

**ASHLAND CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING**

July 15, 2021

A regular meeting of the Ashland City Council was held at the Ashland Community Resource Center on the 15th day of July, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Mayor Richard Grauerholz
City Council President James Anderson
City Council Member Jake Crnkovich
City Council Member Chuck Niemeyer
City Council Member Bruce Wischmann
City Administrator Jessica Quady
City Clerk Kathleen Sliva
City Attorney Mark Fahleson

Others: Suzi Nelson, Bill Krejci, Caleb Fjone, Susan Cerny, Jason Libal, Ryan Kennedy, Karen Kennedy, Tanya McVay

Notice of meeting was advertised in the Ashland Gazette on July 8, 2021. 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 Niemeyer, second by Anderson to adopt the regular agenda.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Mayor Grauerholz opened a Public Hearing on proposed Ordinance 1197 – Request to Amend Section 5.15 Flex District to the City of Ashland Nebraska at 7:03 p.m. Zoning Administrator Krejci spoke saying this will remove Adams County from the wording and will add the City of Ashland. He said plumbing and electrical company will be moved from Conditional Use to Permitted Use in the Flex District. He said there are three lots south of Saber Heights that are zoned Flex and this is where Delta Electric is building their shop. With no further comment, Mayor Grauerholz closed the Public Hearing at 7:05 p.m.

Motion by Anderson, second by Niemeyer to approve Resolution 2021-15 – Calling for Payment of General Obligation Paving Refunding Bonds, Series 2015, dated October 21, 2015.

City Administrator Quady said there is an extra \$50,000 budgeted to make payment on these bonds. She said this will call the 2023 and 2024 payments of the 6th Street Paving Bonds. She added after next May, this bond issue will be paid off.

Roll Call: Ayes: Anderson, Crnkovich, Niemeyer, Wischmann \
Motion Carried

Motion by Niemeyer, second by Wischmann to postpone consideration of third reading of Ordinance 1195 – PUD for a Political Subdivision known as Icehouse Ridge being a Portion of the SW¼ of Section 35, Township 13 North Range 9 East, located at approximately 2418 Furnas Street to the August 5, 2021 Council meeting.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Motion by Wischmann, second by Niemeyer to introduce and approve the first reading of Ordinance 1197 – Request to Amend Section 5.15 Flex District to City of Ashland NE. City Attorney Fahleson read the Title of Ordinance 1197.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Motion by Niemeyer, second by Wischmann to approve granting an extension of completion date for abatement of nuisance at 2217 Ash Street to August 19, 2021.

City Administrator Quady reviewed photos she had taken earlier in the day. She noted that the owner had painted the property; replaced several windows and a door; and cleaned up the landscaping. She said she had not heard from the property owner. She said two trailers and a boat would need to be stored per the new ordinance.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Motion by Wischmann, second by Niemeyer to recommend approval to the Nebraska Liquor Control Commission of Barbara J Ehrisman as the new Corporate Manager for Whitehead Oil Company's U-Stop 13.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Motion by Wischmann, second by Crnkovich to recommend approval to the Nebraska Liquor Control Commission for a Special Designated License for KC's Eastside Saloon parking area on August 13, 2021 from 6 p.m. to 1 a.m.

Ryan Kennedy and Karen Kennedy, owners of KC's Eastside Saloon, answered questions of the Council and City Clerk. Karen Kennedy said it would be good to extend the SDL's

hours to 6 p.m. to 1 a.m. with the band playing from 9 p.m. to midnight. She said they have not talked to the neighbors about the event at this time.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Motion by Niemeyer, second by Wischmann to authorize the Mayor to request a contract extension for the City's Owner Occupied Rehabilitation project.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

City Administrator Quady reviewed bids for laying asphalt on cemetery roads and on the parking lot at 14th and Adams Streets. Bids were received from Economy Asphalt, LLC and from ManMann Asphalt.

Motion by Wischmann, second by Niemeyer to accept bids from ManMann for both projects with the alternate bid of \$2,583 for 2" asphalt.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

City Administrator Quady reviewed pictures of Mike Smith's nuisance property showing changes since the last Council meeting. Zoning Official Krejci said Smith's intent is to clear the property including removing a tent, tearing down the chicken coop and a shed so that he can build a garage. Quady said the front yard looks nice and the equipment is lined up along the fence. Quady noted there is a difference between clutter and trash. Quady said it is a dramatic improvement. Discussion was held. She reminded the Council that the Council gave Smith a September 16 deadline. Quady reviewed pictures of James Garman's nuisance property. The Council agreed that daily pictures of the property would not continue to be necessary rather staff will take pictures once a week. Quady noted that much has not changed on the property. She said there is a roll off on the property that is full. Quady noted that Garman has been ticketed between 2019 and now. She said he has a September 16 deadline.

Motion by Crnkovich, second by Wischmann to postpone consideration of authorizing the Mayor to sign agreement with Ashland-Greenwood School district and Ice House Ridge Development to the July 22, 2021 Budget Workshop meeting.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Reviewed the June 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 Wischmann, second by Niemeyer to approve the consent agenda which included approval of the July 1, 2021 City Council meeting minutes; approval of the July 7, 2021 Budget Workshop minutes; approval of the June 24, 2021 Planning Commission meeting; and approval of James Pehrson as a member of the Ashland Rescue Squad.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Motion by Wischmann, second by Niemeyer to approve the first half of July 2021 Claims.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Motion by Wischmann, second by Niemeyer to approve June 2021 Treasurer's Reports.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Mayor Grauerholz gave his report. He said that he is going to be recommending changes to the fireworks ordinance. He said he thought on July 4th there were safety problems and travel problems with people lighting fireworks on City streets and in the parks. He asked the Council to respond to a Black Hills Energy survey. He said that Council President Anderson will lead the first meeting in August.

Council President Anderson expressed appreciation for the Public Works employees for the nice job they have done.

AAEDC Executive Director Fjone said their Board meeting will be held August 10th.

Jason Libal, AGPS Superintendent, gave an update on the school construction project. He said there will be a ground breaking ceremony on August 12th.

Motion by Niemeyer, second by Wischmann to adjourn the meeting at 8:12 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 July 15, 2021 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.