

**ASHLAND CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
December 19, 2019**

A regular meeting of the Ashland City Council was held at the Ashland City Hall Council Chambers on the 19th day of December, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Mayor Richard Grauerholz
City Council President Paul Gossin
City Council Member James Anderson
City Council Member Matt Meyer
City Administrator Jessica Quady
City Clerk Kathleen Sliva
Attorney Anthony Aerts

Absent: City Council Member Bruce Wischmann

Others: Jeff Ray, Jack Smits, Steve Williams, Jay Spearman, Pam Thompson and others

Notice of meeting was advertised in the Ashland Gazette on December 12, 2019. The Mayor and all Council Members received advance notice of the meeting and a copy of the agenda as shown by the Acknowledgment of Receipt of Notice. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the public.

Mayor Grauerholz called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Roll call was taken and a quorum was declared. Mayor Grauerholz noted the Open Meetings Act that is posted on the south wall of the Council Chambers.

Motion by Anderson, second by Gossin to adopt the regular agenda.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Motion by Gossin, second by Anderson to approve on third and final reading Ordinance 1171 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ASHLAND, NEBRASKA TO EXTEND THE BOUNDARIES OF THE CITY AND INCLUDE WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF, AND TO ANNEX INTO THE CITY OF ASHLAND, NEBRASKA A TRACT OF LAND THAT IS CONTIGUOUS AND ADJACENT TO THE CURRENT MUNICIPAL LIMITS AS MORE FULLY DESCRIBED HEREIN; DIRECTING THE SAME TO BE RECORDED BY THE SAUNDERS COUNTY REGISTER OF DEEDS; TO PROVIDE FOR THE REPEAL OF CONFLICTING ORDINANCES OR SECTIONS;

TO PROVIDE FOR THE EFFECTIVE DATE THEREOF; AND ORDER THE PUBLICATION OF THE ORDINANCE IN PAMPHLET FORM.

Attorney Aerts read the title of Ordinance 1171.

Council Member Gossin said he had heard very little comment on the annexation. He reported that he had attended a School Board meeting and they passed a resolution to extend bussing for the residents until the end of the school year. Mayor Grauerholz said he attended the Sabre Heights Board of Directors meeting. He said they went into the final bill paying and timeline for annexation. City Administrator Quady said our accountant will do the final audit of the SID. She said the lift station will be repaired and added to the SCADA system, the road to pump station will be upgraded and the streets evaluated. She said if nothing major is found these items can be paid for by property taxes and all items have been budgeted for.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Motion by Gossin, second by Anderson to approve on third and final reading Ordinance 1172 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ASHLAND, NEBRASKA TO EXTEND THE BOUNDARIES OF THE CITY AND INCLUDE WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF, AND TO ANNEX INTO THE CITY OF ASHLAND, NEBRASKA A TRACT OF LAND THAT IS CONTIGUOUS AND ADJACENT TO THE CURRENT MUNICIPAL LIMITS AS MORE FULLY DESCRIBED HEREIN; DIRECTING THE SAME TO BE RECORDED BY THE SAUNDERS COUNTY REGISTER OF DEEDS; TO PROVIDE FOR THE REPEAL OF CONFLICTING ORDINANCES OR SECTIONS; TO PROVIDE FOR THE EFFECTIVE DATE THEREOF; AND ORDER THE PUBLICATION OF THE ORDINANCE IN PAMPHLET FORM.

Attorney Aerts read the title of Ordinance 1172.

City Administrator Quady said she spoke with Steve Mika, the County Road Superintendent, about maintaining the road who said the county currently has an agreement with the township to maintain the road and he didn't think it would be a problem to continue to do so for the City. Quady said she also spoke with Willard Clark who can also maintain the roads. She said he suggested it be done every three weeks and the cost would be under \$6,000/year. She said this does not include the gravel road north of Furnas Street.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Motion by Gossin, second by Meyer to approve second reading of Ordinance 1174 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ASHLAND, SAUNDERS COUNTY, NEBRASKA, PROVIDING FOR APPOINTMENT OF THE CITY CLERK TO APPROVE SPECIAL DESIGNATED LIQUOR LICENSE APPLICATIONS; PROVIDING FOR CONDITIONS FOR SPECIAL DESIGNATED LIQUOR LICENSE APPROVAL; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES IN

CONFLICT.

Attorney Aerts read the title of Ordinance 1174.

Motion by Meyer, second by Gossin to suspend the rules to waive the third and final reading.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Motion by Gossin, second by Meyer to introduce and approve Ordinance 1175 - AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION VARIOUS PURPOSE BONDS, SERIES 2020, OF THE CITY OF ASHLAND, NEBRASKA, IN THE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF NOT TO EXCEED ONE MILLION SIX HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$1,600,000) TO PAY THE COST OF CONSTRUCTING PAVING AND RELATED IMPROVEMENTS IN THE STREET IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO. 2017-1 OF THE CITY; PRESCRIBING THE FORM OF SAID BONDS; PROVIDING FOR A SINKING FUND AND FOR THE LEVY AND COLLECTION OF TAXES TO PAY SAID BONDS; PROVIDING FOR THE SALE OF THE BONDS; AUTHORIZING THE DELIVERY OF THE BONDS TO THE PURCHASER; PROVIDING FOR THE DISPOSITION OF THE BOND PROCEEDS AND ORDERING THE ORDINANCE PUBLISHED IN PAMPHLET FORM.

