

# ASHLAND CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

June 4, 2020

A regular meeting of the Ashland City Council was held at the Ashland Community Resource Center on the 4th day of June, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Mayor Richard Grauerholz  
City President James Anderson  
City Council Member Chuck Niemeyer  
City Council Member Bruce Wischmann  
City Administrator Jessica Quady  
City Clerk Kathleen Sliva  
City Attorney Mark Fahleson

Absent: Council Member Meyer

Others: Zoning Administrator Bill Krejci, Police Chief Joe Baudler, Thomas Kayton, Kathryn D'Agostino, Jay Spearman, Perry Pirsch, Susan Cerny, Jill Wischmann and others

Notice of meeting was posted in three places on May 26, 2020 and advertised in the Ashland Gazette on June 4, 2020. 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 located in the northeast corner of the room.

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

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Susan Cerny gave public comment regarding planning activity changing a piece of property from R-2 to Flex.

Motion by Anderson, second by Wischmann to approve Resolution 2020-6 – To Adopt Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan.

City Administrator Quady said this plan is due to be signed every five years with Lower South Platte Natural Resource District and covers such things as flooding, high wind events and tornados etcetera.

Roll Call:                   Ayes: All                   Motion Carried

Motion by Anderson, second by Wischmann to approve Resolution 2020-7 – Calling for payment of General Obligation Water Refunding Bonds, Series 2012.

Jay Spearman of Piper Sandler spoke to the Council regarding refinancing the outstanding 2012 Water Bonds and a portion of the 2015 Sewer Bonds. He said to refund the Water Bonds, the amount of bonds would be about of \$665,000 with a savings of \$37,029 and to refund a portion of the 2015 Sewer Bonds, the amount of bonds would be about \$1,830,000 with a savings of \$127,557. He added the total savings by refunding the bonds together would be \$164,586. He reviewed the issue summaries and answered the Council’s questions.

Roll Call:                   Ayes: Anderson, Niemeyer, Wischmann   Nays: None  
Motion Carried

Motion by Wischmann, second by Niemeyer to approve Resolution 2020-8 – Calling for Payment of General Obligation Sewer Refunding Bonds, Series 2015.

Roll Call:                   Ayes: Anderson, Niemeyer, Wischmann   Nays: None  
Motion Carried

Motion by Anderson, second by Wischmann approve on third and final reading Ordinance 1178 – AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE FOLLOWING PORTIONS OF THE ZONING ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF ASHLAND: SECTION 5.14, SUBSECTIONS F & G AND OF SECTIONS 8.12 OF THE ZONING ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF ASHLAND, AS PROVIDED IN THE CITY OF ASHLAND MUNICIPAL ZONING ORDINANCE; TO PROVIDE FOR THE EFFECTIVE DATE THEREOF; TO ORDER THE PUBLICATION OF THE ORDINANCE IN PAMPHLET FORM.

City Attorney Fahleson read the Title of Ordinance 1178.

Thomas Kayton said the approximate cost for concrete for the main drive going through the buildings will be \$50,000 to \$100,000 depending on the depth of the concrete and the type of rebar. Council Member Wischmann presented a possible amendment for 8.12.03 regarding the diameter of the aggregate size to be used in the base and top layers. He said if the inlet is done in concrete, he is okay with the remainder being paved in concrete, asphalt, asphalt material or crushed aggregate as long as that material does not leave the property onto Highway 6. Kayton explained a drawing of the project and noted a retention basin for drainage. Council Member Niemeyer stated he has two objections to the project, one, tax base and two, the precedent being set by changing in the Ordinance. He added he

likes the project. Kayton said there will be 216 enclosed storage units and 60 spaces for RV and boat storage.

Motion by Wischmann, second by Anderson to amend Ordinance 1178 Section 8.12.03 to read ‘asphaltic concrete, or crushed aggregate (with a base of not less than 4 inches in depth and 4-inch diameter aggregate and a top base of not less than 1.5 inches in depth consisting of 1.5 inch diameter aggregate)’.

Roll Call:                      Ayes: All                      Motion Carried

Zoning Administrator Krejci discussed a conflict between Section 8.12.06 and Article 9 Regulations for Landscaping and Fencing.

