

ASHLAND CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

February 21, 2019

A regular meeting of the Ashland City Council was held at the Ashland City Hall Council Chambers on the 21st day of February, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Mayor Richard Grauerholz
City Council President Paul Gossin
City Council Member Matt Meyer
City Council Member Bruce Wischmann
City Administrator Jessica Quady
City Clerk Kathleen Sliva
City Attorney Mark Fahleson

Absent: City Council Member James Anderson

Others: Justin Kuta, Michael Meyer, Shannon Fries, Jon Mohr, Geneie Andrews
Suzi Nelson, and others

Notice of meeting was advertised in the Ashland Gazette on February 14, 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 Wischmann, second by Gossin to adopt the regular agenda.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Justin Kuta of Precision Concrete, showed a short video and presentation on sidewalk mapping and cutting/repair. He noted his company has already cut sidewalk trip hazards on City properties. He reviewed the sidewalk survey process, communications with citizens, the repair process and repair costs and billing. He answered questions of the Council. A suggestion was made to hold an open house on sidewalks after the survey is completed.

Mayor Grauerholz opened a Public Hearing on the One Year and Six Year Road and Street Plan at 7:22 p.m. City Administrator Quady stated there were no additional changes since the Council last reviewed it. She said the bridge, which was in the one year plan, still needs to be finished and may be removed and the Six Year Plan has the unpaved roads in town including the ones on the east side, 15th and Ash and Birch, and five blocks behind No Frills. She said if something else comes up it can be put in next year's One Year Plan or the plan can be amended mid-year. She said last year the plan was amended to add Whitetail Estates. With no further comment, Mayor Grauerholz closed the Public Hearing at 7:24 p.m.

Motion by Gossin, second by Meyer to approve Resolution 2019-2 – One Year and Six Year Road and Street Plan.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Jon Mohr, JEO Consulting Group, spoke to the Council regarding a well head protection plan for the City. He said there is a grant opportunity available through the Department of Environmental Quality Source Water Protection Program, that will cover up to 90% of the cost to communities to address water quality and quantity issues and to provide education. He said the City qualifies and the application is due March 29. He discussed the Drinking Water Protection Management Plan and benefits. He reviewed the application schedule and cost summary. He said there will be a kick off meeting at the beginning of the process, a meeting with a technical group, a meeting with a stakeholder group and at the end a public open house. He said there would also be a public hearing for the zoning amendment ordinance.

Motion by Gossin, second by Meyer to approve the City of Ashland applying to the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality Source Water Protection Program and advertising for professional services by RFQ (Request For Qualifications).

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Geneie Andrews of GWorks, formerly GIS Workshop, spoke about GWorks mapping and asset management program. She said they recently completed work on an easement layer for the City and this could provide a platform for the sidewalk program presented earlier in the meeting. She said there would be layers for water and sewer files. She said they charge by population for the base product and in the future, there will be a renewal for a maintenance contract. She said training comes with this including user group training. Mayor Grauerholz said he could see a layer in the future for fire hydrant locations with their flows. Andrews said the Saunders and Cass County information will be available.

Motion by Gossin, second by Meyer to approve agreement with GIS WorkshopLLC/GWorks.

Discussion was held and Andrews answered questions of the Council.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Fire Chief Mike Meyer addressed the Council regarding the change of leadership in the fire department and member retention. He discussed his policy proposal to allow the use of the fire station by member volunteers at no charge. Rescue Captain Shannon Fries spoke about how other departments in the area use of their fire halls. City Attorney Fahleson said an agreement for station use would need to be with the City and the volunteer. Meyer said he would be meeting with the Rural Fire Board and can discuss this with them. The Council requested an enhanced use agreement, additional information on what other departments do and more defined policies be brought back to the Council for consideration. Meyer shared a list of items he would like to purchase for the department and his goals for the department including purchasing a 4-door pick-up, LED portable lights, and new foam, changing to a unified command system, improving communications through obtaining handheld radios, and putting burn permits on the website. He said the new fire truck, Engine 30, is almost complete and ready for pickup. He added he would like to have smoke detectors available to be given to people in need and to revisit the billing for non-residents. Meyer said the fire hall use policy will be discussed at a fire board meeting.

Motion by Wischmann, second by Gossin to approve pay request from JEO Consulting Group Inc. for Silver Street Replacement Construction Services in the amount of \$3,573.85.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Motion by Gossin, second by Wischmann to approve Pay Request #6 from General Excavating for 2017 Silver Street Water Improvements in the amount of \$40,132.45.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Reviewed the January 2019 Keno Report.

Reviewed the Public Works Director's Report.

Reviewed Utility Superintendent's Report.

Reviewed the Police Chief's Report.

Reviewed Building Official Report.

Reviewed Library Report.

Reviewed Rescue Report.

Motion by Gossin, second by Wischmann to approve the consent agenda which included approval of the February 7, 2019 City Council meeting minutes, approval of the February 9, 2019 and February 18, 2019 Council Workshop minutes, approval of the January 31, 2019 Planning Commission meeting minutes and approval of John Keith and Ray Elwood as members of the Board of Adjustment.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Motion by Gossin, second by Meyer to approve the first half of February 2019 Claims.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

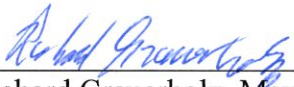
Motion by Meyer, second by Gossin to approve January 2019 Treasurer's Reports.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Mayor Grauerholz reminded the Council about the VFW/Legion event on Saturday and the League Conference on Monday and Tuesday. He said the AAEDC Annual Meeting will be on February 28.

Motion by Meyer, second by Wischmann to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 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 February 21, 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.