

**ASHLAND CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
March 2, 2023**

A regular meeting of the Ashland City Council was held at the Ashland City Hall Council Chambers on the 2nd day of March, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Mayor James Anderson  
City Council President Chuck Niemeyer  
City Council Member Jake Crnkovich  
City Council Member Michelle Libal  
City Council Member Jerry Lofberg  
City Administrator Jessica Quady  
City Clerk Kathleen Sliva  
Assistant City Attorney Sarah Meier

Others: Tom Danahy, Cindy Danahy, Dan Linke, Ron Styskal, Suzi Nelson, Scott Howard, Caleb Fjone, Lowell Krueger, Tim Johnson and others

Notice of meeting was advertised in the Ashland Gazette on February 23, 2023. 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 Anderson 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. Anderson noted the Open Meetings Act located on the south wall of the room.

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

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Ron Styskal gave public comment regarding the replacement of the locust trees by the American Legion and by the post office eleven years ago. He provided pictures of the work and a paper that was signed by Legion and City representatives. He expressed concern about the difficulty of removing the trees.

Mayor Anderson opened a Public Hearing to determine existence of a public nuisance regarding property at 1642 Boyd Street at 7:04 p.m. City Administrator Quady stated the property owner has received warning letters from her and from the Mayor and the owners have been ticketed for unlicensed and inoperable vehicles. She reviewed photos taken today of the property showing the progress made in cleaning up the property. She commented that it looks a lot better and the only vehicle left on the property is licensed and operable. Mayor Anderson said from his perspective

the property isn't quite cleaned up. Tim Johnson, owner, spoke to the Council, stating that he has been working on cleaning up the property and that he has a little to go. He said he can get rid of the rest of the items along the garage and, as long as the weather permits, he should be able to get it done by the next meeting. Anderson expressed his appreciation to Johnson for his cooperation. With no further comment, Mayor Anderson closed the Public Hearing at 7:10 p.m.

Mayor Anderson opened a Public Hearing on an application for License to Sell Fireworks by 1517 Midwest LLC at 931 Silver Street at 7:10 p.m. Scott Howard spoke stating the stand location is being moved to near the dog park. City Administrator Quady noted it is north of the sand volleyball court and the lease with the City was approved conditioned upon their getting their firework license. With no further comment, Mayor Anderson closed the Public Hearing at 7:11 p.m.

Motion by Niemeyer, second by Crnkovich to approve Resolution 2023-1 – Declaring the findings of the City Council regarding a nuisance at 1642 Boyd Street with the order to be abated on or before April 6, 2023.

Roll Call:                      Ayes: All                      Motion Carried

Motion by Libal, second by Lofberg to approve Resolution 2023-2 – Sale of Surplus Property.

Roll Call:                      Ayes: All                      Motion Carried

Motion by Niemeyer, second by Crnkovich to approve License to Sell Fireworks for 1517 Midwest LLC at 931 Silver Street.

Roll Call:                      Ayes: All                      Motion Carried

Lowell Krueger spoke to the Council regarding his nuisance property at 106 South 16<sup>th</sup> Street. He reviewed recent photos of the property showing his progress in abating the nuisance. Building Official Krejci reviewed the work schedule with progress notes. He said that he had not been able to get inside to evaluate the progress. Discussion followed. Council Member Niemeyer asked that Krejci get inside by March 16<sup>th</sup> so that he can report back to the Council.

Motion by Niemeyer, second by Libal to extend the date of abatement of nuisance at 106 South 16<sup>th</sup> Street to March 16, 2023 to allow City Building Official time to inspect the property and report back to the Council.

Roll Call:                      Ayes: All                      Motion Carried

Motion by Libal, second by Crnkovich to approve consent agenda which included approval of the February 16, 2023 City Council meeting minutes; and approval of pay requests from JEO Consulting Group Inc. for General Engineering in the amount of \$3,137.50, for Dennis Dean Road Improvements in the amount of \$5,075.50, for Public School Expansion in the amount of \$426.25 and for Public Works Programming and Preliminary Design in the amount of \$1,275.00.

Roll Call:                      Ayes: All                      Motion Carried

Motion by Crnkovich, second by Lofberg to approve the second half of February 2023 Claims.

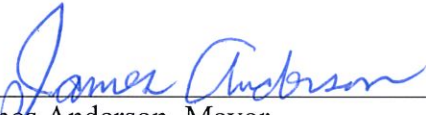
Roll Call:                    Ayes: All                    Motion Carried

Mayor Anderson said the Public Works department had an employee start in January and another one will start March 6. He added there is one more opening. He said two new officers have started in the police department. He said Zoning Administrator Krejci will be attending the NPZA Conference. He noted several Council and two staff members attended the League Conference this week.

AAEDC Executive Director Fjone said they are working on a second grant for the Creative District that is due at the end of the month. He said they are aiming for another \$250,000 for planning, programming, beautification and marketing structured over five years. He added that the Economic Development group will be moving to the Barnes Building on Highway 6.

Motion by Lofberg, second by Libal to adjourn at 7:34 p.m.

Roll Call:                    Ayes: All                    Motion Carried

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
James Anderson, 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 March 2, 2023 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.