

Regular Council Meeting

Wednesday, September 14, 2022

The Wakefield City Council met in a regular meeting on Wednesday, September 14, 2022 in the Council Chambers at 407 Main Street at 5:30 P.M. with the following present: **Present:** Val Bard, Ross Hansen, Scott Hansen, Larry Soderberg. Also present: Mayor Eaton, City Administrator Litchfield, City Attorney Miner, Utility Foreman Mogus, Administrative Coordinator Decker, and Clerk Vander Veen.

Mayor Eaton opened the meeting at 5:30 P.M.

Mayor Eaton informed those present of the Nebraska Open meetings Law, and where a copy of such was posted in the Council Chambers for review.

Val Bard: Present, Ross Hansen: Present, Scott Hansen: Present, Larry Soderberg: Present.

Council Member Ross Hansen moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Council Member Val Bard seconded the motion. Motion Carried. Val Bard: aye, Ross Hansen: aye, Scott Hansen: aye, Larry Soderberg: aye

Nate Wing, with Olssons, was available to answer questions regarding the work on the 9th Street Paving project. The street is nearly complete, and there are a few final jobs to finish the project that will be handled once the contractor, SuBSurfco, receives payment.

Council Member Scott Hansen moved to approve payment for \$205,040.77 to SuBSurfco. Council Member Val Bard seconded the motion. Motion Carried. Val Bard: aye, Ross Hansen: aye, Scott Hansen: aye, Larry Soderberg: aye

3rd and final reading

Council Member Val Bard moved for final passage of Ordinance 9-2022 to amend the zoning regulations of the City of Wakefield to add motels and hotels as permitted principal uses and structures to the C-2 general commercial districts. Council Member Scott Hansen seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

Val Bard: aye, Ross Hansen: aye, Scott Hansen: aye, Larry Soderberg: aye

3rd and final reading

Council Member Scott Hansen moved to approve Ordinance 10-2022 amending the zoning map of the City of Wakefield, Nebraska to change certain real estate now zoned as R-2 residential district to C-1 central commercial district to provide an effective date and authorizing publication in pamphlet form. Council Member Val Bard seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

Val Bard: aye, Ross Hansen: aye, Scott Hansen: aye, Larry Soderberg: aye

Council Member Scott Hansen move to introduce and waive the three readings of Ordinance 11-2022 to increase water rates. Council Member Ross Hansen seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

Val Bard: aye, Ross Hansen: aye, Scott Hansen: aye, Larry Soderberg: aye
Council Member Larry Soderberg moved for final passage of Ordinance 11-2022 to increase water rates. Council Member Scott Hansen seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

Val Bard: aye, Ross Hansen: aye, Scott Hansen: aye, Larry Soderberg: aye

Council Member Scott Hansen moved to introduce and waive the three readings of Ordinance 12-2022 to increase sewer rates. Council Member Ross Hansen seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

Val Bard: aye, Ross Hansen: aye, Scott Hansen: aye, Larry Soderberg: aye
Council Member Ross Hansen moved for final passage of Ordinance 12-2022 to increase sewer rates. Council Member Val Bard seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

Val Bard: aye, Ross Hansen: aye, Scott Hansen: aye, Larry Soderberg: aye

Milo Meyer Construction submitted the low bid for the demolition of the properties at 109 and 111 West Third Streets. The bid for \$14,800 includes all aspects of the demolition; the City will not need to do anything. Demolition is scheduled for October 1, 2022.

Council Member Val Bard moved approve the bid from Milo Meyer Construction of \$14,800 to demo the properties at 109 and 111 West Third Street. Council Member Scott Hansen seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

Val Bard: aye, Ross Hansen: aye, Scott Hansen: aye, Larry Soderberg: aye

Council Member Scott Hansen moved to approve the hiring of Marlyn Orozco Juarez at rate of \$15 per hour upon recommendation from the Civic Center Board. Council Member Val Bard seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

Val Bard: aye, Ross Hansen: aye, Scott Hansen: aye, Larry Soderberg: aye

Dawn Reimers has been hired by the Gardner Public Library Board as Assistant Librarian at a rate of \$11 per hour.

The Wayne State club baseball team has used Eaton Field at Graves park for practices a couple of times already this year and plans to use it again in the future. There have been no issues so far.

Council Member Larry Soderberg with the info we have the city is in favor of the sandagls. Council Member Ross Hansen seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

Val Bard: aye, Ross Hansen: aye, Scott Hansen: aye, Larry Soderberg: aye

steering committee to get information out to the community; ground donated; rough draft and drawings completed.

why? need to get community support and get information out to them and give us feedback for new future fire hall. Get an idea of what the community is thinking. Need to educate the community about WHY we need the new hall. Need an open house to show what we have

New committee members to assist on this to get a better scope on what the community is thinking. A lot of work already done. It's going to take time and we want to make sure its going to be right.

Larry would be interested in heading up a steering committee.

Lyle, Adam, and Larry.

Wants council support for forming a steering committee.

Want to demonstrate it is a unified plan. Best way is to

Adam--these are only drawings; just a pencil sketch.

