

ASHLAND CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

January 20, 2022

A regular meeting of the Ashland City Council was held at the Ashland City Hall Council Chambers on the 20th day of January, 2022 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: Caleb Fjone, Susan Cerny, Bill Krejci, Suzi Nelson, Brandon VanderMey, Dan Linke, Pat Danahy, Cindy Danahy, Lowell Krueger, Dave Yard, Patti Schofield, Marilyn Kolb Wright and others

Notice of meeting was advertised in the Ashland Gazette on January 13, 2022. 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 Anderson, second by Wischmann to adopt the regular agenda.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Patty Schofield, President of the Ashland Historical Society, spoke to the Council about their rent for the Carnegie Library where the Society has their museum. She said the museum has not been able to operate since June 14th when items were covered during the roof replacement. She said the facility has had limited use due to plaster falling from the ceiling and causing safety issues. She requested consideration of reducing the rent due March 1st.

Brandon VanderMey, Field Representative with Viking Industrial Painting, spoke to the Council regarding their VIP Tank Maintenance Program. He said the City's single tank pedestal water tower will get painted this year. He said the City can just do the painting or the City can enter into a maintenance agreement for the water tanks. He discussed the benefits of a maintenance program and reviewed a cost comparison between the maintenance program and payment for painting and maintenance as needed. VanderMey answered questions of the Council. He commented that the riser pipe if it is insulated is not covered. He added the plan does not cover the cost of containment if the tank is sand-blasted. He said the tank would be inspected annually. He said typically electrical issues are not covered. Discussion was held regarding the paint design for the tower.

Motion by Niemeyer, second by Anderson to approve maintenance contract with Viking Industrial Painting.

Roll Call: Ayes: Anderson, Niemeyer Nays: Wischmann
Motion Carried

Lowell Krueger spoke to the Council regarding his nuisance property at 106 South 16th Street. He showed pictures of work he is doing. He said he is not working in the basement due to the cold weather. He said he put beams in the kitchen and he is working on windows that were vandalized. He showed a pillar base he made for the pillars he is making for the front porch. He answered questions of the Council regarding his progress.

Motion by Niemeyer, second by Wischmann to grant an extension of completion date for abatement of nuisance to the March 17, 2022 Council meeting.

Roll Call: Ayes: Niemeyer, Wischmann Nays: Anderson
Motion Carried

Reviewed the December 2021 Keno Report.

Reviewed the Public Works Director's Report.

Reviewed Utility Superintendent's Report.

Reviewed Police Chief's Report.

Reviewed Building Official's Report.

Reviewed Library Report.

Motion by Niemeyer, second by Wischmann to approve the consent agenda which included the approval of the January 6, 2022 City Council meeting minutes; and the approval of the December 28, 2021 Planning Commission meeting minutes.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Motion by Anderson, second by Wischmann to approve the first half of January 2022 Claims.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Motion by Wischmann, second by Niemeyer to approve December 2021 Treasurer's Report.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Mayor Grauerholz reminded the Council about the upcoming League of Nebraska Municipalities conference. He said the Nebraska Legislature is in session and legislative updates are being sent out by the League. He commented that LB 1023 is in the Natural Resource Committee and it deals with the lake proposal along the Platte River. He said another bill put in today deals with federal funding of economic development in Second Class Cities and Villages.

City Administrator Quady gave an update on the enforcement of the new parking ordinance. Council Member Anderson requested a list of the properties that will be receiving letters. Quady said many property owners complied after they received the flier.

Council Member Wischmann said there is a legislative bill for allowing ATV's and UTV's to be driven in the state.

City Administrator Quady said the City has received about \$233,000 in ARPA funds and will be receiving another \$233,000. She said during budget discussion it was talked about using this for a water and sewer project. She added the funds cannot be used for engineering.

City Administrator Quady said the Public Works Director is working with a couple of contractors to come up with the best way to redo the downtown compass so it won't have to be redone in two years.

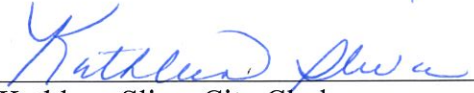
City Administrator Quady said a Council planning meeting will be held on February 5th and a date will be set for another one.

Council Member Wischmann asked for the Carnegie Library rent be placed on the next agenda for consideration.

Caleb Fjone, AAEDC Executive Director, said the Flag Contest is going well. He said Creative District grant money will be used to purchase flags for the City's and school's flag poles. He added that the workbook for the Creative District has been submitted. He noted that Ashland is the first community to submit a workbook.

Motion by Niemeyer, second by Wischmann to adjourn the meeting at 8:01 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 January 20, 2022 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.