

December 9, 2008

Proceedings of the City Council of University Heights, Iowa, subject to approval by the Council at a subsequent meeting. ALL VOTES ARE UNANIMOUS UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED.

REGULAR MEETING

Mayor From called the December, 2008 meeting of the University Heights City Council to order at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Mayor From. Council Members Andrew Dudler, David Giese, Stan Laverman, Brennan McGrath and Amy Moore. Staff present: Engineer Bilskemper, Attorney Ballard, Treasurer Kimura, Police Chief Fort and Clerk Anderson. Also present were Pat Bauer, Katherine Belgum, Betsy Goetzman, Richard Schmidt and Wes Schmidt.

The minutes of the November 11, 2008 meeting of the Council were presented and approved by unanimous consent.

Public Input: Betsy Goetzman handed out pictures of her house and sidewalk at 107 Highland Drive. Currently, there is a section of her sidewalk that is setback 11 feet from the street; she would like to extend the sidewalk to the curb. Council member Giese noted that the city design standards limit having a sidewalk go directly to the street for safety reasons. Engineer Bilskemper commented that there would be no code standards that would prohibit constructing the sidewalk.

MOTION by Laverman, seconded by Giese, approving a variance to allow for the sidewalk at 107 Highland Drive to be built up to the street. Carried.

Dudler - Aye McGrath - Aye
Giese - Aye Moore - Aye
Laverman - Aye

Mayor's Report: Mayor From stated that the Emergency Management meeting will be held in January, 2009.

Legal Report: A written report was presented.

MOTION by McGrath, seconded by Moore, to adopt Resolution 08-11, for an Administrative Police Chief and establishing duties for the Administrative Police Chief. Carried.

Dudler - Aye McGrath - Aye
Giese - Aye Moore - Aye
Laverman - Aye

MOTION by Moore, seconded by Laverman, authorizing the Mayor to sign and the Clerk to attest a Storm Sewer Easement agreement on Lott 115 in University Heights. Carried.

Dudler - Aye McGrath - Aye
Giese - Aye Moore - Aye
Laverman - Aye

Attorney Ballard discussed the proposed changes amending Ordinance 79 concerning off-street parking. One possible change will be to empower the Board of Adjustment (BOA) to grant variances; Ballard suggested the council determine which conditions would be acceptable to aid the BOA. Any non-conforming parking areas as of December 1, 2008, that are constructed of materials listed in the original ordinance will be grandfathered into the new ordinance. Parking areas made of gravel or rock are not grandfathered and will be required to apply with the amended ordinance.

This will be on the January 2009 agenda for consideration.

Streets and Sidewalks: Council member Giese commented that on Oakcrest, between Monroe and Ridgeview, there is a sump pump that was trenched out to the curb and there was more than 2 inches of ice on Oakcrest. Police Chief Fort spoke with the owners to re-direct the hose. Engineer Bilskemper will follow-up with the owners to see if they can tap into the sub-drain.

Site distance/intersection realignment???

Building, Zoning & Sanitation: Council member Moore stated that Steve Smith, of Johnson County Refuse, Inc., has begun “tagging” owners who are not using the proper number of garbage tags; garbage was left at properties not in compliance along with a notice.

E-Government: No report.

JCCOG: No report.

The meeting was adjourned by **unanimous consent at 8:55 p.m.**

Attest: Christine M. Anderson, City Clerk

Approved: Louise From, Mayor