

ASHLAND CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
December 7, 2017

A regular meeting of the Ashland City Council was held at the Ashland City Hall Council Chambers on the 7th day of December, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Mayor Richard Grauerholz
City Council President Russell DeVries
City Council Member James Anderson
City Council Member Paul Gossin
City Council Member Janece Mollhoff
City Administrator Jessica Quady
City Clerk Kathleen Sliva
Assistant City Attorney Sheila Bentzen

Others: Ron Styskal, Jim Garman, Zach Alley, Brian Chaffin, Don Kracl and others

Notice of meeting was advertised in the Ashland Gazette on November 30, 2017. 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, seconded by DeVries to adopt the regular agenda.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Motion by Mollhoff, second by Gossin to approve on second reading Ordinance 1144 - To Vacate the Alley in Block 10 Beetison's Addition to the City of Ashland.

Assistant City Attorney Bentzen read the title of Ordinance 1144.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Motion by Gossin, second by Anderson to approve second reading of Ordinance 1145 – AN ORDINANCE ADOPTED BY THE CITY OF ASHLAND, SAUNDERS COUNTY, NEBRASKA, TO APPROVE WHITETAIL ESTATES PHASE 1 FINAL PLAT, A SUBDIVISION LOCATED INSIDE THE CITY LIMITS OF ASHLAND, SAUNDERS COUNTY, NEBRASKA, AND SUBDIVISION AGREEMENT; TO PROVIDE FOR THE

REPEAL OF ANY ORDINANCE IN CONFLICT THEREWITH; TO PROVIDE FOR THE EFFECTIVE DATE THEREOF; AND TO AUTHORIZE PUBLICATION IN PAMPHLET FORM.

Assistant City Attorney Bentzen read the Title of Ordinance 1145.

Brian Chaffin of Ashland Investment Company addressed the Council. He said things have been going on at the site such as earthwork. He said from their stand point there has been plenty of public input and if approved tonight they could move forward with more confidence. He asked the Council to waive the third reading and have the final approval tonight. City Administrator Quady said City Attorney Fahleson has a couple of minor changes in the agreement and requested that if the Council chooses to approve on third and final reading do it subject to Fahleson's approval. Chaffin answered questions of the Council regarding sidewalks, ornamental lighting and timeline for completion. Mayor Grauerholz expressed his opposition to the waiving the final reading of the Ordinance.

Motion by Mollhoff, second by Gossin to waive the third reading of Ordinance 1145.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Motion by DeVries, second by Gossin to amend earlier motion approving Ordinance 1145 subject to incorporating Phase 1 into the wording of the Ordinance and giving the City Attorney and City Administrator authority to negotiate the final terms of the contract.

Mayor Grauerholz shared a video on fire spread related to the separation of houses and structures. Discussion followed regarding separation of structures for fire safety and the seven-foot minimum side yard setback in the proposed development.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Mayor Grauerholz then called for a vote on the final reading and approval of Ordinance 1145.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Motion by Mollhoff, second by Anderson to introduce and approve first reading of Ordinance 1146 - AN ORDINANCE CREATING STREET IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO. 2017-1 IN THE CITY OF ASHLAND, NEBRASKA, ORDERING THE CONSTRUCTION OF STREET IMPROVEMENTS THEREIN AND ORDERING THE PUBLICATION OF THE ORDINANCE IN PAMPHLET FORM.

Assistant City Attorney Bentzen read the Title of Ordinance 1146.

City Administrator Quady said this ordinance is needed in order to obtain financing for the City's portion of the bridge project. She added she is working with Ameritas on bonding the project and if the Council chooses, it could waive the three readings to move forward quickly to obtain favorable interest rates.

Motion by Mollhoff, second by DeVries to waive the requirement of three readings of Ordinance 1146.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Mayor Grauerholz then called for a vote on the final reading and approval of Ordinance 1146.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Motion by Mollhoff, second by Gossin to approve Resolution 2017-12 – To Set Hearing for Street Improvement District.

City Administrator Quady said the hearing is the second step in the process for financing the bridge project. She said the hearing would be set for the first meeting in January.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Zach Alley spoke to the Council regarding his request for reimbursement for a damaged tire. He provided pictures of the damaged tire and of the storm drain that he drove over that had a piece of broken rebar sticking out of it. City Administrator Quady said the storm drain damage had not been reported and the rebar has been removed. Alley said that he was turning to the east and parking in front of the drain when the tire was damaged.

Motion by Gossin, second by DeVries to postpone consideration of request for reimbursement from Zach Alley for damaged tire until December 21st Council meeting.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Motion by DeVries, second by Anderson to approve pay request from JEO Consulting Group Inc. for New Well 2015 in the amount of \$650.00.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Motion by Mollhoff, second by DeVries to approve pay request from JEO Consulting Group Inc. Silver Street Bridge Replacement Construction Services in the amount of \$6,269.30.

City Administrator Quady said JEO is looking at ornamental light and railing options for the bridge.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Motion by Mollhoff, second by DeVries to approve the consent agenda which included approval of the November 16, 2017 City Council meeting minutes and approval of Abby Chase as a member of the Ashland Rescue Squad.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Motion by DeVries, second by Mollhoff to approve the second half of November 2017 Claims.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Mayor Grauerholz gave his Mayoral Report. He said the drainage work has been completed by the parking lot sidewalk.

City Administrator Quady said she is working with UNL and UNO on a social media grant. She said meetings will be held January 23rd and 24th and she invited the Council to attend.

City Administrator Quady reported the Public Works Director will be getting quotes for installing the decorative lighting on 14th Street.

Council Member Mollhoff reported on a request to OPPD to switch the street lights to LEDs.

City Administrator Quady reported on the surplus sale.

Motion by DeVries, second by Mollhoff to adjourn sine die at 8:02 p.m.

Mayor Grauerholz opened the annual meeting.

Motion by DeVries, second by Mollhoff to approve nomination of Paul Gossin as President of the Council.

There were no other nominations.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried


Mayor Grauerholz presented his 2018 Mayoral Appointments.


Motion by Mollhoff, second by Anderson to approve the 2018 Mayoral Appointments.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Motion by DeVries, seconded by Mollhoff to adjourn at 8:08 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 7, 2017 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.