Motion by Wischmann, second by Anderson to amend Section 8.12.06 from a buffer yard of ‘50 feet’ to ‘25 feet’.

Roll Call:                      Ayes: All                      Motion Carried

Mayor Grauerholz called for a roll call vote for approval of Ordinance 1178 as amended.

Roll Call:                      Ayes: Anderson, Wischmann, Grauerholz      Nays: Niemeyer  
Motion Carried

Motion by Anderson, second by Wischmann to introduce and approve Ordinance 1179 - AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION VARIOUS PURPOSE REFUNDING BONDS, SERIES 2020, OF THE CITY OF ASHLAND, NEBRASKA, IN THE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF NOT TO EXCEED TWO MILLION EIGHT HUNDRED THIRTY FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$2,835,000) TO REFUND CERTAIN OUTSTANDING BONDS 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 AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY TO ENTER INTO A BOND PURCHASE AGREEMENT; 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.

City Attorney Fahleson read the Title of Ordinance 1179.

Motion by Anderson, second by Wischmann to suspend rule to waive three readings.

Roll Call:                      Ayes: Anderson, Niemeyer, Wischmann      Nays: None  
Motion Carried

Mayor Grauerholz stated “Shall Ordinance 1179 be passed and adopted?” and called for roll call vote.

Roll Call:                   Ayes: Anderson, Niemeyer, Wischmann   Nays: None  
                                  Motion Carried

Discussion was held regarding the opening of City properties for public use after the closure due to the COVID 19 pandemic. There was a consensus to continue operating City Hall with entry by the public by an appointment and to open the sand volleyball courts, the playgrounds, splashpad and park and cemetery restrooms with signage. City Administrator said the restrooms would be disinfected once a day Monday through Friday. Opening of the swimming pool was discussed but no decision to open it was made.

Discussion was held regarding speeding on 14<sup>th</sup> Street. Police Chief Baudler said his department is continuing to do traffic stops until more COVID 19 is diagnosed in Saunders County. He said that he hopes to get a stop grant this year to purchase a speed warning light for north bound traffic on 14th Street. City Administrator Quady said she would check with the Nebraska Department of Transportation about putting up school zone signs with double fines. Mayor Grauerholz shared police statistical information on stops for speeding.

Discussion was held regarding the Blackstrap project on Highway 6 and their proposed timeline for a temporary building. Zoning Official Krejci said Blackstrap has begun construction and the owner is talking about building a temporary building. Krejci said as a business use, the business is required to have plumbing with a bathroom. He said the projected time Blackstrap gave for building the facility with plumbing is 2027. Krejci said he is going to send a letter regarding the building permit year time frame and the plumbing requirement.

Motion by Wischmann, second by Niemeyer to approve consent agenda which included approval of the May 21, 2020 City Council meeting minutes; and approval of pay requests from JEO Consulting Group Inc. for general engineering in the amount of \$550.00, for Sanitary Sewer Replacements – Alleys in the amount of \$2,332.50, for Wellhead Protection Planning in the amount of \$2,700.00, for Salt Creek Bank Stabilization and Drainage Improvements in the amount of \$245.00, and for GIS Water System Update in the amount of \$495.00.

Roll Call:                   Ayes: All                   Motion Carried

Motion by Wischmann, second by Anderson to approve the second half of May 2020 Claims.

Roll Call:                   Ayes: All                   Motion Carried

Mayor Grauerholz reviewed the items in the City's annual newsletter. He reported on the Sidewalk Committee meeting and the planned Zoom 'Open House' for Phase 1 of the sidewalk repair program to be held on June 30 at 6:30 p.m.

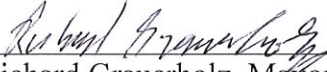
City Administrator Quady reported a letter has been sent to the owner of nuisance property at 2602 Adams Street giving the owner until June 17 to abate the nuisance.

Council Member Anderson said there were nuisance issues in many alleys and tall weeds along the banks of 7<sup>th</sup> Street. City Administrator Quady asked the Council to email her with nuisance problems they would like addressed.

Discussion was held regarding Board of Adjustment procedures.

Motion by Niemeyer, second by Wischmann to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 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 June 4, 2020 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.