

**ASHLAND CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
December 3, 2020**

A regular meeting of the Ashland City Council was held at the Ashland Community Resource Center on the 3rd day of December, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Mayor Richard Grauerholz
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: City Council Member Jake Crnkovich

Others: Suzi Nelson, Susan Cerny, Erika Straight, Heather Straight and Jerry Lofberg

Notice of meeting was advertised in the Ashland Gazette on November 26, 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 on the south wall of the room.

Motion by Niemeyer, second by Anderson to adopt the regular agenda.
Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Erika Straight was introduced. She is a student at Ashland-Greenwood High School attending the meeting for a Civics class.

Council Member Crnkovich arrived at 7:03 p.m.

Motion by Wischmann, second by Niemeyer to introduce and approve Resolution 2020-19 – Masks for Covid-19.

City Attorney Fahleson said the resolution would express the City's desire to strongly encourage residents and visitors of the City to wear masks and social distance. He said

some cities have mask mandates but are not enforcing the mandate. Council Member Niemeyer said he believes this is a very good step. Mayor Grauerholz said he talked to many people and businesses in reference to this today and two out of three were not in favor of a mandate. He noted that handwashing is doing more to prevent the spread of the virus. City Administrator Quady said the resolution would be posted at the post office, both banks and City Hall. She added it will be reported about in the Gazette and can be posted on Facebook and the website. Crnkovich said this is nice as an educational platform but does not want it to look like a mandate. Fahleson noted it does not have any enforcement mechanism. Council Member Anderson stated he likes this approach. Mayor Grauerholz said he believes this is the proper way to go at this time and if something changes drastically and there is a need to go further, it can be reconsidered at that time. Crnkovich commented on the wording in paragraph three describing how face coverings should be worn and designed and questioned if this is needed.

Motion by Crnkovich, second by Wischmann to amend Resolution 2020-19 by striking every sentence after “feasible.” in the third paragraph.

Discussion followed.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Mayor Grauerholz called for the vote on Resolution 2020-19 as amended.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Motion by Wischmann, second by Niemeyer to approve on second reading Ordinance 1187 – Designating a Wellhead Protection Area.

City Attorney Fahleson read the title of Ordinance 1187.

City Administrator Quady reviewed a map of the proposed wellhead area and noted approving the area is the first step in a wellhead plan. She answered questions of the Council. Mayor Grauerholz said this is to protect the purity of the drinking water of Ashland into the future.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Motion by Wischmann, second by Niemeyer to approve the updated Infrastructure Standards and Specifications.

City Administrator Quady said the only changes from the previously approved copy is adding the concrete depth for streets on page 1 of 7 and the changing of NDOT from NDOR throughout the document. Mayor Grauerholz noted other changes he would like considered. After discussion, it was agreed these changes would be considered in the future with input from JEO and department heads.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Motion by Niemeyer, second by Anderson to approve placing a lien on nuisance property at 2602 Adams Street.

City Administrator Quady said the lien includes the utility work to abandon the utilities, the contractor and Tinius Plumbing.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Motion by Niemeyer, second by Wischmann to approve consent agenda which included approval of the November 19, 2020 City Council meeting minutes; and approval of pay requests from JEO Consulting Group Inc. for General Engineering in the amount of \$1,582.50; for Wellhead Protection Planning in the amount of \$2,350.00; for Public School Expansion in the amount of \$130.00; and for Sanitary Sewer Replacements - Alleys in the amount of \$2,412.50.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

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

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Mayor Grauerholz reported that the City was approved for two grants, one for play ground material and one for disposal of used tires. He also reported on a meeting with school officials on school construction project.

Council Member Anderson requested a planning meeting for the Council be set up.

Motion by Anderson, second by Wischmann to adjourn sin die at 7:53 p.m.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Mayor Grauerholz opened the Annual Meeting at 7:54 p.m.

Council Member Anderson introduced Jerry Lofberg and welcomed him to the Planning Commission.

Motion by Niemeyer, second by Wischmann to reelect Jim Anderson as President of the Council.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Motion by Niemeyer, second by Wischmann to approve 2021 Mayoral Appointments as presented.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Motion by Niemeyer, second by Wischmann to adjourn the meeting at 8:02 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 December 3, 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.