

Gregory City Council Meeting  
February 19, 2007

The Gregory City Council met in regular session at the Gregory City Hall on Monday, February 19, 2007 at 7:30 p.m. The following members were present: Mayor Doug Pochop; Council Members, Wade Juracek, Stacey Boes, Gerrie Soper, Maurice Schlaht and Kevin Mikkelsen. Council Member absent was Dan DeSmet. Others present were Finance Officer Al Cerny, Public Works Superintendent Mark Fortuna and news reporter Colleen Flynn.

AGENDA ADDITIONS:

The following items were added to the posted agenda: auditorium community room usage; city curfew; lifeguards & pool manager, and; Kristi Drey.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion was made by Council Member Boes to approve the February 5, 2007 minutes as written, seconded by Council Member Soper. All members voted aye.

CDBG HEARING:

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING NEEDS ASSESSMENT  
MINUTES OF PUBLIC HEARING

CITY OF GREGORY – INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT (RANCHER’S WELDING)

LOCATION: Gregory City Hall

DATE: Monday, February 19, 2007

TIME: 7:30 P.M.

Mayor Pochop opened the Community Development and Housing Needs Assessment public hearing as required by the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. The Mayor proceeded to explain that the City of Gregory is proposing to submit a CDBG application to assist with the infrastructure improvement project needed to accommodate Ranchers Welding in the Industrial Park.

Mayor Pochop explained that the State of South Dakota has administered the federally funded Community Development Block Grant Small Cities program since 1982. Only cities and counties with populations of less than 50,000 can participate in the Small Cities Program.

Funds are distributed from three separate programs that address three distinct areas of need:

1. Imminent Threat Program
2. Special Projects
3. Community Projects

Funding requirements and the competitive nature of the programs were then discussed. It was emphasized that only those projects demonstrating the most serious need will be funded.

The proposed project was then explained and discussed with those in attendance. The City of Gregory intends to request \$158,500 from the CDBG program for the improvements and \$7,500 for grant administration.

Mayor Pochop called for comments, noting that the purpose of this section of the hearing is to identify community development and housing needs for the City of Gregory and identify activities that could be undertaken to meet these needs. Those in attendance as well as the City Council discussed the community needs and suggested a prioritized list be developed. Hearing participants were asked to identify the major community development and housing needs of the City and discuss activities that could be undertaken to meet these needs. Discussion also centered on what financing is available to undertake some of the proposed projects. It was pointed out that the City could not immediately meet many of the identified needs due to budget limitations. An ability to wholly finance these projects is not within the City's current capacity.

The identified needs and potential activities to address these needs are as follows:

1. Secure community development funds to assist with the infrastructure project in order to accommodate Ranchers Welding;
2. Continue water and waste water development activities. When appropriate, the City will apply for loans and grants;
3. Housing for low and moderate-income persons/families, the elderly and an assisted living facility. Sources of financing may include Rural Development and South Dakota Housing HOME funding. Other innovative programs such as the Governor's House should be encouraged for low-income families; and
4. Capitalize on development opportunities along Highways 18 and Main Street and within the Industrial Park;
5. Continue support of economic development. Finance activities of local development corporation to enable businesses to utilize grants (CDBG) and loans (REDI);

6. Actively pursue funding assistance for larger infrastructure upgrades while maintaining the existing facilities;

In addition to the minutes a sign-up sheet of those in attendance has been attached for the record. Said sheet contains names of elected officials, city staff, consultants and members of the public.

There being no further comments, Mayor Pochop declared the hearing closed at 7:40 P.M.

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Al Cerny, Finance Officer

**KRISTI DREY:**

Kristi Drey met with the council to ask for a raise in doing the park mowing for the summer of 2007. She was making \$7.00 per hour in 2006. The park committee recommended a \$1.00 per hour raise to \$8.00 per hour. The council agreed with the recommendation.

**DEPT. HEAD REPORT:**

Mark Fortuna reported that the City of Fairfax wanted help with a sewer man-hole. The council agreed that the city should help them.

There are some trees at the golf course that need to be cut or moved.

Rural Water tried to check the water meter at the east well field but the pumps caused too much turbulence to get an accurate reading. The piping will be re-done, which may help get the meters give a more accurate reading. A request was made to cement the east half of the street dept. shed. Fortuna will get quotes for the concrete work.

