

**ASHLAND CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
April 7, 2016**

A regular meeting of the Ashland City Council was held at the Ashland City Hall Council Chambers on the 7th day of April, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Mayor Richard Grauerholz
City Council President Russ DeVries
City Council Member James Anderson
City Council Member Janece Mollhoff
City Council Member Kyle Vest
City Administrator Jessica Quady
City Clerk Kathleen Sliva

Absent: City Attorney Mark Fahleson

Others Present: John Craven, Ron Styskal, Yong Hansen, Brook Dill, Olivia Dill, Angie Goff, Connor Goff, Erik Terkelsen, Steve Harrison and others

Notice of meeting was advertised in the Ashland Gazette on March 31, 2016. 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 Vest, seconded by DeVries to adopt the regular agenda.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Eric Terkelsen and Steve Harrison of Holidynamics Holiday Lighting Solutions presented their company's holiday lighting products and made suggestions of possible holiday lighting for the Ashland Community Resource Center and Downtown. Terkelsen stated that the company is in their 28th season of lighting manufacturing and distribution in Omaha and they currently have 300 commercial and residential properties that they decorate. He proposed a 24-foot tower tree at the ACRC that would have 10,550 LED lights and a 5-year warranty for approximately \$11,800. He said that installation of the tree with the power equipment and laptop would cost \$18,000 and take about 20 hours. He said audio equipment and programming for each light diode would cost \$3,600,

installation \$1,330 and each song \$850. He also suggested lighting the ACRC building perimeter with the possibility of lighting buildings on down Silver Street using either the RGB lights or the less expensive traditional lights. He said that the traditional garland for light poles comes in 9-foot sections with lights for \$89 and a \$39 bow. He then answered questions of the Council.

Ron Styskal addressed the Council regarding the bike race to be held in his neighborhood. He presented the Council with a signed petition requesting the relocation of the bike race. He brought up several concerns as a representative of the petition signers saying they are very unhappy with the last three years of the bike race and would like the race moved out of the residential area. He said that there have been problems and concerns about interactions with the bike director and the bike riders, the speed of the riders, safety, fire and rescue access, access to homes and to the pool, improper parking, and insurance protecting homeowners. He said that they feel preference is given to the bike riders as opposed to the tax payers. Mayor Grauerholz stated that he and City Administrator Quady had spoken with race officials to express Styskal's concerns. Grauerholz said they suggested alternative parking, moving the registration, and trash and hay bale pick-up. He said both fire and rescue captains were spoken with about access in and out of the area. Council Member Mollhoff said the date for the race is May 14 and that notices were distributed last year. Discussion was held regarding giving notice to the individuals living in that area. Styskal said that the course is a mile loop. Quady said that they are cutting one race out so it won't run so late, the pool isn't open so it won't conflict with the race and the advantage is that the event will bring about 200 people into town. Styskal said that he will be at the next meeting and will present additional signatures.

Angie Goff spoke to the Council regarding street games, skate boarding and Municipal Code 6-311. She said that her son has been skateboarding for 3 years and until recently she was unaware that this was prohibited on the streets of Ashland. She said that she has been told by some City officials that it is forbidden as implied to in the ordinance. She said that she would like clarification and wondered why skateboarding is handled differently then walking, jogging or bike riding. She said her son rides his skateboard to school and work, follows the same rules as cars and he wears a glow stick. She would like everyone to wear something that is reflective. Mayor Grauerholz read the Street Games Code. City Administrator Quady said the ordinance is vague but that the police have interpreted it this way. She continued saying that no one has been ticketed for this but the police have taken a couple of kids home after dark and that there was one call received about skateboarders using laser pointers. She noted that the City Attorney said the ordinance should be clarified. The consensus of the Council is to review the ordinance.

Discussion was held regarding setting a date for a public hearing to determine existence of a nuisance at 201 S. 13th Street. City Administrator Quady said that the Mayor

received a letter stating the property owner will take the structure down but that there have been some health issues. Council Member Anderson said that there is a trailer, a vehicle and piles of scrap iron north of the building that need to be addressed.

Motion by Mollhoff, seconded by Anderson to set the date for a hearing to determine existence of a public nuisance regarding property at 201 S. 13th Street for April 21, 2016 including the trailer, vehicle and scrap iron piles.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

John Craven of Reliable Plumbing addressed the Council regarding his request for an easement for a water line from the new curb stop to his business. He said it was discovered that his building has an old lead service line that needs to be replaced while the water main and highway are being redone. He said because of the way the building is built, he may need a 10' x 25' easement on the north side of his building on City property. He said that he will first try to use the existing line, if it doesn't work, he will need the easement to proceed with placing the line north of the building. Mayor Grauerholz said that he and City Administrator Quady visited the site and the most practical solution is running the line where Craven is asking for the easement. Quady said that because the City just found out about this yesterday and does not have an easement agreement to consider, the City Attorney suggested the Council recommend approval of the Mayor signing the agreement with the stipulation that the easement agreement is approved by the Mayor, City Administrator and City Attorney.

Motion by DeVries, seconded by Mollhoff to allow the Mayor to enter into an agreement for an easement for Reliable Plumbing for a 10' x 25' section provided agreement meets the approval of the Mayor, City Administrator and City Attorney.

Discussion was held regarding proper recording and notation of the easement for future reference.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Motion by Mollhoff, seconded by DeVries to approve the consent agenda which included approval of the March 17, 2016 City Council meeting minutes.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Motion by Anderson, seconded by Vest to approve the second half of February 2016 Claims including a claim for Electronic Transportation Partners Nebraska in the amount of \$53,043.00 for Charge Points.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Mayor Grauerholz reported that the Rescue Captain and City Administrator attended a meeting at the Saunders County Medical Center in reference to Advance Life Support

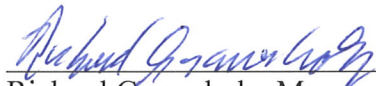
services in the county and that the Rescue Squad will soon be ready to order an ambulance. He said that he had met with Jones Insurance staff regarding the Firepak insurance and their safety and on-line training. He also reported on a meeting held to discuss the I-80 Exit 426 water system improvements and feasibility study. He said that he had met with developers of the Whitetail Run Subdivision who are wanting to progress with the first phase of the subdivision. He said the developers hope to use TIF financing. City Administrator Quady stated that she will ask the City Attorney to schedule for training on TIF for the Council.

Council Member Mollhoff reported on the Water Trail meeting.

City Administrator Quady said that the FEMA funding to repair the flood damaged walking trail was approved and the contractor will be ready to begin repairs in about a month.

Motion by Anderson, seconded by Vest to adjourn the meeting at 8:58 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 April 7, 2016 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.