

THE OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE GERING CITY COUNCIL, JANUARY 9, 2023

A regular meeting of the City Council of Gering, Nebraska was held in open session on January 9, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. at Gering City Hall, 1025 P Street, Gering, NE. Present were Mayor Ewing and Councilmembers Gillen, Backus, Bohl, Wiedeman, O'Neal, Morrison, Cowan. Also present were City Administrator Pat Heath, City Clerk Kathy Welfl and City Attorney Matt Turman. Absent was Councilmember Shields. Notice of the meeting was given in advance by publication in the Star-Herald, the designated method of giving notice. All proceedings hereafter were taken while the meeting was open to the attendance of the public except as otherwise indicated.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Ewing called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and stated that there was a quorum of the Council present and City business could be conducted.

1. Administer the Oath of Office for re-elected Council Members
 - Pam O'Neal
 - Cody Bohl

City Clerk, Kathy Welfl, administered the Oath of Office to Councilmembers Bohl and O'Neal.

2. Recital of the Pledge of Allegiance and Prayer
3. Roll Call
4. Excuse Council Member absence

Councilmember Wiedeman made a motion to excuse the absence of Councilmembers Bohl and O'Neal from the December 12, 2022 regular City Council meetings. Second by Councilmember Morrison. There was no discussion. Mayor Ewing called the vote. "AYES": Gillen, Backus, Bohl, Wiedeman, O'Neal, Morrison, Cowan. "NAYS": None. Abstaining: None. Absent: Shields. Motion Carried.

OPEN MEETINGS ACT - NEB.REV.STAT. CHAPTER 84, ARTICLE 14

Mayor Ewing stated: As required by State Law, public bodies shall make available at least one current copy of the Open Meetings Act posted in the meeting room. Agenda items may be moved up or down on the agenda at the discretion of the Mayor. As required by State Law, additions may not be made to this agenda less than 24 hours before the beginning of the meeting unless they are considered under this section of the agenda and Council determines that the matter requires emergency action.

CONSENT AGENDA:

(Items under the Consent Agenda are proposed for adoption by one action for all items unless any member of Council requests that an item be considered separately.)

1. Approve minutes of the December 12, 2022 regular City Council meetings
2. Approve Claims
3. Approval of Fire Department Roster
4. Approval of Volunteer Fire Department LOSAP (Length of Service Awards Program) 2022 Qualified Participants List and Fire Department Firefighters NE State Tax Credit

CLAIMS 12/13/22 – 12/26/22

AC ELECTRIC MOTOR SERVICE \$2,331.22, ACE HARDWARE \$177.50, ACUSHNET COMPANY \$233.77, AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES \$164.79, AT&T MOBILITY \$1,239.87, BENZEL PEST CONTROL \$240.95, BLUFFS FACILITY SOLUTIONS \$253.68, BORDER STATES INDUSTRIES, INC \$404.51, BOX BUTTE COUNTY COURT \$325.52, BRETHOURS HONEYWAGON EXPRESS \$200.00, BRIAN EADS \$202.00, BUSHNELL OUTDOOR PRODUCTS \$189.49, CLARK PRINTING LLC \$219.05, CONNECTING POINT \$28.38, CONTRACTORS MATERIALS, INC. \$1,590.31, CORE & MAIN LP \$2,988.91, CREDIT MANAGEMENT SERVICES \$209.76, CROELL, INC \$389.25, DANKO EMERGENCY EQUIPMENT CO \$240.45, DUSTIN KINNAN \$137.14, DUTTON-LAINSON COMPANY \$2,261.26, EAKES INC \$136.63, ECOLAB \$148.71, ELLISON, KOVARIK & TURMAN LAW \$5,432.50, ENERGY LABORATORIES INC. \$189.00, ESC ENGINEERING \$4,791.52, FASTENAL COMPANY \$70.20, FIRST NATIONAL BANK OMAHA - POLICE \$550.00, FLOYD'S TRUCK CENTER, INC. \$1,317.04, FRANK PARTS COMPANY \$1,587.22, FYR-TEK, INC. \$686.34, GFOA \$170.00, GKEK ENTERPRISES, INC \$1,676.00, HACH COMPANY \$484.95, HOME DEPOT CREDIT SERVICES \$297.92, ICMA MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS \$780.00, IDEAL LAUNDRY AND CLEANERS, INC \$166.12, INDOFF INCORPORATED \$236.74, INGRAM LIBRARY SERVICES \$647.80, INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE \$52,596.75, INTRALINKS, INC. \$119.00, J RODZ \$200.00, JOHN HANCOCK USA \$15,441.85, JOHN HANCOCK USA FIRE \$690.93, JOHN HANCOCK USA POLICE \$7,883.17, JUSTIN BERNHARDT \$275.00, KLUTE INC \$79,763.46, LEE ENTERPRISES \$857.52, LOGOZ LLC \$208.00, LOIS HOUSTON \$80.00, MAC EQUIPMENT \$59,242.80, MATHESON TRI-GAS INC \$163.46, MEAT SHOPPE \$41,991.63, MEL'S MOBILE LOCK & KEY \$540.00, MENARDS \$1,046.26, MILLER & ASSOCIATES CONSULTING ENGINEERS, P.C. \$2,100.00, MUNICIPAL ENERGY AGENCY OF NE \$315,001.88, MUNICIPAL SUPPLY, INC. OF NE. \$4,421.10, NE CHILD SUPPORT PAYMENT CENTE \$640.18, NE DEPT OF REVENUE \$270.37, NE DEPT. OF REVENUE \$47,869.58, NE SAFETY/FIRE EQUIPMENT, INC \$276.00, NEBRASKA

