

The Council met in regular session in the Wahoo Public Library, 637 Maple Street, in compliance with agenda posted at City Hall, Post Office and First Bank of Nebraska, and the City of Wahoo web site, with each Council member being notified of agenda prior to the meeting. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Gerald D. Johnson at 7:00 p.m. and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. The public was informed of the location of posting of the Open Meetings Law. Roll call was taken with the following Council members present: Ryan Ideus, Chris Rappl, Patrick Nagle, Stuart Krejci, Karen Boop, and Carl Warford.

Written Department reports were provided. Ferrell reported call volume in 2020 was slightly below the previous year. Lawver reported preparations for the summer reading program. Beavers reported three new home building permits already. Street Department is handling snow removal and preparing for cemetery foundations in the spring. Harrell reported a survey to collect broadband data is in progress, which could help with a grant to improve service. The League virtual conference will be held in February. Three Rivers has administered the first round of Covid vaccine to Fire, EMS and Police personnel. There has been discussion regarding potential housing development.

Nagle reported the Street Committee met, and items are on the agenda. Krejci reported the Finance Committee met. The JEO progress report on projects was provided.

A motion was made by Krejci, seconded by Nagle to approve the consent agenda, including: 1) Minutes of the December 22, 2020 Council meeting; and 2) Licenses: Plumbers: Tom Trainor, Patriot Plumbing; Brian Wiese, Wiese Plumbing; Doug Osborn, Osborn Sales & Service; Jerry Wagner, Wagners Quality Construction. HAVC: Jonathan Mumm, Mumm's Heating & Cooling. Electrician: Gregory Rosenbaum, Marathon Electric Inc.; Jeff Randolph, Goodrite Electric. Tree contractor: Korbin Stewart, S & S Tree Service LLC. Roll call vote: Krejci, yes; Nagle, yes; Boop, yes; Warford, yes; Ideus, yes; and Rappl, yes. Absent and not voting: none. Motion carried.

Beavers reported he will attend a webinar on the Energy Code. This remains tabled.

Harrell reported the curb ramp/intersection project had a higher than expected cost, and was revised. Jon Mooberry of JEO reported there was redesign work, and requested the amendment to the engineering agreement.

Motion by Nagle, seconded by Ideus, to approve amendment to engineering agreement with JEO Consulting Group for the 2021 curb ramp/intersection returns project as presented. Roll call vote: Nagle, yes; Ideus, yes; Rappl, yes; Krejci, yes; Boop, yes; and Warford, yes. Absent and not voting: none. Motion carried.

Jon Mooberry provided an amended bid tab for 2021 curb ramp/intersection returns project and a revised recommendation letter for bid review and award. He reported two responsible bidders responded, bids were higher than the opinion of cost, and there were mathematical errors in the original bids. M E Collins was the low bidder, but stipulated a completion date later than September. The City Attorney stated their opinion was since bid specs were not adhered to, the bid could not be awarded to M E Collins.

Timing of segments of the project due to school and other projects, and completion date were discussed.

Motion by Warford, seconded by Krejci, to accept the bids, but reject both of them because of the higher than expected bid amounts, and request JEO to revise bid groups and completion schedule and ask the bidders for new sealed bids. Roll call vote: Warford, yes; Krejci, yes; Boop, yes; Ideus, yes; Rappl, yes; and Nagle, yes. Absent and not voting: none. Motion carried.

Request for Special Designated Licenses to serve alcohol in conjunction with Knights of Columbus fish fry at St Wenceslaus Church, 211 East 2nd Street was reviewed. Proposed for six Fridays, from February 12 to March 19, 2021, with possible drive up option. No objection by Police Department. Motion by Nagle, seconded by Krejci, to approve the request for Special Designated Licenses. Roll call vote: Nagle, yes; Krejci, yes; Boop, yes; Warford, yes; Ideus, yes; and Rappl, yes. Absent and not voting: none. Motion carried.

Beavers reported on the request for variation in front yard setback for a deck at 415 N Walnut Street, as provided by Section 4.09.03 of the zoning regulations. Average setback of other structures on the block is approximately 16 feet from property line. The 12 foot by 12 foot deck proposed would encroach farther into the right of way than other properties on the block. The regulation states the variation would need to conform to the average.

Motion by Krejci, seconded by Nagle, to grant request for variation in setback for construction of a deck at 415 N Walnut to conform to a 16 foot setback (extending out approximately 8.5 feet from the house). Roll call vote: Krejci, yes; Nagle, yes; Rappl, yes; Ideus, yes; Warford, yes; and Boop, yes. Absent and not voting: none. Motion carried.

Jacob Subbert appeared to request a variation in front yard setback for 4' by 6' covered porch at 644 West 2nd Street, as provided by Section 4.09.03 of the zoning regulation. Beavers reported on the average setback for the structures on the block. He noted a similar porch cover was constructed on the neighboring house, initially without a permit, which was later approved by the Council in 2016; under the regulations that may not have been the correct action.

Motion by Krejci, seconded by Boop, to grant request for variation in setback for construction of covered porch at 644 West 2nd Street, to conform to the average setback. Roll call vote: Krejci, yes; Boop, yes; Warford, yes; Ideus, yes; Rappl, yes; and Nagle, yes. Absent and not voting: none. Motion carried.

To clarify earlier action, the Mayor asked to re-appoint Krejci to the Economic Development Advisory Board, as well as appoint Ideus as a new representative to the Economic Development Advisory Board, so there are two Council representatives. Motion by Warford, seconded by Rappl, to approve the appointment. Roll call vote: Warford, yes; Rappl, yes; Ideus, yes; Boop, yes; Krejci, yes; and Nagle, yes. Absent and not voting: none. Motion carried.

Harrell noted the Federal government did not extend FFCRA emergency leave time for Covid-19 beyond December 31, 2020. The City would like to formally extend the availability of any unused leave time under the Families First Coronavirus Response Act, to remain available to employees until March 31, 2021.

Motion by Krejci, seconded by Nagle, to authorize extending availability of unused leave time under FFCRA until March 31, 2021. Roll call vote: Krejci, yes; Nagle, yes; Rappl, yes; Ideus, yes; Warford, yes; and Boop, yes. Absent and not voting: none. Motion carried.

No audience comments were presented.

The Mayor reported there has been discussion about providing downtown parking space for residents of apartments downtown, such as along Maple Street between 5th and 6th Street. The possibility of a special parking permit/hang tag, allowing limited parking overnight downtown, and other options were discussed.

The next meeting date is Thursday, January 28, 2021.

Motion by Warford seconded by Krejci, to adjourn at 8:19 p.m.

Approved:

Lucinda Morrow, Clerk

Gerald D. Johnson, Mayor