

**CITY OF WORTHING
APPROVED MINUTES
REGULAR SESSION
MONDAY, JUNE 20, 2016**

CALL TO ORDER

The Commissioners of the City of Worthing met in regular session on Monday, June 20, 2016 at 7:00 P.M. in the Worthing Civic Center.

Mayor Eric Saugstad presided. The following commissioners were present: Crystal Jacobson, Ryan Schlieman and Eric Bunkers. Commissioner Sheri Lund was absent with notice. Also in attendance were Finance Officer Linda Hunnel, Deputy Finance Officer Travis Harford, and Wendy Sweeter of the Lennox Independent. (Note: Herein after all attendees will be referred to by last name and the first initial if necessary for distinction.)

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Bunkers to approve the agenda for the June 6, 2016 regular monthly meeting. Schlieman seconded. Motion carried, all voting aye.

Mayor Saugstad led the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

OPEN PUBLIC SPEAKING

John Ganschow, of 201 Park St., was at the meeting to ask the City about two holes left in his yard where backflow valves were installed. Ganschow said that he was worried for the safety of children playing near the hole. Saugstad stated that the City had hired someone to fill in that hole in while working on some other drainage cleanout work. Ganschow also asked the City for some assistance in purchasing black dirt to level his front yard where sinking had occurred from the project. Saugstad asked that he obtain prices and send them to City Hall.

Ernest Stratmeyer and Anthony Ventura, of WE-CARE, were present to speak on the potential concerns of commercial wind farms being built in Lincoln County.

Beverly Wuertz, of 506 W. 4th St, complained that no snow had been removed on her section of 4th Street during the winter months.

Dwight Johnson, of 400 S. Louise Ave, asked if the city had any ordinances concerning inoperable vehicles in driveways and on property. He was concerned that there was a lack of code enforcement in the city. Johnson also asked if there were

ordinances in regards to animals running at large and if the city was planning on tightening up on its code enforcement. The Finance Office will start the process of enforcing these violations.

CITY OF WORTHING REZONING HEARING 7:15 PM – Lots 7, 8, 9 Wuertz Addition from R-1 to GB

Mayor Saugstad opened the hearing at 7:28 p.m. He stated that the current owners of the lots, Worthing Economic Development Corp., had a potential buyer who wanted to construct storage units and was requesting that the lots be rezoned from Single-Family Residential (R-1) to General Business (GB) as a condition of the sale.

Saugstad opened the hearing to public speaking. Beverly Wuertz, of 506 W 4th St, voiced concerns over storage units devaluing her property and thought that the units would be better placed in the industrial park. Phil Greenwood, of 405 W 4th St, was also opposed to storage units in the neighborhood. Greenwood stated he would not be opposed to a potential business moving in there, but he felt that storage units would bring more traffic into the area, and was worried about the buildings being maintained. Mayor Saugstad stated the WEDC has had little interest from buyers wanting to build single or twin homes on the lots. Saugstad asked if the commission had questions about the rezoning. Commissioner Schlieman asked why the Planning & Zoning Board did not elect to rezone the lots. Finance Officer Hunnel stated that due to the feedback of those in attendance at the hearing, the P&Z Board had voted not to rezone the lots. Commissioner Bunkers asked how long the WEDC had owned the land and if there would be any suitable businesses that would be able to move in on the lots. Saugstad replied that the WEDC had owned the property for three years but had been advertising the land for sale for over one year. Commissioner Schlieman motioned to disapprove the rezoning of Lots 7, 8, and 9 of Wuertz Addition from Single-Family Residential (R-1) to General Business (GB). Commissioner Bunkers seconded. Mayor Saugstad called for a roll call vote on the motion. Schlieman “aye”, Bunkers “aye”, Jacobson “nay”, and Saugstad “nay”. The vote was a tie; the motion did not carry due to a lack of majority, therefore no action was taken. Lots 7, 8, and 9 of Wuertz Addition will **not** be rezoned from Single-Family Residential to General Business.

OLD BUSINESS

MINUTES OF June 6, 2016 REGULAR MEETING

Bunkers motioned to approve the minutes of the June 6, 2016 meeting. Jacobson seconded. All votes “aye”, motion carried.

LWCF GRANT FUNDING UPDATE

Jacobson stated that BHI had offered to donate labor if the city would buy the material to construct a park shelter. Purchasing equipment for younger children was

discussed. Jacobson stated that she would get a firm price on the project, and begin work on the grant.