PUBLIC HEALTH ENVIRO LAB \$701.00, NEBRASKA RURAL RADIO ASSOC. \$583.18, NEBRASKA SALT AND GRAIN CO. \$4,341.69, NORTHWEST PIPE FITTINGS, INC \$107.74, PANHANDLE COOP ASSOCIATION \$6,140.76, PANHANDLE ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICE \$1,732.00, PANHANDLE HUMANE SOCIETY \$3,168.50, PANHANDLE REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT, INC. \$134,597.50, PATTLEN ENTERPRISES, INC \$81.17, PRO OVERHEAD DOOR \$444.25, PROTEX CENTRAL, INC. \$140.00, PT HOSE AND BEARING \$179.61, PVB VISA \$13,404.02, QUADIENT LEASING USA, INC \$909.50, REGIONAL CARE INC. \$877.32, RIVERSTONE BANK \$626.11, SANDRY FIRE SUPPLY \$3,076.30, SCB CO. VEHICLE REGISTRATION \$21.00, SCB COUNTY REGISTER OF DEEDS \$50.00, SCB. COUNTY AMBULANCE SERVICE \$316.23, SCB. COUNTY SHERIFF OFFICE \$215.64, SCOTT BIBB \$75.00, SCOTTS BLUFF CO BUILDING & ZON \$65.00, SCOTTS BLUFF COUNTY COURT \$393.21, SCS ENGINEERS \$9,880.00, SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER \$1,200.00, SHAWNA WINCHELL \$820.00, SIMMONS OLSEN LAW FIRM, P.C. \$3,617.50, SOUTHWESTERN EQUIPMENT COMPANY \$2,557.15, STAPLES CREDIT PLAN \$57.98, SUGAR VALLEY FEDERAL CREDIT \$528.37, SUNBELT SOLOMON \$27,946.80, TERRY CARPENTER, INC. \$650.00, THE TORO COMPANY \$155.00, TRANSUNION RISK AND ALTERNATIV \$75.00, TRIHYDRO CORPORATION \$1,007.00, TYLER BUSINESS FORMS \$397.79, TYLER TECHNOLOGIES \$6,190.00, UNANIMOUS, INC. \$585.00, UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD \$3,582.16, VALLEY AUTO LOCATORS LLC \$45.24, VERIZON WIRELESS SERVICES, LLC \$447.36, VIRGINIA TRANSFORMER CORP \$741,423.33, W & R INC. \$1,881.93, WARRIOR RUN \$2,921.78, WESCO RECEIVABLES CORP. \$53,615.63, WESTERN COOPERATIVE COMPANY \$19,378.31, WESTERN PATHOLOGY CONSULTANTS \$71.00, WINSUPPLY SCOTTSBLUFF NE CO. \$419.77, Total \$1,716,776.27

