

**THE OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE GERING CITY COUNCIL,  
JUNE 22, 2020**

A regular meeting of the City Council of Gering, Nebraska was held on June 22, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. at the Gering City Hall Council Chambers, 1025 P Street, Gering, NE. Present were Mayor Kaufman and Councilmembers Smith, Gillen, Backus, Abel, Wiedeman, O'Neal and Cowan. Also present were City Administrator Lane Danielzuk, City Clerk Kathy Welfl, City Finance Director Renae Jimenez, City Engineer Annie Folck and City Attorney Jim Ellison. Absent was Councilmember Morrison. 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 via video/teleconference to the public and media.

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Mayor Kaufman called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m. The Mayor stated that there was a quorum of the Council present and City business could be conducted.

1. Pledge of Allegiance and Prayer
2. Roll Call
3. Excuse councilmember absence

**Motion by Councilmember Gillen to excuse the absence of Councilmember Cowan from the June 8, 2020 regular meeting. Second by Councilmember Wiedeman. There was no discussion. The Mayor called the vote. "AYES": Smith, Gillen, Backus, Abel, Wiedeman, O'Neal, Cowan. "NAYS": None. Abstaining: None. Absent: Morrison. Motion Carried.**

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

Mayor Kaufman 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 June 8, 2020 regular City Council meeting and the May 29, 2020 special City Council meeting
2. Approve Claims and Financials

Claims

**6-6-2020 to 6-19-2020**

24/7 FITNESS \$430.00; ABSOLUTE PAINTING \$250.00; AC ELECTRIC MOTOR SERVICE \$216.57; ACTION COMMUNICATIONS, INC. \$100.00; ADIDAS AMERICA, INC \$908.29; AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES, INC \$40.99; AMERITAS LIFE INSURANCE COPR. \$1,114.24; ANNA MARIE ALKIRE \$123.72; B & C STEEL \$268.57; BENEFIT PLANS, INC \$744.00; BENZEL PEST CONTROL \$150.00; BETTER CONTAINERS MFG.CO., INC \$180.25; BH MEDIA GROUP HOLDING, INC. \$604.10; BKD RENTALS LLC \$2,154.20; BLACK HILLS ENERGY \$769.83; BLUFFS FACILITY SOLUTIONS \$863.58; BORDER STATES INDUSTRIES, INC \$494.93; BRUCE HOFFMAN \$150.00; CALLAWAY GOLF COMPANY \$2,108.56; CASH \$150.00; CENTURY BUSINESS PRODUCTS \$45.53; CITY INSURANCE FUND \$181,104.85; CITY OF GERING \$20,000.00; CITY OF TORRINGTON \$580.32; CITY PAYROLL TRUST \$4,877.33; CONTRACTORS MATERIALS, INC. \$24.00; CORE & MAIN LP \$1,091.25; CRESCENT ELECTRIC SUPPLY CO. \$83.56; DALE'S TIRE \$35.00; DAS STATE ACCOUNTING-CENTRAL \$163.68; DIAMOND VOGEL PAINT CENTER \$381.45; DIAMOND VOGEL PAINT CENTER \$130.98; DOMINIC WILLIAMS \$150.00; DOOLEY OIL \$214.96; DREAMSHARE PRODUCTIONS LLC \$1,720.00; DUTTON-LAINSON COMPANY \$1,160.52; ECOLAB \$290.75; EJS SUPPLY, LLC \$35,456.00; ELITE TOTAL FITNESS \$233.00; ELLISON, KOVARIK & TURMAN LAW \$18,385.00; FASTENAL COMPANY \$3,807.20; FIRST STATE BANK \$337.53; FLOYD'S TRUCK CENTER, INC. \$8,331.97; FRANK PARTS COMPANY \$380.96; FRASER STRYKER PC LLO \$1,925.00; FYR-TEK, INC. \$312.00; GFOA \$170.00; GROSKOPF MANUFACTURING \$1,560.00; GROUND UP CONSTRUCTION \$590.00; HACH COMPANY \$710.43; HAWKINS, INC. \$199.50; HEARTLAND BANK \$137,538.75; HIGH PLAINS AUTO CLUB \$1,150.00; HOME DEPOT CREDIT SERVICES \$104.68; HYDRO OPTIMIZATION & AUTOMATIO \$120.00; ICMA ELECTRONIC RETIREMENT \$709.74; INDEPENDENT PLUMBING & HEATING \$295.67; INDOFF INCORPORATED \$220.89; INGRAM LIBRARY SERVICES \$737.27; INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE \$45,189.62; JILL LAWS \$300.00; JOHN HANCOCK USA \$14,548.72; JOHN HANCOCK USA POLICE \$6,047.46; JOHNSON CASHWAY CO. \$162.28; JOSE RODRIGUEZ \$95.00; KAREN SUE BRUNTZ \$425.00; KEMBEL SAND & GRAVEL CO. \$274.20; LYLE HART \$150.00; M.C. SCHAFF & ASSOCIATES, INC. \$21,500.00; MATRIX TRUST COMPANY \$556.20; MB KEM ENTERPRISE \$129.00; MEAT SHOPPE \$4,793.28; MENARDS \$144.88; MOBIUS COMMUNICATIONS COMPANY \$30.00; MONEY WISE OFFICE SUPPLY \$234.53; MUNICIPAL ENERGY AGENCY OF NE \$254,605.26; NE CHILD SUPPORT PAYMENT CENTE \$462.93; NE DEPARTMENT OF REV (PR) \$13,992.87; NEB. CLERKS INSTITUTE AND ACA \$100.00; NEBRASKA GOLF ASSOCIATION \$2,858.00; NEBRASKA PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT \$1,906.40; NEBRASKA RURAL RADIO ASSOC. \$576.00;

