

ASHLAND CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
September 17, 2020

A regular meeting of the Ashland City Council was held at the Ashland Community Resource Center on the 17th day of September, 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: Cory Mattly, Brett Berger, Susan Cerny, Susan Cerny, Suzi Nelson, Bill Krejci and others

Notice of meeting was advertised in the Ashland Gazette on September 10, 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 end of the room.

Motion by Wischmann, second by Niemeyer to adopt the regular agenda.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Cory Mattly and Brett Berger spoke to the Council about the Nebraska Strong Recovery Program. Berger said they are outreach workers and crisis counselors and are available during the current disaster infectious disease response. He provided brochures with the Nebraska Rural Response Hotline and Nebraska Family Helpline information and phone numbers.

Mayor Grauerholz opened a Public Hearing on the 2020-2021 Budget Document at 7:15 p.m. City Administrator Quady spoke regarding the budget and highlighted large projects. She said budgeted projects include a sewer main replacement project, Fire Hall floor drain, sidewalk curb ramps, street improvements, property acquisition for the Street Department,

cemetery road improvements, work on a ball field, scrap tire event, concrete stairs for pool, Carnegie Library roof and completion of the Sabre Heights Park basketball court. She said the tax levy will stay the same and there is an increase in property assessed value. With no further comment, Mayor Grauerholz closed the Public Hearing at 7:19 p.m.

Mayor Grauerholz opened a Public Hearing on the One Year and Six Year Plan for Street Improvement Program at 7:20 p.m. City Administrator Quady noted changes from last year including the addition of 30th Street, Birch Street to the east and Cooper Road. She said the plan encompasses all of the gravel roads in Ashland. With no further comment, Mayor Grauerholz closed the Public Hearing at 7:22 p.m.

Mayor Grauerholz opened a Public Hearing on Conditional Use Permit #20-116 for Domestic Dog Kennel at N ½ Lots 7-9 Block 20 Miller & Clark Addition to Ashland, located at 403 North 21st Street at 7:23 p.m. Zoning Administrator Krejci stated the Planning Commission recommended approval of the permit. He said the dogs have their shots and the application meets all the necessary requirements. With no further comment, Mayor Grauerholz closed the Public Hearing at 7:24 p.m.

Motion by Wischmann, second by Niemeyer to approve Resolution 2020-11 – Setting the 2020-2021 Property Tax Request.

City Administrator Quady said the General Levy will be set at \$740,486 and the Debt Levy at \$414,672.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Motion by Anderson, second by Wischmann to approve Resolution 2020-12 – Acceptance and Adoption of the One Year and Six Year Plan for Street Improvement Program.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Motion by Anderson, second by Wischmann to approve third and final reading of Ordinance 1183 – AN ORDINANCE TO CHANGE THE ZONING DISTRICT BOUNDARIES OF THE CITY OF ASHLAND, NEBRASKA, AS PROVIDED IN THE CITY OF ASHLAND MUNICIPAL ZONING ORDINANCE; TO AMEND THE CITY'S OFFICIAL ZONING MAP; TO PROVIDE FOR THE EFFECTIVE DATE THEREOF; TO ORDER THE PUBLICATION OF THE ORDINANCE IN PAMPHLET FORM.

City Attorney Fahleson read the Title of Ordinance 1183.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Motion by Anderson, second by Wischmann to approve third and final reading of Ordinance 1184 – AN ORDINANCE TO ADOPT THE GENERAL FUND AND WATER AND WASTEWATER FUND BUDGET STATEMENTS TO BE TERMED THE

ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS BILL; TO APPROPRIATE SUMS FOR NECESSARY EXPENSES AND LIABILITIES; TO PROVIDE FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE THEREOF; AND TO AUTHORIZE PUBLICATION IN PAMPHLET FORM.

City Attorney Fahleson read the Title of Ordinance 1184.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Motion by Anderson, second by Niemeyer to introduce and approve first reading of Ordinance 1185 - Amend Section 6-318 Unlicensed and Inoperable Vehicles.

City Attorney Fahleson read the Title of Ordinance 1185.

City Attorney Fahleson provided the Council with an amended version of Ordinance 1185. He suggested a motion to amend could be made to adopt this version of the ordinance.

Motion by Wischmann, second by Niemeyer to amend Ordinance 1185.

Fahleson reviewed the amended ordinance including no property can have an inoperable vehicle for longer than 30 days and no unlicensed vehicle for any length unless the vehicles are kept in an enclosed building. He noted that unlicensed vehicles can be on the premises of a certain business enterprises. Mayor Grauerholz questioned if 30 days was long enough to allow a vehicle to be repaired. Council Member Niemeyer stated that he thinks 30 days is adequate. Grauerholz gave an example that required more than 30 days. Discussion followed.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Motion by Wischmann, second by Crnkovich to approve Conditional Use #20-116 for Domestic Dog Kennel at 403 North 21st Street.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

City Administrator Quady said the water meters the City is currently using are no longer manufactured so a decision needs to be made on what meters the City will be using next. She reviewed two suggested meters and the associated costs. She said the software will need to be upgraded. She said one type of meter would be read by driving by and the other type meter would be cellular and require installation of an antennae at City Hall. She discussed the benefits of the different meters. She said both meters will require additional monthly fees, \$.06 or \$.89, that could be billed to meter user accounts and there will be licensing fees for the radio read model totaling \$100.00 a month. She said new houses would get the new meters and as meters fail, the failed meters will be replaced with these new ones. Quady answered questions of the Council.

Motion by Niemeyer, second by Crnkovich to approve cellular units for the water meter change out program.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Council Member Anderson spoke to the Council regarding concrete aprons for alleys.

City Administrator Quady reviewed bids for the Sidewalk Program Phase 1 replacement and installation of curb ramps. She said bid requests were sent out to five contractors with only Schroder Concrete submitting a bid. She added MTZ Construction learned of the project when working in town and also submitted a bid. She said there is \$125,000 in the budget approved tonight for this project and the remainder would be budgeted for next year. Discussion followed.

Motion by Wischmann, second by Niemeyer to approve bid for sidewalk and curb ramps by Schroder Concrete in the amount of \$194,925.00.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Reviewed the August 2020 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 Anderson to approve the consent agenda which included approval of the September 3, 2020 City Council meeting minutes; and approval of the August 27, 2020 Planning Commission meeting minutes.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Motion by Anderson, second by Wischmann to approve the first half of September 2020 Claims.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Motion by Wischmann, second by Crnkovich to approve August 2020 Treasurer's Reports.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Mayor Grauerholz said Clean-Up Day will be this Saturday from 8 a.m. to noon and Saunders Local Emergency Planning Committee will be meeting on September 23 at the Fire Hall.

Council Member Anderson said that the Cemetery Directory structure will be painted and paid for with donated funds by the Ashland Area Foundation.

Motion by Niemeyer, second by Wischmann to adjourn the meeting at 8:43 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 September 17, 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.