Claims 12/27/22 – 1/9/23

24/7 FITNESS \$346.00, ACE HARDWARE \$146.78, ALLO COMMUNICATIONS \$6,465.40, AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES \$216.08, AMERITAS LIFE INSURANCE COPR. \$597.94, ATLAS \$1,151.00, B & C STEEL \$241.16, BENZEL PEST CONTROL \$240.95, BIG MACK HEATING & COOLING \$5,417.75, BILLIE RECTOR INTERIOR PAINTING \$4,200.00, BLACK HILLS ENERGY \$5,351.70, BLUFFS FACILITY SOLUTIONS \$409.96, BORDER STATES INDUSTRIES, INC \$1,235.12, BOX BUTTE COUNTY COURT \$64.26, BRENT ALBERT \$39.65, BRYAN KRANTZ \$33.00, CITY OF GERING \$215.94, CONNECTING POINT \$28.00, CORE & MAIN LP \$867.56, CREDIT MANAGEMENT SERVICES \$209.76, DEARBORN LIFE INSURANCE COMPAN \$130.72, DEMCO, INC \$401.14, DOCU-SHRED LLC \$60.00, DOOLEY OIL \$63.60, DUTTON-LAINSON COMPANY \$2,623.16, EAKES INC \$46.23, ECOLAB \$187.92, ELITE TOTAL FITNESS \$131.00, FASTENAL COMPANY \$245.62, FBINAA - NEBRASKA CHAPTER \$130.00, FIRST NATIONAL BANK OMAHA - POLICE \$550.00, FLOYD'S TRUCK CENTER, INC. \$1,467.15, FRANK PARTS COMPANY \$764.26, FYR-TEK, INC. \$64.69, GRAINGER \$1,581.71, GREATAMERICA FINANCIAL SERVICE \$126.00, GREY HOUSE PUBLISHING \$265.50, HEALTHBREAK, INC. \$5,105.00, HENNING BROTHERS \$332.00, HOME DEPOT CREDIT SERVICES \$246.10, HYDRO OPTIMIZATION & AUTOMATIO \$1,226.60, IDEAL LAUNDRY AND CLEANERS, IN \$415.56, INDOFF INCORPORATED \$93.09, INGRAM LIBRARY SERVICES \$435.76, INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE \$46,529.42, INTOXIMETERS, INC. \$99.00, INTRALINKS, INC. \$3,929.00, IRBY TOOL & SAFETY \$489.13, JIRDON AGRI CHEMICALS, INC \$6,084.90, JOHN HANCOCK USA \$15,291.28, JOHN HANCOCK USA FIRE \$690.93, JOHN HANCOCK USA POLICE \$7,661.97, LEAGUE ASSOC./RISK MANAGEMENT \$1,508.62, LEE ENTERPRISES \$422.34, MAC EQUIPMENT \$235.03, MATHESON TRI-GAS INC \$292.64, MATTHEW HUTT PH.D. \$1,650.00, MEAT SHOPPE \$6,339.49, MENARDS \$1,346.02, MISTY'S CONCRETE FLOORING \$13,825.00, MOBIUS COMMUNICATIONS COMPANY \$30.00, MUNICIPAL SUPPLY, INC. OF NE. \$688.00, MUTUAL OF OMAHA \$4,406.45, NATIONAL AIR & SPACE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION \$35.00, NE CHILD SUPPORT PAYMENT CENTE \$640.18, NE DEPARTMENT OF REV (PR) \$24,110.61, NE SAFETY/FIRE EQUIPMENT, INC \$1,168.00, NEBRASKA MUNICIPAL POWER POOL \$537.00, NEBRASKA PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT \$2,471.18, NEBRASKA RURAL WATER ASSOC. \$275.00, NEBRASKA SALT AND GRAIN CO. \$4,162.32, NEBRASKA SECRETARY OF STATE \$30.00, NMC INCORPORATED \$3,727.77, OCLC, INC. \$171.34, O'REILLY AUTOMOTIVE STORE \$240.47, PANHANDLE COOP ASSOCIATION \$7,892.39, PANHANDLE ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICE \$642.00, PIPE WORKS PLUMBING LLC \$906.57, PRECISION AIR \$150.00, PRINT BROKER \$1,839.28, PROTEX CENTRAL, INC. \$104.86, QUADIENT LEASING USA, INC \$552.65, REGIONAL CARE INC. \$836.90, RIVERSTONE BANK \$629.68, SANDBERG IMPLEMENT, INC. \$83.60, SCB/GERING UNITED CHAMBER OF \$4,129.00, SCHOOL OUTFITTERS \$525.24, SCOTTS BLUFF COUNTY COURT \$325.21, SCOTTS BLUFF COUNTY TREASURER \$15,998.14, SCOTTSBLUFF-GERING UNITED WAY \$141.75, SHAWNA WINCHELL \$300.00, SIRCHIE ACQUISITION CO., LLC \$346.83, SOLUTIONS EAP \$489.10, SPEAK WRITE \$25.06, SPECTRUM PHOTOGRAPHICS \$200.00, SPORTS NEBRASKA \$1,000.00, SUGAR VALLEY FEDERAL CREDIT \$528.37, SYSCO DENVER, INC. \$381.23, TD AMERITRADE \$18,600.00, TEAM CHEVROLET \$375.00, TONY KAUFMAN \$149.41, TRANSUNION RISK AND ALTERNATIV \$150.00, TYLER TECHNOLOGIES \$487.50, TYNDALE \$1,164.14, VALLEY AUTO LOCATORS LLC \$460.31, VERIZON CONNECT \$38.38, VERIZON WIRELESS SERVICES, LLC \$1,562.69, WAREHOUSE FITNESS CENTER \$96.00, WESTERN STATES BANK \$7,563.01, WYOMING FIRST AID & SAFETY \$451.33, YMCA OF SCOTTSBLUFF \$846.00, Total \$263,230.54