NEOFUNDS BY NEOPOST \$800.00; NKC TIRE \$207.24; NMC EXCHANGE LLC \$3,237.99; NORTHWEST PIPE FITTINGS, INC \$504.58; OCLC, INC. \$160.66; PANHANDLE COOP ASSOCIATION \$5,900.85; PANHANDLE ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICE \$2,642.00; PANHANDLE HUMANE SOCIETY \$168.50; PATTLEN ENTERPRISES, INC \$56.96; Payroll Checks \$148,033.55; POSTMASTER \$800.00; POWERPLAN OIB \$604.49; R & C WELDING & FABRICATION \$61.25; RECORDED BOOKS, INC. \$31.49; REGIONAL WEST MEDICAL CENTER \$20.11; RUSSELL INDUSTRIES \$185.72; RYAN'S WELDING LLC \$160.00; SANDBERG IMPLEMENT, INC. \$2,584.67; SCB COUNTY REGISTER OF DEEDS \$34.00; SCB COUNTY WEED CONTROL \$565.00; SCOTTS BLUFF COUNTY COURT \$17.00; SCOTTSBLUFF-GERING UNITED WAY \$134.50; SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER \$525.00; SIMMONS OLSEN LAW FIRM, P.C. \$7,420.00; SIMON CONTRACTORS \$1,108.00; SOLUTIONS EAP \$244.55; SOUTHWESTERN EQUIPMENT COMPANY \$21,807.10; STATE OF NEBRASKA \$525.00; STATE OF NEBRASKA \$350.64; SUGAR VALLEY FEDERAL CREDIT \$528.37; TEAM CHEVROLET \$375.00; TERRY CARPENTER, INC. \$650.00; TRIHYDRO CORPORATION \$4,309.50; VERIZON WIRELESS SERVICES, LLC \$626.10; W & R INC. \$544.49; WAREHOUSE FITNESS CENTER \$252.00; WATER ENVIRONMENT FEDERATION \$148.00; WESCO RECEIVABLES CORP. \$41.73; WESTERN COOPERATIVE COMPANY \$4,185.98; WESTERN PATHOLOGY CONSULTANTS \$63.00; WESTERN STATES BANK \$23,154.52; WESTERN STATES BANK - POLICE \$516.00; WYOMING BEARING & SUPPLY \$44.42; YMCA OF SCOTTSBLUFF \$629.00

**Motion by Councilmember Wiedeman to approve the consent agenda. Second by Councilmember Gillen. There was no discussion. The Mayor called the vote. "AYES": Smith, Gillen, Backus, Abel, Wiedeman, O'Neal, Cowan. "NAYS": None. Abstaining: None. Absent: Morrison. Motion Carried.**

