

**ASHLAND CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
January 5, 2017**

A regular meeting of the Ashland City Council was held at the Ashland City Hall Council Chambers on the 5th day of January, 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
City Attorney Mark Fahleson

Others: Shirley Niemeyer, Lenora Isom

Notice of meeting was advertised in the Ashland Gazette on December 29, 2016. 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 DeVries, seconded by Anderson to adopt the regular agenda.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Motion by Mollhoff, seconded by DeVries to approve pay request from JEO Consulting Group Inc. for the Water Transmission Main 2016 in the amount of \$1,435.00.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Motion by Mollhoff, seconded by Gossin to approve Pay Request from JEO Consulting Group Inc. for the Parking Lots in the amount of \$4,092.00.

City Administrator Quady stated that she will arrange to have the parking lot approach rocked so that it can be used until the weather allows for it to be paved. She said that one charge point is on-line.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Discussion was held regarding the regulations for parking cars in residential yards. City Administrator Quady said that the parking in yard regulations are not enforced. Discussion was held regarding the parking of camper regulations that was recently passed. Council Member Mollhoff said that she would only like a regulation if it protects the community from health and safety risks. Council Member Anderson said that in the past a permit could be obtained to pave the right-of-way to be used for parking. Zoning Official Isom said that the new regulation does not allow cars to park in the right of way. She added that it is for safety of pedestrians and improved sight lines for vehicular traffic. She said that she will do an inventory of properties with vehicles in the right of way and be sending out letters in the spring informing the property owner of the regulations and the necessity to conform. Isom said that she will write a monthly column regarding zoning and building issues. Discussion was held regarding the safety and esthetic elements of the parking issue. Isom said that there is a problem with instituting this type of regulation for esthetic reasons as it may become a personal property rights issue. Council Member Gossin said that he was concerned about individuals parking in the yards up by their door. Mayor Grauerholz said that getting the cars off the street makes it safer and easier for snow removal and street sweeping as they don't have to maneuver around the cars.

Shirley Niemeyer asked questions and gave comment related to the parking regulations. Isom said that new construction regulations require homes to have two paved spaces, one enclosed. Niemeyer suggested that a special permit be considered for elderly and physically disabled people to park on the yards by their door. She expressed concern about safety, drainage and property values being affected by this type of parking.

Discussion was held regarding Zoning Regulation Enforcement. Zoning Administrator Isom said that she will prioritize enforcement. Discussion was held about conveyances in subdivisions that are not in the city limits.

Isom said that the regulations are almost ready to put on the website. She added that she is fixing a few things such as page numbers and the Table of Contents. She said she will also be developing Frequently Asked Question sheets on several topics.

Motion by DeVries, seconded by Mollhoff to approve the consent agenda which included approval of the December 15, 2016 City Council meeting minutes.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Motion by Gossin, seconded by DeVries to approve the second half of December 2016 Claims.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Mayor Grauerholz reported that he heard a lot of good comments regarding the downtown holiday lighting. He said that the Legislature is back in session and there are several bills that he will keep an eye on.

City Administrator Quady noted that the League's conference is next month.


Council Member Gossin said that he will be gone the second meeting in February.

Council Member Mollhoff noted that benches have been installed along the walking trail and there is now an off road bike trail.

Zoning Official Isom reported that the AAEDC received the housing study grant.

Motion by Anderson, seconded by DeVries to adjourn at 7:59 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 5, 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.