Councilmember Gillen made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Second by Councilmember Morrison. There was no discussion. Mayor Ewing called the vote. "AYES": Gillen, Backus, Bohl, Wiedeman, O'Neal, Morrison, Cowan. "NAYS": None. Abstaining: None. Absent: Shields. Motion Carried.

BIDS:

1. Approve purchase of Toro 4000D Wide Area Mower – Parks Department

Parks and Recreation Director, Amy Seiler, stated that Council allotted \$182,000 to the Parks Department to purchase two wide-area mowers. It came to staff's attention that there is a used Toro mower that had come available. The Parks Department could pick it up in February. Staff recommends accepting a bid for a used Toro 4000D Wide-area Mower from LL Johnson Distributing in the amount of \$54,500. There is a trade-in of \$5000 included in the purchase price. Councilmember Morrison asked if there was a warranty. Ms. Seiler replied, there is no warranty. They are inspecting the equipment and if there are any major issues that come up, related to what happened to it before the City purchases it, LL Johnson will cover that.

Councilmember Wiedeman made a motion to approve the purchase of a 2019 Groundsmaster 4000D Wide Area Mower with 749 hours from LL Johnson Distributing for the Parks Department through the State Bid Process in the amount of \$54,500 after trade. Second by Councilmember Bohl. There was no discussion. Mayor Ewing called the vote. "AYES": Gillen, Backus, Bohl, Wiedeman, O'Neal, Morrison, Cowan. "NAYS": None. Abstaining: None. Absent: Shields. Motion Carried.

CURRENT BUSINESS:

1. Approve Personnel Policy Revision: 5.3 Compensatory Time

Councilmember Gillen made a motion to approve the revision to Personnel Policy 5.3 related to compensatory time as presented. Second by Councilmember O'Neal. There was no discussion. Mayor Ewing called the vote. "AYES": Gillen, Backus, Bohl, Wiedeman, O'Neal, Morrison, Cowan. "NAYS": None. Abstaining: None. Absent: Shields. Motion Carried.

2. Approval of Casey L. Dahlgrin, License #1417-A, as Street Superintendent for the purpose of the 2023 Incentive Payment from the Nebraska Department of Transportation

Motion by Councilmember Bohl to approve Casey L. Dahlgrin, License #1417-A, as Street Superintendent for the purpose of the 2023 Incentive Payment from the Nebraska Department of Transportation. Second by Councilmember Wiedeman. There was no discussion. Mayor Ewing called the vote. "AYES": Gillen, Backus, Bohl, Wiedeman, O'Neal, Morrison, Cowan. "NAYS": None. Abstaining: None. Absent: Shields. Motion Carried.