**BIDS:** None

**CURRENT BUSINESS:** (Items #4 and #5 were moved up on the agenda by Mayor Kaufman)

**4. Approve and authorize the Mayor to sign Economic Development Assistance Agreement and Deed of Trust related to an LB840 grant and loan for Gering Hospitality Group, LLC**

Larry Gibbs, LB840 Application Review Committee Chairman, addressed Council and stated that the Committee met recently and reviewed several applications. The two that are on the agenda tonight are both related to tourism for Gering. Tourism has been an important issue for Gering for many years. Both applicants were in good condition prior to the Covid-19 pandemic. That has had a detrimental affect on both of them. The affect on both of them appears to be short-term. The LB840 Committee is recommending financing that will help them get through the tough times so they can continue to operate and remain a vital part of our tourism industry. Regarding the Gering Hospitality Group, LLC, the Committee is recommending a \$75,000 loan from the Rural Electric Fund and a \$75,000 LB840 low-interest loan (half of prime) with a ten-year term and a two-year forbearance; in addition a \$50,000 grant based on job retention of the current level of staff (four full-time equivalents) forgiven 20% each year for five years.

Mayor Kaufman explained how the Rural Electric Revolving Loan funds work.

**Motion by Councilmember Wiedeman to approve and authorize the Mayor to sign an Economic Development Assistance Agreement and Deed of Trust related to an Economic Development grant and loans for the Gering Hospitality Group, LLC. Second by Councilmember Abel. There was no discussion. The Mayor called the vote. "AYES": Smith, Gillen, Backus, Abel, Wiedeman, O'Neal, Cowan. "NAYS": None. Abstaining: None. Absent: Morrison. Motion Carried.**

**5. Approve and authorize the Mayor to sign Economic Development Assistance Agreement related to an LB840 grant and loan for Western Nebraska Pioneers**

Mr. Gibbs stated that the Pioneers have been a tremendous success at the City's new stadium and field. Hundreds of people from our community and the surrounding areas have attended and enjoyed games there. It's important that we help keep them going. They were hit a bad time because they were just getting ready for this year's season which complicated things for them. They had a short-term need for financing; the LB840 Committee is recommending a \$25,000 loan for a five-year term with a one-year forbearance and a four-year amortization at 1.625% interest, and also a \$25,000 grant based on a minimum of two full-time equivalents and approximately 30 part-time seasonal employees with a one-year forbearance a 25% forgiven each year for four years after that. This is important for tourism because people don't just come here for the games, they make other purchases in our area.

**Motion by Councilmember Wiedeman to approve and authorize the Mayor to sign Economic Development Assistance Agreement related to an LB840 grant and loan for Western Nebraska Pioneers. Second by Councilmember Gillen. There was no discussion.**

The Mayor called the vote. "AYES": Smith, Gillen, Backus, Abel, Wiedeman, O'Neal, Cowan. "NAYS": None. Abstaining: None. Absent: Morrison. Motion Carried.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

1. Public hearing to consider an application for a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) on Lot 2, Block 2, Greenwalt First Add-Sub of Block 2, otherwise known as 40 S. Kimball Avenue in the City of Gering, Scottsbluff County, Nebraska

Mayor Kaufman opened a public hearing to consider an application for a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) on Lot 2, Block 2, Greenwalt First Add-Sub of Block 2, otherwise known as 40 S. Kimball Avenue in the City of Gering, Scottsbluff County, Nebraska at 6:17 p.m. City Engineer, Annie Folck, presented the administrative record.

