

**ASHLAND CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
November 5, 2020**

A regular meeting of the Ashland City Council was held at the Ashland Community Resource Center on the 5th day of November, 2020 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, Jacey Myers, Macee Cerveny, and Chris Engel

Notice of meeting was advertised in the Ashland Gazette on October 29, 2020. 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 Niemeyer to adopt the regular agenda.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Motion by Niemeyer, second by Wischmann to approve Resolution 2020-18 – Retirement and Transfer Ownership of Drug Dog Frankie.

City Administrator Quady said Frankie has not been active for the last year or so. She said we had him for about six years.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Motion by Wischmann, second by Niemeyer to approve second reading of Ordinance 1186 – Public Ways Vacation for 5th Street between Dale and Elm Streets.
City Attorney Fahleson read the Title of Ordinance 1186.

City Administrator Quady said there has been a request to add half a block of alley in Block 8. Council Member Crnkovich said he is representing a seller on the southwest corner and there is no access to this alley.

Motion by Wischmann, second by Niemeyer to amend Ordinance 1186 by striking "all east 126 feet" and adding "all 252 feet".

Council Member Crnkovich abstained from voting due to potential conflict of interest.

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

Mayor Grauerholz called for the vote on Ordinance 1186 as amended.

Council Member Crnkovich abstained from voting due to potential conflict of interest.

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

City Administrator Quady said the Carnegie Library roof is about 111 years old and needs to be replaced. She said members of the Ashland Historical Society informed her of water issues inside. She said the City received about \$47,000 from the insurance company for the roof. She reviewed bids for the roof replacement and various shingle and work options; one from Apple Roofing and one from Independent Roofing Company. Chris Engel with Apple Roofing showed the Council shingle samples included in Apple's bid and reviewed the bid. He said the Ludowici tile for \$68,720.35 would be similar to what is on the roof now but he would not recommend replacing with this tile and he doesn't believe the structure can handle the weight of the tile. He said the Brava Spanish tile would give the historical look, is lighter than the Ludowici and can be colored blended to match any color. Quady said the Apple bid for the Brava Spanish tile is \$37,124.22. Engel answered questions of the Council.

Motion by Wischmann, second by Niemeyer to award bid for roof replacement at the Carnegie Library to Apple Roofing with green Spanish tile.

Mayor Grauerholz asked that a piece of tile be preserved for the Historical Society's museum. Quady said the copper gutters can be removed and disposed of for money. Engel said the work would be done in the spring.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

City Administrator Quady reviewed bids for a concrete alley apron by the Carnegie Library; one from Schroeder Concrete for \$1,780.80 and another from Chris Farringer Concrete for \$4,650.00.

Motion by Anderson, second by Wischmann to accept bid from Schroeder Concrete and do the concrete apron.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Discussion was held regarding the need to purchase radios for the fire department. City Administrator Quady said 20 new radios will cost \$154,000. She said Rural Fire is willing to make the purchase now because the radios are on sale and are needed. She said historically Rural Fire has paid the City for half of the departments expenses and that they know the radios are not in the City's budget this year. She suggested two options to pay for the radios, one being doing a five cent Public Safety tax to be used on communications equipment for fire and police and the other option being not collecting the Rural Fire's share of expenses, about \$36,000 each year, for two years. She said half the cost of the radios is about \$76,860. Discussion followed.

Motion by Wischmann, second by Niemeyer that the City Council is willing to pay for half the cost of the radios and will use the reimbursement from Rural Fire to do so.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Motion by Wischmann, second by Anderson to approve authorizing the Mayor to sign Amendment to Agreement for 2020 Sanitary Sewer Improvements with JEO Consulting Group, Inc.

City Administrator Quady reviewed the current sewer improvement project. She said this addition will add engineering for a sewer line down alley behind Jones Insurance and the bank. She said people are starting to have issues with this line and it needs to be brought out from under the bank. She said she thought they could get better prices if it is added to this project as opposed to being a stand-alone project.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Motion by Anderson, second by Wischmann to approve authorizing the Mayor to sign a Memorandum of Understanding for the CARES Act Project with Windstream Nebraska, Inc.

City Attorney Fahleson stated the purpose of the project is to use CARES Act funding to expand the broadband network in Ashland.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Council Member Anderson spoke about the subdivision regulations requiring water and sewer hook-up requirements. He said one of the questions he has is 1,320 feet adequate for the hook up requirement. He asked that this be discussed with JEO.

Motion by Niemeyer, second by Wischmann to approve consent agenda which included approval of the October 15, 2020 City Council meeting minutes; and approval of pay requests from JEO Consulting Group Inc. General Engineering in the amount of \$147.50; for Wellhead Protection Planning in the amount of \$1,450.00; for Public School Expansion in the amount of \$315.00; and for GIS Water Systems Update in the amount of \$100.00.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Motion by Wischmann, second by Crnkovich to approve the second half of October 2020 Claims.

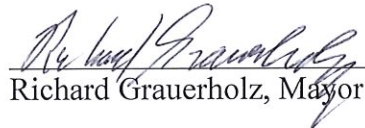
Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Mayor Grauerholz reported there have been major water line failures with repairs being done by a contractor. He said that he is working on the Mayoral appointments.

City Administrator Quady gave an update on the demolition of 2602 Adams Street. She noted there is a service line water leak on the eastside that the City will be having repaired for approximately \$10,000 at the owner's expense.

Motion by Niemeyer, second by Wischmann to adjourn the meeting at 8:22 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 November 5, 2020 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.