FIREWORKS HOURS

Schlieman motioned to set the hours for the shooting of fireworks in the City of Worthing from 12 p.m. – 12 a.m. starting 12:00 p.m. Saturday, July 2nd and ending 12:00 a.m. Tuesday July 5th. Jacobson seconded. All votes “aye”, motion carried.

YARD WASTE DROP OFF INFORMATION

Disposal of yard waste and the possibility of having a drop off site was discussed at the June 6th meeting. Finance Officer Hunnel informed the commission that she had contacted both RBS and the City of Canton’s landfill. If a citizen would like RBS to pick up a bag of yard waste, they can buy stickers for the bags at City Hall for \$3, or for \$13/month, RBS will place an extra container for yard waste at your house. Hunnel also reported that yard waste and branches can be taken to the Canton landfill free of charge.

BID OPENING MARY STREET/REC TRAIL JUNE 30 2PM

Hunnel reported that there would be a bid opening for both Mary Street and the Rec Trail projects on June 30th 2 p.m. at City Hall.

DISCOVERY BENEFITS – FLEX PLAN

Hunnel gave a brief recap of an employee medical reimbursement plan. Commission decided not to participate at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

LENNOX COMMUNITY TRANSIT

Finance Officer Hunnel stated that Lennox Community Transit had sent a letter to the City asking them to consider setting funds aside for them in the upcoming year. Saugstad and Bunkers confirmed that money had been set aside this year for the Lennox Community Transit, and they planned on doing the same for next year.

WORTHING COMMUNITY FIRE DEPARTMENT – JON HANSON

Worthing Volunteer Fire Dept. Chief Jon Hanson spoke before the Commission on fire department water usage. Due to the need to track all water usage, the Commissioners will treat the Fire Hall the same as city-owned entities, with the City paying the monthly bill for water\sewer usage. Hanson reported that they had completed reports for ISO ratings, and wanted to thank Linda Hunnel and Phil Wolf for their help on the reports. Hanson also stated that the Fire Department was going to place more concrete on the north side of their building, and plans were in place to put the 1951 International on display in front of the station.

MAINTENANCE REPORT

The Commission reviewed City Maintenance Employee Phil Wolf's June Maintenance Report. Items discussed were: lagoon maintenance and discharge, water samples and curb stop locating, mowing and ball field maintenance, blading streets, drainage, and mosquito control fogging. Other items discussed were: times that fogging was being done at night, and the need for a water heater at the boys' field concession stand. Hunnel also reported that the flail mower had just broken down and the extent of damage was not yet known.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

FINANCE OFFICE REPORT

Finance Officer Hunnel informed the Commission that the Pet Clinic had taken place on June 15th at the Civic Center. She wanted to thank Former Commissioner Carrie McDannel for her assistance in running the clinic. Hunnel asked if there was any interest in renaming city streets running north\south to avenues in accordance with City Ordinance. The City has received a signage grant and all street signs will be replaced free of charge in 2017. The Commission expressed interest in this but will hold a public hearing on changing north\south streets to avenues as part of the research needed with any possible renaming process. Hunnel will be on vacation from June 27th – July 1st, but City Hall would be open normal hours with Deputy Finance Officer Travis Harford on duty.

PUBLIC UTILITIES

Schlieman asked what the ordinance was on grass height for vacant lots. Grass and weeds must be cut when they reach six inches in height. He also wanted to remind everyone to pick up their firework debris and be mindful of others on the 4th of July weekend.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Bunkers reported that Coed Volleyball Sign-up is on the City website. The season will begin July 13th; be sure to sign your team up soon. Bunkers also wanted to remind everyone to make sure to get building permits before you start to work on projects and wished everyone a safe 4th of July weekend.

PUBLIC WORKS

Jacobson reported that they were still working on the grant for Parks & Rec. She also stated that there is still time to apply for the Worthing Parks & Rec Board.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Saugstad wanted to let the commissioners know that the next community cafe meetings for LCEDA & MCEDA will take place June 23rd in Crooks, July 13th in Canton, and August 3rd in Garretson.

ADJOURNMENT

Schlieman motioned to adjourn at 9:25 p.m. Bunkers seconded. All votes "aye"; motion carried.

The next regular meeting of the Worthing City Commission will start at **7:00 PM, Tuesday July 12th.**

Eric S. Saugstad, Mayor

Travis A. Harford, Deputy Finance Officer