**CITY OF GERING  
PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION AND REPORT**

<b>To:</b>	Gering City Council	<b>Date:</b>	June 22, 2020
<b>From:</b>	Planning & Community Development	<b>Zoning:</b>	BHC
<b>Subject:</b>	Recommendation & Report – Conditional Use Permit	<b>Property Size:</b>	1.25 Acres
<b>Location:</b>	Lot 2, Block 2, Greenwalt First Add-Sub of Block 2, otherwise known as 40 S. Kimball Avenue	<b>#Lots/Parcels:</b>	1
<b>Owner:</b>	Adrian Smith		

**Public Notice:** This Public Hearing was noticed meeting City Zoning and Subdivision Regulations.

**Public Hearing**

Mr. Mayor and Council Members,

This is a recommendation and report to consider an application for a Conditional Use Permit on Lot 2, Block 2, Greenwalt First Add-Sub of Block 2, otherwise known as 40 S. Kimball Avenue in the City of Gering, Scottsbluff County, Nebraska.

The project location is an existing storage unit facility. It is currently zoned BHC. The property to the north and east of it is also zoned BHC. The property across the street to the west is zoned BCB, and the property to the south is zoned RM. There is an existing fence that screens the property from the RM zone.

The proposed expansion will consist of eight units, each measuring 50' X 14'. The intent is to rent these units out for RV Storage. According to Section 13.3, the following are the criteria that must be considered for the issuance of a Conditional Use Permit: Access, Parking, Service, Utilities, Screening, Signs, Yards, and Compatibility. With regard to access and parking, very little additional traffic is expected to be generated by this expansion. With regard to service, there will be minimal refuse from the expansion, and so staff is not recommending any dedicated refuse or service areas for the project. The only utility needed will be electrical, which is already available on site. Screening from the RM zone is already in place. No additional signage will be added. The existing sign, which meets all requirements of the City's sign code, may be relocated. The property is currently very similar in appearance to the surrounding properties, and will continue to be similar to properties around it after the proposed expansion is complete.

Staff recommends approval of the Conditional Use Permit and the Planning Commission gave a positive recommendation on June 16, 2020.

**Recommendation**

Approve:

Deny:

Table:

Mayor Kaufman asked if anyone wished to speak in favor of the application. Neal Smith, 1540 Park Terrace, addressed the Council and stated there is quite a demand for not only RV storage, but also for distribution centers for products. Carpenters also use storage units to store their ladders and tools. There is a need for these.

Mayor Kaufman asked if anyone wished to speak in opposition of the application. With no further comments Mayor Kaufman closed the administrative record and the public hearing closed at 6:23 p.m.

**Motion by Councilmember O'Neal to enter the administrative record for this public hearing into the public record. Second by Councilmember Gillen. There was no discussion. The**

Mayor called the vote. "AYES": Smith, Gillen, Backus, Abel, Wiedeman, O'Neal, Cowan. "NAYS": None. Abstaining: None. Absent: Morrison. Motion Carried.

1a. Approve or deny an application for a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) on Lot 2, Block 2, Greenwalt First Add-Sub of Block 2, otherwise known as 40 S. Kimball Avenue in the City of Gering, Scottsbluff County, Nebraska

Motion by Councilmember Gillen to approve an application for a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) on Lot 2, Block 2, Greenwalt First Add-Sub of Block 2, otherwise known as 40 S. Kimball Avenue in the City of Gering, Scottsbluff County, Nebraska. Second by Councilmember O'Neal. There was no discussion. The Mayor called the vote. "AYES": Smith, Gillen, Backus, Abel, Wiedeman, O'Neal, Cowan. "NAYS": None. Abstaining: None. Absent: Morrison. Motion Carried.

## 2. Public hearing to consider an ordinance adopting a new zoning code containing new zoning map

Mayor Kaufman opened a public hearing to consider an ordinance adopting a new zoning code containing new zoning map at 6:24 p.m. City Engineer, Annie Folck, presented the administrative record.

### *CITY OF GERING PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION AND REPORT*

<b>To:</b>	City Council	<b>Date:</b>	June 22, 2020
<b>From:</b>	Planning & Community Development	<b>Zoning:</b>	
<b>Subject:</b>	Recommendation & Report – Zoning Code Adoption	<b>Property Size:</b>	

**Public Notice:** This Public Hearing was noticed meeting City Zoning and Subdivision Regulations.

#### Public Hearing

Mr. Mayor and Council Members,

This is a recommendation and report to consider an Ordinance adopting a new zoning code and new zoning map.