Ross is only in favor of a steering committee only if the guys who were originally involved are in favor of a steering committee. Don't want council to come in with iron fists.

Adam: what is its purpose? An advocate for a new FH? We don't want to get ahead of ourselves. We have no answers for the questions being asked by council.

Val: many projects in town never looked ahead.

Adam: a shade early to get steering committee together.

Larry: we need to get one together as to why we need a Fire Hall.

But it needs to be rural board members, etc.

Val: wants someone with an outside vision.

Larry: mix of people.

Yet, you're asking us to approve a piece of ground. Apartment spot not earmarked.

Council Member Larry Soderberg set up to look into the possibility of building a new fire hall. Sandahl has offered to donate the property. Strings attached??? Just a proposal no deed. Council Member Val Bard seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

Val Bard: aye, Ross Hansen: aye, Scott Hansen: aye, Larry Soderberg: aye

Rates approved by City Council

sinking fund:

In years past, some dollar amount put in sinking fund towards end of fiscal year.

\$15K in lieu of

has been budget

roll over the extra funds or not?

helmets, hoses PPE

Budget more than \$15k per year: to lessen the pain when it comes?

Lyle: leftover \$47K is half Rural and MFO

Compromise \$46K and leave the \$15K

The council discussed completing employee reviews before voting on pay increases/stipends. The council's goal is to have the reviews done before the meeting on Wednesday, September 21, 2022.

Council Member Larry Soderberg moved to set Wednesday, September 21, 2022 at 5pm at the Wakefield Civic Center as the public hearing for the 2022-2023 fiscal year budget. Council Member Val Bard seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

Val Bard: aye, Ross Hansen: aye, Scott Hansen: aye, Larry Soderberg: aye

Council Member Scott Hansen moved to set the public hearing for the final tax request on Wednesday, September 21, 2022 at 5pm at the Civic Center.

Council Member Val Bard seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

Val Bard: aye, Ross Hansen: aye, Scott Hansen: aye, Larry Soderberg: aye

Council Member Scott Hansen moved to set the public hearing to set the final tax request for Wednesday, September 21, 2022 at 5pm at the Wakefield Civic Center. Council Member Val Bard seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

Val Bard: aye, Ross Hansen: aye, Scott Hansen: aye, Larry Soderberg: aye

Currently, the Council does not have a policy with regard to how much uninterrupted time a person has to speak at a council meeting. The upcoming budget hearing has no time limit; however, those wishing to speak at the hearing may be given a certain number of uninterrupted minutes to speak.

Council Member Val Bard move to set time limit for speakers at the budget hearing to 4 minutes. Council Member Ross Hansen seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

Val Bard: aye, Ross Hansen: aye, Scott Hansen: aye, Larry Soderberg: aye

There were no speakers during the Mayor's public comment period.

Park Board:

Pool board: Scott, Chad, and Teresa

get a manager in place. Chad tells expectations and schedule; Jon Pretzer help

Wayne State club team:

Name to PeeWee Field:

fencing on the fields that are in need of repair.

Appreciate heath and tom keim; worked on PW field at no cost to the City.

Updates

BABA able to be written in

Council Member Val Bard moved to approve payment request for WesTech Engineering for \$265,898.12 for equipment for the proposed water treatment plant. Council Member Larry Soderberg seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

Val Bard: aye, Ross Hansen: aye, Scott Hansen: aye, Larry Soderberg: aye

Council Member Ross Hansen moved to approve a Project Approval request from NPPD for electric work on Building #2 at the 9th Street Apartments. Council Member Scott Hansen seconded the motion. Motion Carried. Val Bard: aye, Ross Hansen: aye, Scott Hansen: aye, Larry Soderberg: aye

potential intro to what could be done on main, third, and oak street. save about \$100K. traditional \$144K.

Minimal project. Try it??

Some savings beside this? Govt is rolling out renewal energy funding in grants. Two sources of 0% financing or grant funding. Not sent to them yet, but it is a possibility. Our name is in the basket but will be bumped up with approval.

Council Member Val Bard move six solar \$46450. Council Member Larry Soderberg seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

Val Bard: aye, Ross Hansen: aye, Scott Hansen: aye, Larry Soderberg: aye

Council Member Ross Hansen moved to approve the claims as presented.

Council Member Scott Hansen seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

Val Bard: aye, Ross Hansen: aye, Scott Hansen: aye, Larry Soderberg: aye

Council Member Scott Hansen moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:11pm.

Council Member Ross Hansen seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

Val Bard: aye, Ross Hansen: aye, Scott Hansen: aye, Larry Soderberg: aye

Paul Eaton, Mayor

State of Nebraska)

) ss:

County of Dixon)

I, the undersigned City Clerk of Wakefield, Nebraska, do certify that all the subjects in the attached proceedings, were contained in the agenda for the meeting on Wednesday, September 14, 2022 kept current and 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 to the meeting, that said minutes were in written form and available for public inspection within ten working days prior to the next convened meeting of said body.

Pam Vander Veen, City Clerk