

City of Gregory

City Council Meeting Minutes

Monday, October 2, 2023 | 6:00 PM

Gregory City Hall, 120 W 6th St, Gregory, SD 57533

The Gregory City Council met in regular session on Monday October 2, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. with Mayor Al Cerny presiding. The following City Council members were present: Ashley Lozano, Cory Graber, Darwin Grim, Guhner Kepler and Maurice Schlaht. Absent was Kristi Drey. Also present were News Reporter Patty Connealy, City Attorney Amy Bartling Jacobsen, Police Chief Ryan Cook, GED Director Rachelle Bloom, Chamber Director Ana Smiley, Public Works Superintendent Josey Larsen, and Finance Officer Trudy Waterman. Also present was Pool Committee member Alex Hamilton.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Agenda

An addition was made to the agenda to discuss the Highway Safety Grant awarded to the City of Gregory previously applied for by former Police Chief Catts and then Officer Ryan Cook. With no other additions, motion was made by Ashley Lozano, seconded by Cory Graber to accept the agenda. All ayes. Motion carried.

Minutes

Cory Graber requested the minutes from the September 18, 2023, meeting be adjusted to identify the business donor of the Pool Fundraiser Vehicle as Frontier Motors Ford, Inc. Motion to accept minutes with adjustment made by Cory Graber, seconded by Maurice Schlaht. All ayes. Motion carried.

Public Forum

There were no members of the public present to speak.

Department Head Reports

Ana Smiley, Director of the Chamber of Commerce, reported to the Council that the Harvest Festival event had been a great success and was well attended despite the last minute need to move indoors. Ms. Smiley stated that she had attended a conference in Oacoma, SD and that she had spoken to many

individuals in her position and how their cities classify the Chamber Director position. Ms. Smiley reiterated on the upcoming business class that will address businesses and social media and stated she would present the Chamber's budget report at the October 16th meeting.

Josey Larsen, Public Works Superintendent, provided updates on the two buildings on Main Street and presented to the Council a contractor name to repair and stucco the side of the theater building. The Council voiced reservation concerning the cost and whether the city should accept the burden of the cost. Mayor Al Cerny stated that the Council can move in good faith or wait for the Theater Committee to request the money. An agreement was reached that the Council would consider paying for the job when a bid was received, and the cost could be discussed. Mr. Larsen also stated that the remodel for the party interested in moving into the other building was moving forward.

Police Chief Ryan Cook stated that they had received a quote on the cameras to be added to the auditorium, but that we were waiting for the school to decide if it fit their budget as the cameras are a cost share with the city. If the school decides to move forward, Chief Ryan Cook will bring that before the council. Chief Cook stated that he and City Attorney Amy Bartling were working together to change the wording on the City Ordinance relating to mobile homes and travel trailers in town, the amount of time they can be parked and occupied and where they can be parked. The definition of travel trailer will be expanded to encompass more recreational vehicles.

Committee Reports

There were no committee reports.

Conflict of Interest

There were no conflicts of interest.

New Business

Motion made by Cory Graber, seconded by Ashley Lozano to move to the Board of Adjustment. All ayes. Motion Carried.

Messerschmidt Permit

Rick & Anita Messerschmidt presented a request for a building permit to add a detached garage to their property at 306 Spencer Ave. The placement of the garage also required an eight-foot variance to allow for the terrain and accommodate placement of the garage. Mayor Al Cerny cited the City Code allowing for the variance and stated that the PNZ committee had given approval to the permit and variance.

Motion made by Ashley Lozano to approve the permit, seconded by Guhner Kepler. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion made by Ashley Lozano to leave the Board of Adjustment, seconded by Maurice Schlaht. All ayes. Motion carried.