The new zoning code has several changes from the previous code. We have reduced the number of zoning districts from 13 to 10. We have added more flexibility into the application of the zoning code by allowing for a plan review process. This plan review process will allow applicants to propose creative, innovative solutions to meet the objectives of the zoning code that may not fit perfectly within the confines of the code.

Some processes have been changed. Our current zoning code requires Conditional Use Permits to be considered by Planning Commission and then go to City Council for final approval. The proposed zoning code, in accordance with state statute, allows Conditional Use Permits to be approved by Planning Commission, with no requirement that they go before City Council. This will make our community more business friendly by making the CUP process quicker and easier, while still allowing for proper oversight by the Planning Commission.

The zoning code has an accompanying map. This map has been updated to reflect the new names of the zones, and the zones which have been combined. Properties that were formerly zoned RM or RML are now all designated as RM, as those zones have been combined. Similarly, properties that were formerly zoned BHC, BTS, or BEC are now all designated as C-3.

The only changes we have made to the map are at the end of 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, just north of the railroad tracks, and along the 10<sup>th</sup> Street Corridor, between the railroad tracks and Country Club Road. The property located at the end of 3<sup>rd</sup> Street is currently zoned heavy manufacturing and is right in the middle of a residential neighborhood. The property is currently vacant and has a high level of soil contamination that is being cleaned up by the EPA. The new zoning map will designate this area as residential, which is more in keeping with the characteristics of the surrounding neighborhood.

On 10<sup>th</sup> Street, there has been a lot of controversy over the zoning in the past, with several non-conforming uses located in that area. The district has historically been zoned MH. A few years ago, in order to bring more properties into conformance, the City created a BHC overlay. This base zoning district with an overlay district approach was implemented in response to some of the land use transitions that were happening along the 10th Street Corridor in order to allow for more land use flexibility for property owners within the structure of the current regulations. However, moving forward, it is the goal of the City to simplify the regulations and the applicable zoning in this area while retaining greater land use flexibility for the property owners. Therefore, the City is proposing to rezone most of this area to ML, Light Industrial and

Manufacturing. A portion of the area will be left as MH, Heavy Industrial and Manufacturing, and there will be no BHC overlay.

The new zoning code will remove some of the challenges and restrictions that are present in the current zoning code, and the ML and MH zoning districts allow many more permissible uses than they did previously. There will be no nonconforming uses created by this change.

#### Recommendation

Approve:

Deny:

Table:

City Engineer, Annie Folck, stated that this is a long and involved document. She gave a brief overview about the main changes and talked about the map. The process began about two years ago to clean up the document: it has gone from 16 Articles to five; the zoning districts have gone from 13 to 10. The main objective was to make the zoning code business friendly, easier to navigate, easier for staff to enforce and clearer. The current Zoning Code was adopted in 1984 and many things were not addressed in the old code – tiny houses, micro-breweries, things that were non-existent at that time.

Some changes have helped to reduce regulatory burden, Conditional Use Permits will not have to go to Council for approval, the Planning Commission will have the final say. It is allowable by state statute; the Planning Commission can make those decisions unless the code states otherwise. Changes have also been made for staff, giving more flexibility to give relief of certain zoning requirements (within 10% of required performance standards). This means instead of getting a variance from zoning regulations, staff can now have discretion up to 10%.

The old code was confusing, each development had a different zone/overlay associated with it causing many issues. This will be a uniform process, no matter how it differs from the zoning, making it easier for staff and applicants. In the old code there were districts that were not being utilized by any property in the City, this code was very restrictive. These were BTS, BEC & BHC, combined into C3. Now there is also C1 & C2.

The new table will be extremely useful and it will also be more user friendly to anyone wanting to locate in Gering. One can see what is permitted in each zone more easily. Three zones that were combined into C3 and RM & RML are now combined into RM. Both were very similar; now a duplex can be a CUP in RM; it could not be done in RML. This should make more allowable uses.