3. Waive the second reading and move the third reading and approval of Ordinance No. 2120 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GERING, NEBRASKA TO DETACH FROM THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF GERING CERTAIN LANDS DESCRIBED HEREIN WHICH ARE LOCATED WITHIN SCOTTS BLUFF COUNTY, NEBRASKA; REPEALING ALL PORTIONS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HERewith; PROVIDING THAT THIS ORDINANCE SHALL BE PUBLISHED IN THE LEGAL NEWSPAPER IN OR OF GENERAL CIRCULATION IN THE CITY OF GERING; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE HEREOF

Councilmember Wiedeman made a motion to waive the second reading and move the third reading and adoption of Ordinance 2120 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GERING, NEBRASKA TO DETACH FROM THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF GERING CERTAIN LANDS DESCRIBED HEREIN WHICH ARE LOCATED WITHIN SCOTTS BLUFF COUNTY, NEBRASKA; REPEALING ALL PORTIONS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HERewith; PROVIDING THAT THIS ORDINANCE SHALL BE PUBLISHED IN THE LEGAL NEWSPAPER IN OR OF GENERAL CIRCULATION IN THE CITY OF GERING; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE HEREOF. Seconded by Councilmember O'Neal. There was no discussion. Mayor Ewing called the vote. "AYES": Gillen, Backus, Bohl, Wiedeman, O'Neal, Morrison, Cowan. "NAYS": None. Abstaining: None. Absent: Shields. Motion Carried.

Councilmember Morrison moved that the Ordinance be designated as Ordinance No. 2120 and the title thereof approved, and that the Statutory Rule requiring Ordinances to be fully and distinctly read on three different days be dispensed with and that the ordinance be passed as read which motion was seconded by Councilmember Cowan. The Clerk called the roll. "AYES": Gillen, Backus, Bohl, Wiedeman, O'Neal, Morrison, Cowan. "NAYS": None. Abstaining: None. Absent: Shields. Motion Carried.

The passage and adoption of the Ordinance having been concurred in by a majority of all members elected to the Council was by the Mayor declared passed.

4. Waive the second reading and move the third reading and approval of Ordinance No. 2121 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF GERING, NEBRASKA, AMENDING TITLE VII, CHAPTER 71, SECTION 71.13 AND TITLE VII, CHAPTER 74, SECTION III, SCHEDULE III OF THE CITY CODE OF GERING, NEBRASKA, PROVIDING FOR AND ESTABLISHING TRUCK ROUTES ON CERTAIN STREETS

WITHIN THE CITY OF GERING, NEBRASKA, PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION IN PAMPHLET FORM, AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE HEREOF

Councilmember Gillen made a motion to waive the second reading and move the third reading and adoption of Ordinance 2121 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF GERING, NEBRASKA, AMENDING TITLE VII, CHAPTER 71, SECTION 71.13 AND TITLE VII, CHAPTER 74, SECTION III, SCHEDULE III OF THE CITY CODE OF GERING, NEBRASKA, PROVIDING FOR AND ESTABLISHING TRUCK ROUTES ON CERTAIN STREETS WITHIN THE CITY OF GERING, NEBRASKA, PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION IN PAMPHLET FORM, AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE HEREOF. Seconded by Councilmember Backus. There was no discussion. Mayor Ewing called the vote. “AYES”: Gillen, Backus, Bohl, Wiedeman, O’Neal, Morrison, Cowan. “NAYS”: None. Abstaining: None. Absent: Shields. Motion Carried.

Councilmember Bohl moved that the Ordinance be designated as Ordinance No. 2121 and the title thereof approved, and that the Statutory Rule requiring Ordinances to be fully and distinctly read on three different days be dispensed with and that the ordinance be passed as read which motion was seconded by Councilmember Wiedeman. The Clerk called the roll. “AYES”: Gillen, Backus, Bohl, Wiedeman, O’Neal, Morrison, Cowan. “NAYS”: None. Abstaining: None. Absent: Shields. Motion Carried.

The passage and adoption of the Ordinance having been concurred in by a majority of all members elected to the Council was by the Mayor declared passed.

