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(Neb.)-Chadron City Council Discusses City Vehicles, Sidewalks, Projects



By: Roxie Graham-Marski Posted at: 12/18/2012 01:06 PM

Photo: Chadron police officer Aron Chrisman was given the Employee of the Year award at the Chadron city council meeting on Monday night. (Photo KCSR-Roxie Graham-Marski)

(CHADRON)-There was much discussion amongst Chadron city council members at their meeting Monday night regarding resolutions approving specifications for the purchase of two new city vehicles, one for city manager Wayne Anderson and the other for public works director Milo Rust. Upon voting on the resolution, the request for specifications narrowly passed 3-2 with Mayor Karin Fischer and councilman Bill Barth in favor, council members Levi Grant and Paris Fisher opposed, and council member John Gamby voicing that he was agreeing to the specs because of the city manager contract agreement.

In other city council news, the city is attempting to loosen sidewalk restrictions in an effort to remove any undue burden on citizens. The current ordinance requires any sidewalk projects of over 50 percent new sidewalk to be installed at 5' wide instead of 4'. The new ordinance revisions call for 5' sidewalks when adjacent to curbs, in new subdivisions, and on safe routes to school sidewalks; otherwise, residents can fix established sidewalks that need repaired using the 4' dimensions. Another change gives residents more time in winter months in which to make necessary improvements to sidewalks that have received complaints. The current ordinance allows 60 days for repairing sidewalks; the new revisions adds "or as soon thereafter as weather permits" so that individuals can wait until nicer weather to begin such a project. The second reading and vote on the revisions will take place at the next city council meeting.

Council members approved the final progress estimate from Buettner Construction for the water main replacement project on North Mears Street from Niobrara Avenue to Norfolk Avenue. The final amount of \$9,648.84 finishes up the project and will include re-seeding along North Mears in the spring if it is needed.

Public works director Milo Rust wanted to let Chadron residents know that the city is terribly saddened by the horrific events that took place in Connecticut and that the city makes every effort in the wake of a tragedy to lower city flags around town to half-staff. He said that during the holidays, however, it is especially difficult to do so safely at Flag Plaza (the intersection of Main and Second Streets) because of the Christmas star and other lights that decorate the plaza. Therefore, the flags are not being flown at half-staff in that location while Christmas decorations are up.

(Questions? Comments? E-mail news@chadrad.com.)

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