Speeding Sign Grant

Police Chief Cook explained the speeding sign grant for three digital signs to be placed in Gregory and presented a breakdown of the project. The signs will cost the City of Gregory \$13,076.55 up front and the city will receive a reimbursement from the program of 80% leaving the cost to the city around \$2600. Our police officers will also be required to work a combined 120 hours of overtime at \$24 hour to increase the highway safety in and around the city and this is also an 80/20 cost share with the grant. Darwin Grim asked about the warranty on the signs and Alex Hamilton stated there is an eight-year warranty. Motion made by Ashley Lozano to accept the terms of the Highway Safety Grant, seconded by Darwin Grim. All ayes. Motion carried.

Pool Committee Fundraiser

Request by the Pool Committee for a one-day liquor permit for the fund raiser event on October 7, 2023 at the city auditorium. Motion to approve the permit, seconded by Maurice Schlaht. All ayes. Motion carried.

Family Dollar Wine and Malt Beverage License

Motion made by Darwin Grim, seconded by Ashley Lozano to approve the Wine & Malt Beverage License for Family Dollar. All ayes. Motion carried.

GED Discussion of City Lots

GED Director opened the conversation with the success of the Farm-to-Table event. Stating that 64 plates were sold at the event and that an additional \$1400 in donations were received. Ms. Bloom moved forward with discussion of the City of Gregory entering into a Land Use agreement with the GED for the use of the empty lots on Main Street to move forward with more downtown plans. The council seemed favorable to this proposal. Mayor Al Cerny was also presented a letter of interest for the purchase of the empty lot. Attorney Amy Bartling voiced concerns about the possible addition of a building in the space and stated there would need to be guidelines and requirements for the potential building to maintain the esthetic of our downtown area. The City Council agreed to stop the conversation on the lot at this meeting until more information could be brought to the table.

Ashley Lozano was called away from the meeting.

Renew Gregory County Sheriff Contract

Mayor Al Cerny stated that the terms of the contract presented by the Gregory County Sheriff were the same as last year. Motion to approve the contract made by Guhner Kepler, seconded by Maurice Schlaht. Darwin Grim abstained from the vote. Voting was halted due to the lack of a quorum and the vote was moved to the next meeting October 16, 2023.

Fundraiser Vehicle

Alex Hamilton, representing the Pool Committee, requested \$10,000 from the City of Gregory toward the purchase of the pool fundraiser vehicle to be raffled off. Mr. Hamilton stated that Frontier Motors Ford, Inc., is providing a new Bronco and donating \$7,500 toward the purchase of the vehicle. The winner would be responsible for title, taxes, and tags on the vehicle. The Pool Committee hopes to sell 1000 tickets at \$100 each and ultimately raise \$100,000 toward the new city pool. The vehicle will make its debut at the Homecoming Parade in Gregory, Friday October 6, 2023. Motion to give the Pool Committee the \$10,000 toward the vehicle made by Darwin Grim, seconded by Corey Graber. All ayes. Motion carried.

Greenlight Dispensary

Approval of the 2023 Medical Marijuana city permit. Motion to approve made by Darwin Grim, seconded by Guhner Kepler. All ayes. Motion carried.

Concrete Crushing

Mayor Al Cerny presented a bid from Northern Materials, LLC to crush concrete piles in Gregory. The bid was for \$8.75/T with a minimum of 2000T resulting in a cost of \$17,500. The concrete can be used around the city or sold at a set price for picked-up and additional cost if delivered. Motion to approve crushing bid made by Cory Graber, seconded by Maurice Schlaht. All ayes. Motion carried.

Whitepipe Surplus

The city will reopen the bidding on surplus items associated with the Whitepipe house at 524 E 6th. The items will be listed in the paper and the bidding will reopen November 6th, 2023. The following items are

listed as surplus, not personal property, by the City of Gregory: Woodburning fireplace with tile. Unpainted woodwork and trim. Oval glass front door. Numerous stained or leaded glass windows. Concrete pillar and wrought iron exterior fence. Motion to approve items and receive bids in November made by Maurice Schlaht, seconded by Guhner Kepler. All ayes. Motion carried.

