: Robert Danielson-Schaben Sanitation.

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:

None.

CONSENT AGENDA:

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

- a) City Council minutes – December 19
- b) Approve payment of \$3,000.00 from LB840 to Community Redevelopment Authority for GIC REDLG Loan.
- c) 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:

Kennedy moved, Buddenberg seconded, allowing payment of claims against the General Fund \$72,616.60; Enterprise Fund \$118,734.17; December 27 payroll of \$58,373.54, and Payroll Transmittals of \$53,186.18. Roll call vote: Yea –Kennedy, Buddenberg, Richeson, Janssen. No – none. 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 \$354.24 Ut; AT&T Mobility II LLC \$601.76 Ut; Blue Cross Blue Shield \$49,603.54 Ps; DEERE & COMPANY \$8,192.61 Eq; KIRBY BUILT SALES \$177.11 Gu; Mutual of Omaha \$2,573.31 Ps; STERICYCLE, INC. \$159.60 Misc; Tisha M Hood \$42.80 Misc; AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES \$346.13 Su; ARAMARK \$89.38 Se; BEVERLY BOGLE LOUTHAN, P.C. \$600.00 Se; DAWSON PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT \$47.84 Ut; EAKES OFFICE SOLUTIONS \$1,767.22 Ex; ECONO SIGNS \$294.39 Gu; GOTHENBURG IMPROVEMENT COMPANY \$150.00 Misc; GOTHENBURG PUBLIC SCHOOLS \$90.00 Du; HOMETOWN LEASING \$186.49 Ex; KNOEDLER AUTOMOTIVE \$59.70 Re; NORTH PLATTE POLICE DEPARTMENT \$5,646.63 Se; OLIVER CONSULTING SERVICES, INC \$211.25 Ex; Pinpoint Communications \$502.26 Ut; PLATTE VALLEY ARSENAL, LLC \$400.00 Su; SYNDICATE PUBLISHING LLC \$131.87 Ex; TK Elevator Corporation \$388.47 Bu.

Enterprise Fund Claims: ALLO COMMUNICATIONS \$255.77 Ut; AT & T MOBILITY II LLC \$202.87 Ut; CREDIT MANAGEMENT \$85.38 Se; STERICYCLE, INC. \$159.60 Se; AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES \$848.31 Su, Re; ARAMARK \$226.60 Se; CITY OF GOTHENBURG \$49,912.63 Reim; DAN'S SANITATION, INC \$2,734.63 Se; DUTTON-LAINSON COMPANY \$937.93 Ma; EAKES OFFICE SOLUTIONS \$290.16 Ex; FRANZEN INC. \$40.45 Ma; MILLER & ASSOCIATES \$9,960.00 Misc; NMC, INC. \$224.98 Re; ONE CALL CONCEPTS, INC. \$99.80 Misc; PINPOINT COMMUNICATIONS \$118.98 Ut; SCHABEN SANITATION INC. \$36,777.97 Se; SCHABEN'S SANITATION-RECYCLING \$732.90 Se; STATE HEALTH LAB \$75.00 Se; SUBSURFACE SOLUTIONS \$2,442.39 Re; WESCO DISTRIBUTION INC \$12,607.82 Ma.

Payroll Transmittals: INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE \$18,587.68; NEBRASKA DEPT OF REV \$21,424.25 Ps; EMPOWER RETIREMENT \$9,192.60 Ps; AFLAC \$617.24 Ps; NEBRASKA CHILD SUPPORT \$738.94 Ps; South Dakota Division of C \$126.92 Ps; Healthcare Cafeteria \$2,251.32 Ps; Gothenburg United Fund \$26.00 Ps; County Court of Buffalo \$221.23 Ps.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS:

City Administrator Greer stated the CSO Annual report for Unlicensed/Inoperable cars was 227 notices with 222 abated and 3 citations and for Nuisances was 637 notices with 616 abated and 6 citations.

City Administrator Greer stated the city decided to leave the lighted downtown decorations up for the winter season.

City Administrator Greer stated the process of the 2024 infrastructure program continues to progress. The city will advertise this week and open bids on February 1st.

City Administrator Greer stated all the work that can be done for the splashpad is accomplished. Contractors will be back in spring to pour concrete and finalize playgrounds.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Mayor Rahjes discussed Committee & Personnel Appointments. This roster is approved annually.

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS – 2024

Expiring Term Appointment Expires January ...