**OLD WATER METERS:**

Motion was made by Council Member Mikkelsen to declare the old water meters as surplus property with a value of \$3.00 per meter, seconded by Council Member Soper. All members voted aye.

**FINANCIAL REPORT:**

The January financial report was given. The report included balance sheet and revenue/expenses.

**AIRPORT CONSTRUCTION FOR 2007:**

Some members of the council met with the engineer on Friday, February 16, 2007 to review the plans for airport construction in 2007. Bids will be let 30-60 days after Congress approves the funding. The project will include:

1. Fixing the SE 700' of the runway.
2. Widening the taxiway to 35'; changing the SE turnaround, and; putting in drainage tile.

**INDUSTRIAL PARK ROAD:**

The SD Dept. of Transportation is running short of funds so the department is proposing to cut back the city's request for help with an industrial park road to the airport. The road would go to the Ranchers Welding building but not to the airport. District III is working on securing some other funding for the road to make up the difference.

**POOL:**

The council reviewed the advertisements for the pool manager and lifeguard positions. The closing date for applications will be Monday, April 2, 2007.

**AUDITORIUM COMMUNITY ROOM:**

Wade Juracek reported that he had some inquiries asking if the fitness trainer using the auditorium community room was paying any rent. After some discussion, the council agreed to propose a rental fee of \$50.00 per month from October through April and \$30.00 per month from May through September.

**CURFEW:**

The city ordinance on curfews was reviewed. It applies to 16 year olds and younger. Some curfews from other cities will be reviewed at the next council meeting to help update the current curfew ordinance.

**STREET PAVING:**

Darold Frasch asked if the city could help promote building new houses on vacant lots if the city would pave and curb and gutter the streets. It was agreed this would help promote housing, but the cost is just too expensive for the city to do on their own.

**CLAIMS:**

Motion was made by Council Member Juracek, seconded by Council Member Schlaht to pay to the following claims as presented. All members voted aye.

**GENERAL FUND:**

Buche Foods, batteries .....	5.29
Hawkins Inc., certified pool operators course/Fortuna & Jacobsen ..	430.00

Johnson Eklund Law Office, legal services .....	810.87
Louie's Grocery, cleaning supplies.....	26.46
National Arbor Day Foundation, membership fees .....	30.00
Office Products Center, copy machine maintenance .....	515.30
South Dakota Airports Conference, registration fees .....	150.00
Verizon Wireless, February cell phone service .....	243.05

Total \$ 2,210.97

AIRPORT CAPITOL IMPROVEMENT 2005

Helms & Associates, airport layout plan engineering fees .....	3,135.75
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Total \$ 3,135.75

AIRPORT CAPITOL IMPROVEMENT 2007

Helms & Associates, runway & taxiway engineering fees.....	32,169.18
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Total \$ 32,169.18

WATER FUND:

Hawkins Inc., container demurrage .....	5.00
One Call Systems Inc., locate ticket .....	1.00
SD Assn. of Rural Water Systems, conference registration fees.....	160.00
Sioux Pipe Inc., corp stop/saddle/copper .....	375.09
Verizon Wireless, February cell phone service .....	41.94

Total \$ 583.03

Grand Total \$ 38,098.93

PAYROLL OVERTIME APPROVED:

Mark Fortuna, 2.5 hrs overtime; weekend water duty 1/27-28/07  
Michael Jacobsen, weekend water duty 2/10-11/07  
Jack Wenger, 9.5 hrs overtime; weekend water duty 2/18/07

2-9-07 PAYROLL:

BankWest, withholdings .....	2,709.31
SDRS, retirement .....	1,395.62
Aflac, insurance .....	31.80
Office of Child Support Enforcement, child support payment .....	230.77
Credit Collections Bureau, wage garnishment.....	80.00

Finance Officer .....	1,467.20
Police Dept.....	3,862.50
Street Dept .....	3,045.00
Airport.....	212.00
Library.....	645.50
Economic Development.....	200.00
Water Dept.....	2,160.00

AMBULANCE PAYROLL JANUARY 2007:

BankWest, withholdings .....	908.91
Ambulance .....	3,839.00

COUNCIL POSITIONS:

There are council positions open in Ward I, II and III. The deadline for filing nominating petitions is 5:00 p.m. on Friday, February 23, 2007.

ADJOURN:

Motion was made by Council Member Schlaht to adjourn, seconded by Council Member Juracek. All members voted aye.

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Doug Pochop, Mayor

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Al Cerny, Finance Officer