Claims Associates

Review of letter from Claims Associates, the City of Gregory’s insurance company, states that Trenton Seegers did not meet the definitions of a city employee therefore the claim could not be paid to recover the Chamber of Commerce Funds. Mayor Al Cerny suggested that the council leave Ms. Smiley in her current position and arrangement until the end of the year but suggested the Council and Chamber work together to come up with an alternative way to support the Chamber Director position. Ms. Smiley suggested a couple of other ways that other cities handle the Chamber/City relationship. The conversation was tabled until more ideas or strategies could be explored.

Claims to Pay

CLAIMS REPORT	REFERENCE	AMOUNT
VENDOR		
AFLAC	AFLAC	495.70
APPEARA	TOWELS/HANCLNR/AIRFRESH	57.60
BIRKEL DIRTWORK&EXCAVATION LLC	7 HRS SNOW/DEMOLITION 2 BLDG	3396.60
CITY OF GREGORY	EQUIP REIM	75.00
DAKOTA PUMP LLC	REPLACE POE ADAPTERS	50.00
DIVISION OF CHILD SUPPORT	CHILD SUPPORT	505.92
EFTPS	FED/FICA TAX	5130.93
GALLS LLC	UNIFORM/GEAR - CLAUSSEN	897.93
GREGORY BUILDING CENTER	PIPE, FOAM, CASEMENT	1177.67
GREGORY HIGH SCHOOL	SPONSOR SCHOOL ANNUAL AD	30.00
GREGORY PUBLIC LIBRARY	SUPPLIES/BOOKS	1092.24
GREGORY SCHOOL DISTRICT	REIMBURSE 1/2 AUD REPAIR	8319.65
HAWKINS INC	CHLORINE CYLINDERS	832.01
HEALTH POOL OF SD	HEALTH INSURANCE	6195.86
KLEIN'S TRUE VALUE	SUPPLIES/MATERIALS	109.44
MARTY JUNG	CLOTHING REIMBURSEMENT	66.37
MUTH ELECTRIC INC	REPAIR AIRPORT BEACON LIGHT	3873.53
OFFICE PRODUCTS CENTER	SUPPLIES/SERVICE	255.24
PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY	WATER TESTING	314.00
PURVIS ELECTRIC	STREET DEP-FIX FUEL TANK WIRES	806.12
ROSEBUD ELECTRIC COOP INC	ELECTRIC PAYMENT	5736.50

SCHMUCKER PAUL NOHR AND ASSOC	STREET- SHOP CONST COST	2488.75
SDRS	SDRS	4493.76
SDRS SUPPLEMENTAL RETIREMENT	SUPPLEMENTAL	550.00
TRANSOURCE TRUCK & EQUIP INC	LOADER PARTS/FREIGHT	243.42
US POSTAL SERVICE	WATER BILLING POSTAGE	303.96
WILSON'S HEATING & COOLING	LIBRARY A/C-PARTS/LABOR	1900.00
WM KROTTER CO	STREET- SANDBAGS FOR SIGNS	215.76
Accounts Payable Total		49613.96
Invoices: Paid		11555.27
Invoices: Scheduled		38058.69
Payroll Checks		20256.35
***** REPORT TOTAL *****		69870.31

Motion to pay the claims made by Maurice Schlaht, seconded by Guhner Kepler. All ayes. Motion carried.

At 7:15 the Council voted to move into Executive Session. Motion made by Guhner Kepler, seconded by Darwin Grim. All ayes. Motion carried.

At 7:18 the Council moved into Executive Session to discuss personnel. At 7:25 Mayor Cerny took the council out of executive session. No action was taken.

Adjourn

Motion made by Guhner Kepler, seconded by Darwin Grim to adjourn. All ayes. Motion carried.

Mayor Al Cerny

ATTEST: _____

Trudy Waterman Finance Officer