

**ASHLAND CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
February 2, 2017**

A regular meeting of the Ashland City Council was held at the Ashland City Hall Council Chambers on the 2nd day of February, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Mayor Richard Grauerholz
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

Absent: City Council President Russell DeVries

Others: Nicole Wall, Chris Franks, Stephanie Franks, Joe Baudler, Adam Wall and others

Notice of meeting was advertised in the Ashland Gazette on January 26, 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 Mollhoff, seconded by Anderson to adopt the regular agenda.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Mayor Grauerholz opened a public hearing on applications for the ownership and operation of off-street parking facilities at 7:02 p.m. City Administrator Quady stated that this a formality required for bonding the parking lot project. She added that no applications were received. With no further comment, Mayor Grauerholz closed the public hearing at 7:03 p.m.

Motion by Mollhoff, seconded by Gossin to approve Resolution 2017-1 – To Enter into Interlocal Cooperative Agreement for a Mutual Finance Organizations.

City Administrator Quady stated that this is approved annually. Mayor Grauerholz said the MFO's was set up through legislation to provide additional funding for public safety and fire protection. Quady said the City's funds are used for the Command Center.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

City Council Member DeVries arrived at 7:06 p.m.

Motion by Gossin, seconded by Mollhoff to approve Resolution 2017-2 – Determination for Off-Street Parking Facilities.

City Administrator Quady said this is another step in the bonding process for the parking lots.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Motion by Gossin, seconded by DeVries to approve Resolution 2017-3 – Sale of 2003 Ford Ambulance.

City Administrator Quady said that the new ambulance will be coming next week. She added that the new ambulance is budgeted for and has been worked on for over a year. She said the old one will be sold according to the resolution by sealed bid with the minimum bid of \$18,500.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Motion by DeVries, seconded by Anderson to approve second reading of Ordinance 1134 – Zoning Amendment from B-1 General Commercial to R-2 Medium Density Residential.

Assistant City Attorney Bentzen read the Title of Ordinance 1134.

City Administrator Quady stated that she is checking on a potential storm sewer issue where the old railroad right-of-way runs through that block.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Nicole Wall addressed the Council regarding Legislative Bill 68 - Prohibit certain regulation of firearms, ammunition, and firearm accessories by counties, cities, and villages as prescribed. Wall, who spoke against LB68, requested that the Council as individual members call Senator Hilgers and Senator Kolterman or testify at the bills legislative hearing or write a letter of opposition or submit a council resolution.

Discussion followed. Mayor Grauerholz requested a resolution in opposition to LB68 be placed on the next agenda for consideration.

Motion by DeVries, seconded by Anderson to postpone until next meeting consideration of authorizing the Mayor to sign a Transport Agreement with Cass County Emergency Management.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Motion by DeVries, seconded by Gossin to confirm and approve Julietta Meyer for the Ashland Fire Department and Tiffany Alcorn for the Ashland Rescue Squad as Certification Administrators.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Motion by Mollhoff, seconded by Gossin to approve and certify the following as Volunteer Emergency Responders: Tiffany Alcorn, Brandon Gammel, Chad Hart, Heather Kennedy, Chad Meysenberg, Michael Meyer, Bradley Dill, Chad Yochum, Shane Haschke, Caleb Alcorn, Brian Whitehead, Julietta Meyer, Mathew Meyer, Jessica Jewell, Tylor Kennedy, Kurt Mollner.

Mayor Grauerholz explained the certification process.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Christy Franks spoke to the Council regarding the nuisance property at 601 South 8th Street. She said she is the daughter of Richene Perkins, the property owner, and that she just became her guardian. She requested that the Council give her a month to become familiar with her mother's affairs so she can determine what she will be doing with the property. Council Member Anderson said that he had spoken with Franks about listing the property with a real estate agent. Council Member DeVries told Franks that the City has been getting bids to remove the house. Anderson said the Council's intention is to clear the property of the nuisance. Council Member Gossin asked that the check list provided to Perkins last summer be provided to Franks with action steps to be taken. City Administrator Quady stated that the City would like Perkins personal items to be removed from the property as the City does not want to take the property down with her personal items in it. Council Member Mollhoff said that she would like to see the property listed with a real estate agent in the next two weeks.

Motion by Mollhoff, seconded by Anderson to postpone consideration of nuisance property at 601 South 8th Street until the next meeting.

Quady stated that the demolition bids for removing the nuisance on the property were between \$9,850 and \$24,235 and that she is getting additional bids.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Motion by Mollhoff, seconded by DeVries to approve the consent agenda which included approval of the January 19, 2017 City Council meeting minutes and approval of Jacob Cunningham as a member of the Ashland Fire Department.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Motion by Anderson, seconded by DeVries to approve the second half of January 2017 Claims.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Mayor Grauerholz gave his Mayors report. He said that the police have recently worked with several other law enforcement agencies to make several arrests. He noted a recent article in the Ashland Gazette about housing in Ashland. He reminded the Council about the Ashland Chamber of Commerce Annual Meeting this weekend. He suggested that planning begin on a Clean-up Day for last spring or early summer.

Council Member DeVries noted that the street light on Furnas Street has been installed by OPPD.

Council Member Mollhoff noted that the charging stations have been installed at the new parking lot but they are not operational yet.

Mollhoff reported on her attendance at the Lincoln Mayor's Environmental Task Force meeting. She said there are concerns about the proposed chicken plant at Fremont and the effects on the aquifer.

Mollhoff mentioned Legislative Resolution 4 introduced by Senator Carol Blood regarding water quality and protection in Nebraska.

City Administrator Quady will arrange for the Water Source Study to be completed by JEO Consulting Group this fiscal year and she will schedule a Utility Rate committee meeting. She said that the Council Workshop will be held on March 18.

Council Member Anderson asked about the status of the disposal of the existing Silver Street Bridge. He suggested that there may be a publication that it could be advertised in. Quady stated that she has been working with the Nebraska Historical Society to document the historical bridge and that no further action has been taken by local interested individuals on reusing the bridge.

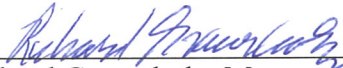
Quady said that a new drawing for handrails to be used on curbs in downtown is being obtained for the Council review.


Council Member DeVries noted that an Ashland Area Economic Development Corporation meeting was held along with a membership drive.

City Administrator Quady answered questions about industrial and commercial areas on the Future Land Use Map and about the cost of the new downtown holiday decorations.

Motion by Anderson, seconded by DeVries to adjourn at 8:44 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 February 2, 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.