Board of Adjustment

Kent Kline-Alternate 2025
Hal Fecht (P & Z Rep) 2026
Linda Bowman 2026
Dan Yancy 2027
Linda Rodine 2027
Dick Nelson 2027

Cemetery Board

Brent Block 2025
Kim Kitzing 2026
Ervin Haynes 2026
Connie Sitorius 2027
Dee Miller 2027

Community Redevelopment Authority

Joe Libal 2025
Randy Waskowiak 2025
Aaron Colwell 2026
Dr. Ashton Hecox 2027
Joyce Hudson 2029

Housing Authority

Joni Birnie 2025
Jill Rubenthaler 2026
Brennon Malcom 2027
Chevas Shaw 2028
Kyle Fornoff 2029
Cindy Soller 2029

LB840 Citizen Advisory Committee

Jesse Ambler
Mishayla Freburg
Travis Anderson
Morgan Fornoff
Dave Zorn

Library Board

Mary Lou Clark 2025
Shanna Keiser 2026
Rita Thomalla 2027
Sue Ostergard 2028
Karman Keith 2028

Planning & Zoning Commission

Hal Fecht 2025
Jo Fuller 2025
Marcy Slack 2025
Logan Ricely 2026
Jason Wagner 2026
Tanner Focken 2026
Roger Koehler 2027

REDLG Reuse

Mayor
City Administrator
Morgan Fornoff 2026

Tree Board

Dan Frerichs 2025
Kim Slack 2025
Nate Baker 2025
Mark Brand 2025
Jeff Kennedy 2026
Kathleen Hartman 2026
Dave Zorn 2027

Park & Recreation Board

Ellen Mortenson 2027
Alec Foster 2027
Marc Mroczek 2027
Alicia Knust 2027
Kayla Paul 2027

Board of Health

Will Rahjes, Mayor
Randy Olson, Police Chief
Jeff Kennedy
Dr. Garret Shaw

PERSONNEL

Position Currently held by:
City Administrator Gary D. Greer
City Attorney Mike Bacon
Assistant City Attorney Colten Venteicher
City Prosecutor Beverly Louthan

City Clerk / Treasurer Misty Bussinger
Deputy City Clerk Jill Rubenthaler
Police Chief Randy Olson
Police Sgt Matthew Langley
Police Officers
 Kyle Carlson
 Jason Meinke
 Samuel Golson
 Vacant
 Vacant
 Brandi Coufal (PT)

Community Service Office Amanda Kordonowy
Fire Chief Mark Ballmer
Building Inspector Rob Will
Building & Facility Director Shane Gruber
City Physician Dr. Garrett Shaw
Municipal Engineer Miller & Assoc., Reed Miller Street Superintendent

Fire Dept Roster

Mason Ackerman	Ron Alexander	Brock Anderson	Trevor Anderson
Alan Ballmer	Alex Ballmer	Mark Ballmer	Brandon Bihlmaier
Shane Butterfield	Justin Carlson	Brandon Carter	Richard Crown
Dane Ehlers	Matt Farr	Wiley Farr	Adam Finke
Craig Franzen	Derek Franzen	Larry Franzen	Troy Franzen
Trent Good	John Hecox	Jon Hudson	Archer Jensen
Riley Kort	Cole Lorenzen	Shane Max	Dan Meisinger
Trayven Miller	Troy (Scott) Munster	Cody Ostergard	Mark Ostergard
Robb Ostergard	Josh Reinhard	Jarrid Rickertsen	Blake Ristine
Jacob Rosse	Nick Spiegle	Lane Van Natta	Jason Wagner
Michael Wagner	Stephan Wehtje	Keith Williamson	Marty Ziemba

Fire Department Officers
Fire Chief Mark Ballmer
1st Ast Chief Mark Ostergard
Trustee Rick Crown
Rescue Captain Mike Wagner
President Adam Finke
Trustee Jon Hudson
Treasurer Jacob Rosse
Vice Pres Lane Van Natta
2nd Asst Chief Matt Farr
Secretary Archer Jensen
¼ Master Riley Kort

Richeson moved, Janssen seconded, to approve Committee & Personnel Appointments. Roll call vote: Yea –Buddenberg, Richeson, Janssen. No – Kennedy. Motion carried.

City Administrator Greer introduced Ordinance 1030 Utility Rates (Sanitation Updates 2024). The Ordinance is updating rates based on request from trash haulers previous council meeting.

Kennedy moved, Janssen seconded that statutory rule requiring reading on 3 different days be suspended for introduced Ordinance. Roll call vote: Yea – Kennedy, Buddenberg, Richeson, Janssen. Motion carried. Mayor Rahjes declares motion adopted by vote of Council and statutory rule suspended for consideration of Ordinance 1030.

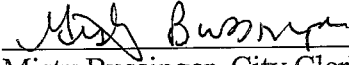
City Clerk Bussinger read Ordinance 1030. AN ORDINANCE SETTING FORTH ALL UTILITY FEES AND CHARGES IN A COMPREHENSIVE SCHEDULE FOR THE CITY OF GOTHENBURG; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF ALL ORDINANCES OR PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Richeson moved, Kennedy seconded to approve final passage of the Ordinance 1030. Roll call vote: Yea – Kennedy, Buddenberg, Richeson, Janssen. Motion carried.

Buddenberg moved, Richeson seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 5:45 p.m. Roll call vote: Yea - Kennedy, Buddenberg, Richeson, Janssen. No - none. Motion carried.



Will Rahjes, Mayor



Misty Bussinger, City Clerk