5. Approve Ordinance No. 2122 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF GERING, NEBRASKA, AMENDING TITLE V, CHAPTER 50, SECTION 50.02 REGARDING UTILITY BILLS; COLLECTION AND 50.03 REGARDING DISCONTINUANCE OF SERVICE; NOTICE PROCEDURE OF THE CITY CODE OF GERING, NEBRASKA, PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE HEREOF

Councilmember Morrison made a motion to introduce Ordinance 2122 –AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF GERING, NEBRASKA, AMENDING TITLE V, CHAPTER 50, SECTION 50.02 REGARDING UTILITY BILLS; COLLECTION AND 50.03 REGARDING DISCONTINUANCE OF SERVICE; NOTICE PROCEDURE OF THE CITY CODE OF GERING, NEBRASKA, PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE HEREOF. Seconded by Councilmember Cowan. There was no discussion. Mayor Ewing called the vote. “AYES”: Gillen, Backus, Bohl, Wiedeman, O’Neal, Morrison, Cowan. “NAYS”: None. Abstaining: None. Absent: Shields. Motion Carried.

Councilmember Gillen moved that the Ordinance be designated as Ordinance No. 2122 and the title thereof approved, and that the Statutory Rule requiring Ordinances to be fully and distinctly read on three different days be dispensed with and that the ordinance be passed as read which motion was seconded by Councilmember Backus. The Clerk called the roll. “AYES”: Gillen, Backus, Bohl, Wiedeman, O’Neal, Morrison, Cowan. “NAYS”: None. Abstaining: None. Absent: Shields. Motion Carried.

The passage and adoption of the Ordinance having been concurred in by a majority of all members elected to the Council was by the Mayor declared passed.

PUBLIC HEARING: None.

REPORTS:

1. Liaison Report, Oregon Trail Days Board – Councilmember O’Neal

Councilmember O’Neal reported the following:

Oregon Trail Days celebrated the beginning of its second century in 2022 by returning to a full calendar of events including the Vera Dulaney Memorial Art Show held at the Gering Civic Center with the new local sponsor, Platte Valley Bank.

The 35th Annual Nebraska State Championship Chili Cook-Off was held at the Five Rocks Amphitheater, and the Mud Volleyball Tournament (celebrating its 10th year in Oregon Trail Days) had newly revised mud pits thanks to the assistance of the City of Gering.

The Horseshoe Tournament continues to attract more participants and spectators and reflected the growing interest of that activity in the community.

Saturday morning's big parade attracted a great number of spectators although the number of floats were down. On the other hand, the International Food Fair had the most booths and food trucks ever registered for the event and attracted a great crowd who seemed to appreciate the ability to gather in the outdoors once again. The Rod and Custom Car Show celebrated its 25th anniversary on Friday night as well.

This year the Gering City Band performed at Legion Park and perhaps tripled the number of attendees to hear the band perform in a relaxed and pleasant setting.

On Friday morning, the Kiddie Parade was well-attended although there were fewer children which perhaps reflected the fact that fewer childcare organizations participated.

The Old Settlers Luncheons were well attended, although somewhat down from the nearly overflow attendance in the years before the COVID outbreak. The Civic Center and Meat Shoppe continue to provide meals that all enjoy.

Lisa Betz-Marquez organized Safe Ride OTD, occurring on Friday and Saturday nights to provide community volunteers to assist people to safely get to their final destinations those evenings. This is another locally inspired and well-appreciated community activity done on a voluntary basis. Local merchants provided gas cards to help drive people home which was greatly appreciated.

This year, Oregon Trail Days put into action its planned rehabilitation of the landscaping around the Oregon Trail Building with the introduction of rocks acquired locally and the use of a landscaping plan that reflects the types of plants that the early settlers would have experienced as they made their way through the North Platte Valley. Murphy Tractor company was of great assistance in putting in place large rocks as part of the landscape design and the Rockpile contributed six tons of rock mulch to cover the ground. The plantings make the entrance to the building much more welcoming.


Once again, Oregon Trail Days appreciates the assistance of the City in making Oregon Trail Days occur and making Gering a welcoming community for all those who live here and those who look forward to living here.

CLOSED SESSION: (Council reserves the right to enter into closed session if deemed necessary.) None

ADJOURN:

Motion by Councilmember Gillen to adjourn. Second by Councilmember O'Neal. There was no discussion. Mayor Ewing called the vote. "AYES": Gillen, Backus, Bohl, Wiedeman, O'Neal, Morrison, Cowan. "NAYS": None. Abstaining: None. Absent: Shields. Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.



Kent E. Ewing, Mayor

ATTEST:



Kathleen J. Welfl, City Clerk

