

**ASHLAND CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
December 5, 2019**

A regular meeting of the Ashland City Council was held at the Ashland City Hall Council Chambers on the 5th day of December, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

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

Absent: City Council Member Matt Meyer

Others: Susan Cerny, Pam Thompson, Jeff Ray, Liz Flynn, Jack Smits and others

Notice of meeting was advertised in the Ashland Gazette on November 28, 2019. 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 Anderson, second by Wischmann to adopt the regular agenda.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Susan Cerny gave public comment about property along the highway. She said the developers and the others involved with the property are having a problem getting everything in order to start construction before the ground freezes. She said there is a City of Lincoln water line and easement running diagonally through the property but they have not been able to get any head way with the City of Lincoln in marking the exact location. She said there needs to be a better way to communicate with the City of Lincoln over the water line. She said the property owner has a right to know where the easement for the water line is located.

Mayor Grauerholz opened a Public Hearing to determine existence of Public Nuisance regarding property at Lots 1-2 and 3-4, Block 58, Miller & Clark Addition, commonly known as 204 South 23rd Street at 7:08 p.m. City Administrator Quady showed pictures of the property taken today. She said the resolution gives the deadline for when the property is to be cleaned up. With no further comment, Mayor Grauerholz closed the Public Hearing at 7:09 p.m.

Motion by Gossin, second by Wischmann to approve Resolution 2019-8 – Declaring the findings of the City Council regarding a nuisance at 204 South 23rd Street with a deadline date of December 19, 2019.

City Administrator Quady said there has been progress in cleaning up the property since the initial letter went out. Quady reviewed pictures that were taken prior to any clean up.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Motion by Gossin, second by Wischmann to approve on third and final reading of Ordinance 1169 – AN ORDINANCE TO CHANGE THE ZONING DISTRICT BOUNDARIES OF THE CITY OF ASHLAND, AS PROVIDED IN THE CITY OF ASHLAND MUNICIPAL ZONING ORDINANCE; TO AMEND THE CITY'S OFFICIAL ZONING MAP; 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 1169.

City Administrator Quady said the developers requested the change to flex zoning for three lots.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Motion by Gossin, second by Wischmann to approve second reading of Ordinance 1171 – Extend the Boundaries of the City of Ashland NE to include Sabre Heights.

City Attorney Fahleson read the Title of Ordinance 1171.

City Administrator Quady said she has not received any comments since the last meeting. Council Member Gossin said he hasn't received any either. Quady reviewed a map of the annexation area which is Sabre Heights. Liz Flynn said she hasn't received any comments either. Quady said she has bids for the rebuilding of the lift station and for connecting the lift station to the Scada system. She said these items are budgeted for.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Motion by Gossin, second by Wischmann to approve second reading of Ordinance 1172 – Extend the Boundaries of the City of Ashland NE to include adjacent and contiguous properties.

City Attorney Fahleson read the Title of Ordinance 1172.

City Administrator Quady reviewed the map marking the adjacent and contiguous properties. Council Member Anderson commented on the need for and expense of maintenance of Cooper Road in front of the annexed lots. He said he has a problem with bringing in lots with unimproved roads at this time. City Administrator Quady said there is \$6,000 budgeted for maintaining the roads. Council Member Gossin noted the income generated from the annexation greatly exceeds the cost of maintaining the road and this will extend the City's jurisdiction with a uniform bubble. Quady said the City will be responsible for all of Cooper Road as the statutes have changed and the County will no longer be responsible for half of the road. She said utilities can be assessed back to property owners who want to tie into City utilities. Gossin requested Quady get an estimate on the cost of additional maintainer passes on the road and Mayor Grauerholz requested she contact the County Supervisor to determine if the City can contract with the County for the maintenance of Cooper Road.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Motion by Wischmann, second by Gossin to introduce and approve first reading of Ordinance 1174 – Providing for Appointment of the City Clerk to approve Special Designated Liquor License Applications.

City Attorney Fahleson read the Title of Ordinance 1174.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Motion by Gossin, second by Wischmann to approve the Sidewalk Maintenance Plan.

City Administrator Quady said this plan meets all the requirements set out in the agreement signed last December with the Federal Highway Department. Quady said the plan is spread over fifteen years and can be assessed to property owners. She added the plan can be accelerated and does not require the installation of new sidewalks. Council Member Gossin said there will be a sidewalk map on GWorks accessible to the public and public forums will be held. Mayor Grauerholz said he hopes that after this is adopted people will do evaluations of there property and take care of problem sidewalks on their own. Quady said Precision Cutting will provide grinding services.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Motion by Anderson, second by Gossin to approve the consent agenda which included

approval of the November 21, 2019 City Council meeting minutes; and approval of Pay

Requests from JEO Consulting Group Inc. for General Engineering in the amount of \$2,100.00, for Whitetail Estates in the amount of \$8,500.00 for Water Dawes St 20th to 21st in the amount of \$2,815.00, and for Salt Creek Bank Stabilization and Drainage Ditch Improvements in the amount of \$56.00.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Motion by Wischmann, second by Anderson to approve the second half of the November 2019 Claims.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Mayor Grauerholz said he has requested the staff track the hours and costs associated with the Christmas lighting downtown. He added that Hometown Christmas is on Saturday. He reported on a meeting with Senator McDonald regarding several items including a hearing on flood control in eastern Nebraska.

Council Member Gossin asked City Administrator Quady to contact the Chamber regarding Hometown Christmas and crowd control to keep children safely back from parade vehicles.

City Administrator Quady provided the Council with copies of the newly implemented E-Bills.

Motion by Anderson, second by Gossin to adjourn the meeting Sine Die at 7:59 p.m.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Motion by Anderson, second by Gossin to open the annual organizational meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Motion by Anderson, second by Wischmann to approve nomination of Paul Gossin as President of the City Council.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Motion by Anderson, second by Wischmann to approve the 2020 Mayoral Appointments.

Mayor Grauerholz noted there are upcoming vacancies to be filled on the Planning Commission, Historic Preservation and Board of Adjustments.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried


Motion by Wischmann, second by Anderson to adjourn at 8:09 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 5, 2019 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.