

CITY OF ORONOCO

PUBLIC HEARING

January 5, 2004

6:00 PM

Public Hearing held for requested street and alley closures. There was a mix up on the published times; will begin hearing at 6:00 and review requests at 7:00.

Mayor VanSickle opened the Public Hearing at 6:20PM.

1. VanSickle read Kevin McDermott's request to vacate 4th St SE between Block 33, Lot 10 and Block 34, Lot 2; also, 4th St SE between Block 32, Lot 9 and Block 35, Lot 1. ALSO, vacate the remainder of 4th St SE, between Block 33, Lot 9 and Block 35, Lot 2 reduced from a 100' easement to a 20' easement. ALSO, vacate the alleys within Blocks 32, 32, 34, and 35 running north and south; these are between 3rd St SE and 5th St SE, parallels with Minnesota Ave and 2nd Ave SE. ALSO, vacate 1st Ave SE north-south between Blocks 32, 33, 34, and 35. Suggestions from Council were to have an easement run all along 4th St SE; and whether to have the north/south streets and alleys closed and have east west ones left open and just narrowed.

At this point, the meeting was turned over to the Acting Mayor, Jason Ottman to lead discussions for the next request.

2. Ottman read Bruce VanSickle and Pat Hall's request to vacate 7th St SE between 2nd Ave. SE and MN Ave S. VanSickle stated that Mike and Gloria Smith also signed the request; and that 3 out of the 4 property owners that have land on this portion of 7th Avenue have agreed to this request. It was stated that according to the GIS, this portion of 7th St SE is 105' wide. There is no road mapped out to go North/South. Easements run East/West for telephone and cable lines. The question came up if the City lost future easements when closing roads. Clerk Nymann was instructed to find this out.

At this point, the meeting was turned back over to Mayor VanSickle.

3. VanSickle read Barb Vavra's request to vacate the alley on Block 36, between Lots 2, 3 & Lots 1,4; and to vacate 1st Ave SW to the west of Block 36; and 4th St SW, North of Block 36. It was suggested not to close both north/ south and east/west streets; and to leave at least one open. It was noted that there is a steep hill on 1st Ave SW, and it would be unlikely to open that street.

At 7:00 PM, Mayor VanSickle indicated to the Public that there was a mix up of the time in the publication, and that there had already been some discussion and the requests have been read. Now, the Council and Public will go into in-depth discussion on the requests.

4. VanSickle read Adam Exe's request to vacate the alley on the western edge of Block 37, Lots 1, 4, 5, 8; and the northern portion of Block 37 on 4th St SW; and Easterly portion of 1st Ave SW of Block 37. Adam stated that he didn't want to see the 1st Ave SW street opened because of the hill.

Mark Stolp, and Denise Wangsess both voiced their approval of Adam's and the others requests in the area. Council suggested reducing width of the streets.

Request by Barb Vavra:

Barb stated that her intention was to not build on the bigger lot, but to ensure the property remains as it is for the future, and that it would be difficult to put a street through on 1st Ave.

Request by Kevin McDermott:

Kevin explained his request, and that he would like to build a garage between his house and the hill without being on City property. The roadway and alleys aren't doing any good, and they should be vacated, but keep the easements. Charlie Fried indicated that creating vacant lots was not good City business and that either a north/south or east/west roadway should be kept going through this area, and that a 20' easement would be too narrow. It was suggested that vacating all alleys and narrowing streets from the 100' would solve problems.

At this point, the meeting was turned over to the Acting Mayor, Jason Ottman.

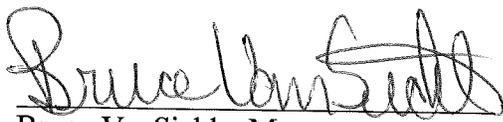
Request by Bruce VanSickle, Pat Hall, Mike & Gloria Smith:

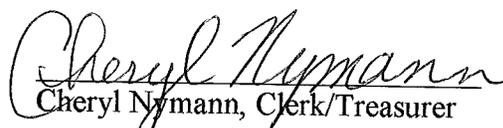
Corey Allen was present, and stated that he owns property between VanSickle's, and Pat Halls off 7th Ave. SE. He stated that he would like to keep access for his property off 7th ST SE. The road is currently closed, not vacated (which means the road has not been developed). Dale Allen was present and requested that VanSickle not vote on this request. Council stated that he wouldn't be.

At 7:35 PM the Public Hearing was closed.

Then the Emergency City Council meeting was opened at 7:36PM.

Respectfully Submitted:


Bruce VanSickle, Mayor


Cheryl Nyman, Clerk/Treasurer