Attorney Aerts read the Title of Ordinance 1175.

Jay Spearman of Piper Jaffray said the City is waiting to hear from the State what dollar amount they will be funding for the bridge project. City Administrator Quady said when the bridge project was started the State said they would pay for 80% of the project, but they have been inundated with flood damages on bridges in the State and have not approved the final request for funding this project. Spearman said the dollar amount from the engineers for the City portion was about \$861,933. He reviewed repayment schedules, interest rates and all-inclusive costs for 10 years and 15 years. He added if the State hasn't come up with their portion when the anticipation notes come due, the City could work with the local bank to get a short-term loan to cover the bond payment until the funds are received from the State. Spearman answered questions of the Council.

Motion by Gossin, second by Meyer to suspend the statutory rule requiring reading of Ordinance 1175 on three different days.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

The Mayor then stated the question "Shall Ordinance 1175 be passed and adopted?"

Roll Call: Ayes: Anderson, Gossin, Meyer NAY: None.

Motion Carried

City Administrator Quady said Mike Lesley, owner of the nuisance property at 2602

Adams Street, gave an update of progress to the City Clerk. He told her he did sell a couple of trucks that are now off the property and that he has the same number of motorcycles. Quady said it sounds like he is now interested in saving the current structure as opposed to building a new house. She said the Building Official suggested having an engineer look at the structure to determine if it is feasible to do so. She added Lesley doesn't have a lot to do outside and he would like to put up a garage. She said she will contact Lesley to request he come to the January 16th meeting and inform him he needs to make contact with a structural engineer by then.

Motion by Gossin, second by Meyer to grant an extension of completion date for nuisance property at 2602 Adams Street until January 16, 2020 dependent upon the property owner contacting a structural engineer.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Steven Williams, owner of nuisance property at 204 South 23rd Street, asked the Council what he needs to complete yet. He asked about the zoning of the property as he has been approached to sell the property but would need it to be zoned commercial. City Administrator Quady said vehicles need to be licensed, operable and on a hard surface. Council Member Gossin suggested a walk through of the property to determine what is there and needs to be cleaned up. Williams agreed to allowing this. Quady said a walk through will be done on Monday at 10:30 a.m.

Motion by Anderson, second by Gossin to grant an extension of completion for nuisance property at 204 South 23rd Street until January 16, 2020.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Reviewed the November 2019 Keno Report.

Reviewed the Public Works Director's Report.

Reviewed Utility Superintendent's Report.

Reviewed Police Chief's Report.

Reviewed Building Official's Report.

Motion by Anderson, second by Meyer to approve the consent agenda which included approval of the December 5, 2019 City Council meeting minutes; approval of Chuck Isom as a member of the Board of Adjustment; and approval of Special Designated Licenses for Glacial Till Vineyard and Winery, LLC for a St. Patrick's Day Event from 1 p.m. to 9 p.m. on March 14, 2020 and for a Private Rental from 6 p.m. to 12 a.m. on January 18, 2020.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Motion by Gossin, second by Meyer to approve the first half of December 2019 Claims.
Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Motion by Meyer, second by Gossin to approve November 2019 Treasurer's Reports.
Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Mayor Grauerholz said he had received a complimentary call regarding the Fire and Rescue response at a recent accident. He said he had attended a Chamber meeting and that parking issues during large events was discussed. He said he has learned of possible grant funds for used tire disposal.


City Administrator Quady said there is a need for people on various boards including Board of Adjustment, Historic Preservation and Planning Commission and requested suggestions. She reminded the Council that there will be different hours during the holidays and staff will be taking vacation days as well.

Motion by Anderson, second by Gossin to enter into executive session for the protection for the public interest to receive privileged legal advice regarding potential litigation at 8:23 p.m.

Motion by Gossin, second by Anderson to leave executive session at 9:01 p.m.

Motion by Gossin, second by Meyer to adjourn the meeting at 9:05 p.m.
Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried


Richard Grauerholz, Mayor


Kathleen Sliva, City Clerk



I, the above signed City Clerk of Ashland, Saunders County, Nebraska hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and accurate copy of the proceedings had and done by the Council on December 19, 2019 that all of the subjects included in the foregoing proceedings were contained in the agenda for the meeting, kept continually current and readily available for public inspection at the office of the City Clerk; that such subjects were contained in said agenda for at least twenty four hours prior to said meeting; that said minutes from which the foregoing proceedings have been extracted were in written form and available for public inspection within ten business days or prior to the next convened meeting of said body.