

**ASHLAND CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING**

August 5, 2021

A regular meeting of the Ashland City Council was held at the Ashland City Hall Council Chambers on the 5th day of August, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

Present: City Council 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: Mayor Richard Grauerholz
 City Council Member Jake Crnkovich

Others: Sony Lowrey, Amy Anderson, Susan Cerny, Caleb Fjone, Suzi Nelson, Bill Krejci

Notice of meeting was advertised in the Ashland Gazette on July 29, 2021. 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.

Council President 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. President Anderson noted the Open Meetings Act located on the south wall of the room.

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

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Motion by Niemeyer, second by Wischmann to approve Resolution 2021-16 – Authorizing the City to Declare a Plan for Acquisition of Real Property for the Present Public Purpose of Constructing a Public Works Facility and Authorizing the Acquisition of Property Located Generally at 602 Dennis Dean Road.

Zoning Official Krejci said he was a member of the committee assigned to study potential sites for a new Public Works facility. He said the committee reviewed several properties around Ashland looking for potential sites to construct a new building to house the street department. He said the committee felt this piece of property would suit the City's needs and the City has finances already in the property. He added the existing Public Works facility is too small, is inadequate, has some structural issues and is on main street. City Attorney Fahleson said a new

building would allow for inside storage of equipment, keeping the equipment in better shape and saving the city money in the long run. Council Member Niemeyer said there is a safety aspect as well, as there is not room to move or to adequately work on equipment. He said it is time and the City has about \$60,000 invested in the property from the nuisance clean up. Council President Anderson said it bothers him that equipment sits outside and that the facility is out of room. He added it will be a plus for the community. Council Member Wischmann said this will help get everything inside in one central location.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Motion by Niemeyer, second by Wischmann to postpone consideration of Ordinance 1195 until the next meeting on August 19, 2021.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Motion by Wischmann, second by Niemeyer to approve second reading of Ordinance 1197 – AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE FOLLOWING PORTIONS OF THE ZONING ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF ASHLAND: SECTION 5.15 FLEX DISTRICT SUBSECTIONS A, B & C 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 1197.

Motion by Niemeyer, second by Wischmann to suspend the rules and waive the third reading of Ordinance 1197.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

President Anderson called for the roll call vote on the final reading of Ordinance 1197.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Motion by Wischmann, second by Niemeyer to approve Contractor's Application for Payment #2 from General Excavating for 2020 Sanitary Sewer Improvements in the amount of \$20,359.25.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Discussion was held regarding abatement of nuisance at 106 South 16th Street. City Administrator Quady presented a June letter from property owner, Lowell Krueger, which said he had hired a firm to look at the structure. She said this was the last time the City had heard from Krueger. Council Member Niemeyer suggested the firm be contacted to determine what they have done for Krueger. She said Building Official Krejci had told Krueger not to do anymore work until someone looked at it to determine if it is structurally safe. Council President Anderson said he is not in favor of anymore extensions.

Motion by Wischmann, second by Niemeyer to grant an extension of completion date for

abatement of nuisance at 106 South 16th Street until the next meeting on August 19, 2021.

Wischmann said it is not just about how the structure looks but it is a liability issue if someone gets hurt on the property. Anderson said the structure is being used for storage.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Motion by Wischmann, second by Niemeyer to recommend approval to the Nebraska Liquor Control Commission for Krystal M Carter as new corporate manager of Casey's Store #2736.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

City Administrator Quady reviewed photos and gave updates on the Garman and Smith nuisances. Discussion was held.

Motion by Niemeyer, second by Wischmann to approve consent agenda which included approval of the July 15, 2021 City Council meeting minutes; approval of the July 14, 2021 Budget Workshop minutes; approval of the July 28, 2021 Budget Workshop minutes; approval of the July 29, 2021 Budget Workshop minutes; and approval of pay requests from JEO Consulting Group Inc. for General Engineering in the amount of \$900.00; for Sanitary Sewer Replacements-Alleys in the amount of \$2,515.00; for Public School Expansion in the amount of \$1,933.75; and Utility Rate Study in the amount of \$2,000.00.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Motion by Niemeyer, second by Wischmann to approve the second half of July 2021 Claims.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

City Administrator updated the Council on the sidewalk project. She said the contractor is done with 17th Street and will be working on 16th Street. She said there are 15 to 20 properties that liens will need to be placed on but that most paid well.

Quady said a letter will be sent out this month informing residents of the new parking requirements for recreation vehicles and trailers and that they will have until the end of October to come into compliance. She said after October, warning letters will be sent to residents not following the regulations.

Council Member Niemeyer mentioned the upcoming League of Nebraska Municipalities conference.

AAEDC Executive Director Caleb Fjone said their annual meeting will be on Tuesday. He said he is submitting an application to NEDA to be the host city for their 2022 conference.

Motion by Wischmann, second by Niemeyer to adjourn the meeting at 7:43 p.m.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried



Jim Anderson, Council President



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 August 5, 2021 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.