North of the railroad tracks an area was zoned MH with a BHC overlay; this was a temporary solution but not an ideal solution. Basically, the properties had two zoning districts, that isn't an issue when it comes to uses but for performance standards it caused some problems. MH has an 80-foot height limitation and BHC overlay has a 35-foot height limitation. This zoning needs to be cleaned up. The new zoning code will be able to address this much better. The former industrial districts were more restrictive. Light Industrial can now have more commercial uses. Staff reviewed the areas that needed to be MH and ML. The goal was to make everything along 10<sup>th</sup> Street ML and everything on 7<sup>th</sup> Street MH. There was feedback from property owners after the letters went out and changes were made to the map. Kelly Bean was added to MH (they have no frontage on 10<sup>th</sup> Street) since they had concerns with height limitations. Midwest Auto does have 10<sup>th</sup> Street frontage & they have been there prior and would like to remain as they have been and staff agrees. 10<sup>th</sup> Street and to the west is ML. According to the new table, industrial uses are permitted by right in ML (B&C Steel will remain as permitted uses by right). The 10<sup>th</sup> Street corridor is transitioning.

Another change is the former B&T Metals site. There is just a small area there zoned MH at the end of a residential street; they were completely surrounded by residential (at the end three to four lots were zoned heavy industrial). This area is a Brownfields area that is currently being cleaned up by the EPA; it's a Superfund Site. The idea is to return it back to residential and make it friendly to that neighborhood.

Mayor Kaufman stated our old map looked like a checker board; this was a much-needed activity. We want to be user friendly to our businesses. He thanked staff for what they did to make this come together.

Mayor Kaufman asked twice if anyone wished to speak in favor of this ordinance. Seeing none, he asked twice if anyone wished to speak in opposition of this ordinance.

Ms. Folck added that because this is such a massive document, and such a big thing for our community, staff recommends that Council read it out over an additional meeting rather than waiving the three readings.

With no further comments Mayor Kaufman closed the administrative record and the public hearing closed at 6:43 p.m.

**Motion by Councilmember Gillen to enter the administrative record for this public hearing into the public record. Second by Councilmember O'Neal. There was no discussion. The Mayor called the vote. "AYES": Smith, Gillen, Backus, Abel, Wiedeman, O'Neal, Cowan. "NAYS": None. Abstaining: None. Absent: Morrison. Motion Carried.**

**2a. Introduction and first reading of Ordinance No. # 2088 - AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING COMPREHENSIVE ZONING REGULATIONS, AND PROVIDING FOR THE ADMINISTRATION, ENFORCEMENT AND AMENDMENT THEREOF, FOR THE REPEAL OF ALL ORDINANCES AND REGULATIONS IN CONFLICT HEREWITH; AND PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE HEREOF; FOR THE CITY OF GERING, NEBRASKA**

**Councilmember Gillen made a motion to introduce Ordinance No. 2088 and move the first reading – AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING COMPREHENSIVE ZONING REGULATIONS, AND PROVIDING FOR THE ADMINISTRATION, ENFORCEMENT AND AMENDMENT THEREOF, FOR THE REPEAL OF ALL ORDINANCES AND REGULATIONS IN CONFLICT HEREWITH; AND PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE HEREOF; FOR THE CITY OF GERING, NEBRASKA. Seconded by Councilmember Backus. There was no discussion. The Mayor called the vote. "AYES": Smith, Gillen, Backus, Abel, Wiedeman, O'Neal, Cowan. "NAYS": None. Abstaining: None. Absent: Morrison. Motion Carried.**

#### **CURRENT BUSINESS:**

##### **1. Future Agenda item: Allred Brothers Fireworks Show to be held at Five Rocks Amphitheater**

Justin Allred, 1635 T Street in Gering, addressed Council and stated that he submitted an application to be able to use the Five Rocks Amphitheater for a fireworks show. He thanked City staff for being instrumental in helping them organize this event.

