

Regular City Council Meeting
City Council Chambers

March 6, 2012
7:00 p.m.

Present: Mayor – Council members	Joyce Hudson Jeff Kennedy Gary Fritch Tim Strauser Jeff Whiting
City Administrator	Bruce Clymer
City Clerk / Treasurer	Connie L. Dalrymple

Absent: City Attorney Mike Bacon

Press: *Gothenburg Times* - Beth Barrett

Also present: Shane Gruber, Travis Mason, Jay Lewis, Brenda Wilson of GIS Workshop

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.

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

City Council minutes – February 21

Police Report - February

Roll call vote: Yea – Whiting, Strauser, Kennedy, Fritch. Nay - none.

Whiting moved, Kennedy seconded allowing payment of claims against the City, \$99,656.91; Public Works Division \$420,694.60; and the March 1 payroll of \$32,745.73. Roll Call vote: Yea – Strauser, Fritch, Kennedy, Whiting. Nay - none.

Community Comments:

- Jeff Kennedy, Bruce Clymer, and Shane Gruber met with two representatives of the Dep't of Environmental Quality recently to discuss the status of the Lake Helen reclamation project. There is a map available for Council discussion while DEQ waits on a contract for partial funding. The pollution numbers on the Lake are astounding so it's good the project is moving forward.

Brenda Wilson represents Geographic Information Systems Workshop, a company in Lincoln that provides web based information on community infrastructure. Through a system of on-line maps, information consists of 'features' such as water mains, sewer mains, etc. and the 'attributes' that are attached to those features, such as address, size, date of construction, etc. Information originates and is implemented from digitized cadastral maps. The product does not require licensing. Information can be set up for internal use, such as City groups, or external use which would allow public access but keep information secure by password protection. Updating information can be done by City staff or by GIS directly. Ms. Wilson demonstrated the product using the City of Lexington's GIS mapping. Lexington's system cost \$15,000 to set up with one year free service. After the first year the update and support fee is \$7500 / year.

Administrator Clymer offered other information that can be built into the system such as designated blighted and substandard areas for purposes of grant applications, zoning district boundaries, and property cards showing ownership and addresses of property.

Travis Mason of Miller & Assoc. said Kearney's GIS works well and includes 'as built' infrastructure designs.

The NE State Records Board provides grants for financial assistance in setting up GIS mapping. There is no community match required. The next round of applications is due April 9.

Discussion was had on the product and any benefits to the City but no action was taken.

Jay Lewis asked Council for use of 15th Street and Avenue F by Ehmen Park on June 30 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. for a car show to benefit Relay for Life. The show was successful last year but the car club has changed dates this year to avoid conflict with other area shows and events.

Kennedy moved, Strauser seconded, to approve Mr. Lewis' request for June 30. Roll call vote: Yea – Whiting, Fritch, Strauser, Kennedy. Nay – none.

When originally discussed, the estimate for repair of Lake Avenue between 4th St and 7th St was \$420,000. Some areas of the sewer have since been found to need repair as well as replacing four blocks of water main and some work on the tailrace crossing. All the work additions bring the estimated cost up to \$550,000 - \$600,000. The completion date will be September 15 in an effort to entice bidders with a larger window of time, and all water and sewer services repaired before paving begins. Bid specifications will be drafted in segments so any section of the project can be dropped or rebid if needed.

Discussion was had on raising the slope from street to railroad tracks to eliminate the sharp drop in elevation on the south side of the tracks. Union Pacific would require a flagman within 25' of the track during construction costing \$1000 / day. And, unfortunately the railroad will probably continue to build the tracks up.

There will be a meeting on March 14 at 7 p.m. during which time property owners can ask questions about the project.

Strauser moved, Kennedy seconded, to set March 29 at 2:00 p.m. as the bid deadline for Lake Avenue repairs. Roll call vote: Yea – Whiting, Fritch, Kennedy, Strauser. Nay – none.

Even though the repairs to Lake Avenue will not be assessed we are required to create an improvement district for bonding purposes. Therefore, Council member Kennedy introduced Ordinance #872 entitled:

An ordinance creating Street Improvement District No. 2012-1 in the City of Gothenburg, Nebraska, ordering the construction of street improvements therein and ordering the publication of the 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 Strauser and on roll call vote the following voted “Yea”: Fritch, Whiting, Strauser, Kennedy. “Nay”: none.

Mayor Hudson declared the motion adopted by a full vote of the Council and the statutory rule suspended for consideration of the ordinance which was then read by title. Councilmember Whiting moved for final passage and Councilmember Fritch seconded the motion. Mayor Hudson then asked *“Shall Ordinance 872 be passed and adopted?”* On Roll call vote, the following council members voted “Yea”: Strauser, Fritch, Whiting, Kennedy. “Nay”: none.

Mayor Hudson declared Ordinance 872 adopted and signed it in the presence of the Council and the Clerk attested the signature.

Fritch moved, Strauser seconded, to pass and approve Resolution 2012-4 setting April 3 at 7:00 p.m. for public hearing to determine the sufficiency of any written objections to the creation of Street Improvement District 2012-1 and to order the creation of the district. Roll call vote: Yea – Kennedy, Whiting, Strauser, Fritch. Nay – none.

Kennedy moved, Strauser seconded, to pass and approve Resolution 2012-5 proposing the passage of a Resolution of Necessity for sewer work along Lake Avenue between 4th St and 7th St. Roll call vote: Yea – Fritch, Whiting, Strauser, Kennedy. Nay – none.

Whiting moved, Strauser seconded, to pass and approve Resolution 2012-6 setting April 3, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. as the date and time to consider objections to the passage and final adoption of the proposed Resolution of Necessity for sewer system improvements on Lake Avenue. Roll call vote: Yea – Fritch, Whiting, Strauser, Kennedy. Nay – none.

Strauser moved, Whiting seconded, to use the \$3115.50 received from ACE on the kiosk project at the cemetery. Roll call vote: Yea – Fritch, Kennedy, Whiting, Strauser. Nay – none.

The internet to the kiosk was installed today and the kiosk itself will be installed on the 21st. A security system is being put into place that will record the presence of persons and a box for donations to the project is also being installed. Presentation of the ACE money by Mayor Hudson to the Cemetery Board at the site would generate some publicity for the project.

Strauser moved, Whiting seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 8:19 p.m. Roll call vote: Yea – Strauser, Kennedy, Whiting, Fritch. Nay - none. The next regular meeting will be March 20, 2011.

Joyce Hudson, Mayor

Connie L Dalrymple, City Clerk