##### **2. Consider approving a Special Event Permit Application submitted by Allred Brothers for a Fireworks Show on Friday, July 3, 2020 at Five Rocks Amphitheater**

**Motion by Councilmember Wiedeman to approve a Special Event Permit Application submitted by Allred Brothers for a Fireworks Show on Friday, July 3, 2020 at Five Rocks Amphitheater. Second by Councilmember O'Neal. There was no discussion. The Mayor called the vote. "AYES": Smith, Gillen, Backus, Abel, Wiedeman, O'Neal, Cowan. "NAYS": None. Abstaining: None. Absent: Morrison. Motion Carried.**

##### **3. Keno Fund Requests**

- **Gering Senior Center, \$550**
- **Monument Marathon, \$3000**
- **Allred Brother's Fireworks Show, \$4500**
- **Old West Balloon Fest, \$8000**

Keno Committee Chairman, Darrell Bentley, addressed the Council. He asked if there were any questions. Councilmember Backus asked if the gift cards for the Balloon Fest would be provided from Gering businesses. Mr. Bentley replied that the Balloon Fest people originally came in with two requests; one for \$10,000 and one for \$8000. They withdrew the one for \$10,000. The one for \$8000 is the same sponsorship the Keno Committee has done ever since they first came in.

**Motion by Councilmember Gillen to approve the Keno Fund requests as presented which is \$550 for the Gering Senior Center, \$3000 for the Monument Marathon, \$4500 for the Allred Brother's Fireworks Show and \$8000 for the Old West Balloon Fest. Second by Councilmember Wiedeman. There was no discussion. The Mayor called the vote. "AYES": Smith, Gillen, Backus, Abel, Wiedeman, O'Neal, Cowan. "NAYS": None. Abstaining: None. Absent: Morrison. Motion Carried.**

Notation: Current Business items #4 and #5 were moved up on the agenda by Mayor Kaufman.

**6. Consider approving and authorizing the Mayor to sign an Interlocal Agreement between the Cities of Gering and Terrytown for Shared Water Operator**

Pat Heath, Public Works Director, stated that the City of Terrytown approached the City of Gering and asked if we would consider being their Water System Operator. They've had difficulties with staff passing the test. Also, due to the Corona Virus, the State has cancelled all testing and classes this year. The State has classified Terrytown as a Grade 3 System due to the number of people they provide water to, so that requires a Water System Operator. It's not the intention that we run their day to day operators, but we'll do the water testing; their engineer will do the technical side of things. We will be reimbursed for our costs, supplies and time. We will advise their staff of things they need to change, but not run the daily operations. It will either be Pat or his staff that will perform the tasks for Terrytown.

**Motion by Councilmember Gillen to approve and authorize the Mayor to sign an Interlocal Agreement between the Cities of Gering and Terrytown for Shared Water Operator . Second by Councilmember Cowan. There was no discussion. The Mayor called the vote. "AYES": Smith, Gillen, Backus, Abel, Wiedeman, O'Neal, Cowan. "NAYS": None. Abstaining: None. Absent: Morrison. Motion Carried.**

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

**REPORTS:**

**1. Liaison report, Councilmember Smith – Central Irrigation District**

Councilmember Smith stated:

- Central Irrigation is one of the older irrigation systems in the area (1898 Water Right)
- They don't have any storage; it's all natural flow
- Regarding the ditch itself - water comes out of the river west of the zoo, comes through Terrytown, goes through the industrial park, crosses Hwy. 92 and turns back on the other side of the Weinhold property – roughly 1000-1500 acres.
- They are the only district that didn't have to borrow money to help for the rebuilding of the Guernsey Dam.
- There are three board members, each board member is from a region along the ditch; he represents Region I.
- They charge about \$20 per acre, which is very reasonable.

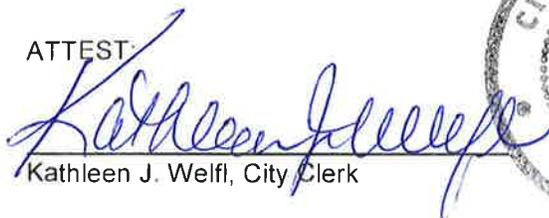
**OPEN COMMENT SECTION:** Mayor Kaufman stated an open comment period will be held. Discussion or action by Council regarding unscheduled business will not take place. None

**ADJOURN:**

**Motion by Councilmember Gillen to adjourn. Second by Councilmember Cowan. There was no discussion. The Clerk called the roll. "AYES": Smith, Gillen, Backus, Abel, Wiedeman, O'Neal and Cowan. "NAYS": None. Abstaining: None. Absent: Morrison. Motion Carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

ATTEST:

  
Kathleen J. Welfl, City Clerk



  
Mark A. Kaufman, Mayor

