

City of Gregory
City Council Meeting Minutes
Monday, November 4, 2024 |6:00 PM
Gregory City Hall 120 W 6th St Gregory, SD 57533

The Gregory City Council met in regular session on Monday, November 4, 2024, at 6:00 pm with Mayor Al Cerny presiding. The following City Council members were present: Ashley Lozano, Kristi Drey, Guhner Kepler, Cory Graber, Laura Petersen, and Maurice Schlaht. Also present were Library Director Tara Engel, News Reporter Patty Connealy, City Attorney Amy Bartling, and Finance Officer Trudy Waterman. Visitors were Rachelle Bloom, Halee Hoffman, Bernice Klein, and Roger Petersen.

6:00 Pledge of Allegiance

Agenda Corrections/Additions/Approval Motion to approve the agenda made by Ashley Lozano, seconded by Kristi Drey. All ayes. Motion carried.

Approval of the Minutes from the Regular Meeting October 21, 2024 Motion to approve the minutes from the October 21, 2024 meeting made by Kristi Drey, seconded by Laura Petersen. All ayes. Motion carried.

Correction to the Minutes from the Special Meeting October 17, 2024 Motion to change the minutes to read Laura Petersen absent due to conflict of interest made by Guhner Kepler, seconded by Maurice Schlaht. Five (5) ayes. Motion carried. Laura Petersen abstained.

Public Forum- None

Department Head Reports- Library Director Tara Engel reported that 81 students have attended four STEM events at the library. The events will be Mondays in November (excluding 11/11 for Veterans Day). Nov 16th 2-3:30 is SD Storytime and the Guest Reader will be the State Librarian, other guests will include the Gregory Police Dept and Rescues Unlimited. The library is also receiving a Gregory Community Foundation Grant and a 3rd Pilgro Grant for Junior Books.

Committee Reports-

- Laura Petersen asked for more clarity regarding the city's process for selling lots.
- Guhner Kepler asked if the city could reach out to the school and try to put together a better Auditorium maintenance program.
- Laura Petersen invited more Council Members to join the GED to form a committee regarding the future of the old Gregory school building.

Conflicts of Interest- Laura Petersen has stated she will remove herself from the Council table during the discussion of item B.

Old Business- None

New Business-

A. Building Permit- Weller-Ramp

Motion to enter Board of Adjustment made by Kristi Drey, seconded by Cory Graber. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the permit for the Weller ramp made by Ashley Lozano, seconded by Laura Petersen. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion to exit Board of Adjustment made by Cory Graber, seconded by Kristi Drey. All ayes. Motion carried.

6:19 Finance Officer Trudy Waterman attempts to call Anne Harding to include the discussion of Item B. Ms. Harding does not answer, left a message that the Council would move on with the meeting.

B. Block 1 Gregory Heights Addition Alley Petition Item references petition to vacate the alley in Block 1 in the Gregory Heights Addition and give 20' of the property between the lots to the residents on the east side of the block. Outside Counsel stated that 100% of the adjoining neighbors would have to sign the petition to be a legal request and secondly, if the Council vacated the alley, the property would have to be divided down the middle of the alley with each resident getting equal amounts of the vacated area. **Motion to deny the petition based on the outside attorney's findings made by Guhner Kepler, seconded by Cory Graber. Five (5) ayes. Motion carried. Laura Petersen abstained.**

6:33 Anne Harding called into the meeting for the duration of the alley discussion. She was advised that we would not start the Alley part of the meeting over but was given a brief summary of the first motion.

Further discussion included the Council's discussion to not require the fence, or the tree, removed at this time as no one currently needs access all the way through the alley, but made it clear that anyone that did think they needed full access could potentially take the issue to the court, but at their own expense. **Motion to leave the alley unimproved and as is, made by Kristi Drey, seconded by Guhner Kepler. Five (5) ayes. Motion carried. Laura Petersen abstained.**

C. Health Pool of South Dakota Annual Renewal The cost of 100% single coverage for 2025 will be \$893.70 per employee with an employee paid deductible of \$1,000.00 each. Motion to approve the annual renewal for 2025 made by Laura Petersen, second by Ashley Lozano. All ayes. Motion carried.

D. Expand Job Notice Advertising Discussion to expand the job notice to three positions including Public Works Superintendent, Street Maintenance, and Snow Removal. Discussion to advertise in the paper(s), add radio advertising @ \$140.00 for twenty spots, notify Job Service in Winner, and change wage to DOE.

E. Northern Plain LLC Pay Claim Northern Plain LLC has submitted a first pay request for materials stockpiled for the Phase I project beginning in spring of 2025. The first claim is \$709,226.07. Mayor Cerny is requesting permission to pay the claim when the funding is received from the SD DANR. Finance Officer Trudy Waterman will notify the Council when the funds arrive and when the check is mailed. The check, as always, will require two signatures. Motion to pay the claim when the funds arrive made by Guhner Kepler, seconded by Ashley Lozano. All ayes. Motion carried.

F. Trees 108 Felton Alley Two trees in the alley of 108 Felton are on the line between the property owners' lot and the city's right-of-way. Mayor Cerny, Finance Officer Waterman, former Public Works Superintendent Josey Larsen, Councilmember Laura Petersen, and Jason Frasch of Rosebud Electric, have all looked at the trees and Mayor Cerny has asked

the remaining Council to look at the trees as well to decide the City’s stance on them. No action taken. Tabled until November 18, 2024.

G. Pay Claims

CLAIMS REPORT

VENDOR	REFERENCE	AMOUNT
AFLAC	AFLAC- PRE-TAX	801.40
ANSHUTZ COMPANY	ROOF REPAIRS-HAIL	158762.11
APPEARA	SUPPLIES & MATERIALS	147.96
CHESTERMAN COMPANY	CITY HALL WATER	22.00
CORE & MAIN LP	METER & FITTINGS	780.74
CYBERTEK SYSTEMS	IT/BACKUP/SECURITY	551.71
DIVISION OF CHILD SUPPORT	CHILD SUPPORT	896.46
EFTPS	FED/FICA TAX	4093.20
GREGORY BUILDING CENTER	INSULATION FOR SHOP	46.40
GREGORY COUNTY TREASURER	GCS ON CALL 10/18-19	1050.00
GREGORY/DALLAS CHAMBER OF COMM	MONTHLY STIPEND	3125.00
GREGORY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	MONTHLY STIPEND	2267.37
GREGORY PUBLIC LIBRARY	BOOKS/SUPPLIES/TRAVEL	933.54
GREGORY SCHOOL DISTRICT	1/2 COST AUDI HVAC REPAIRS	890.82
HARRY K NAPA	BATTERY-AIR COMP	199.99
HEALTH POOL OF SD	HEALTH INSURANCE	5876.50
MULEHEAD GRAVEL LLC	88.64T GRAVEL	1376.48
OFFICE PRODUCTS CENTER	OFFICE SUPPLIES	110.30
OLSON'S PEST TECNICIANS	513 MAIN-PEST CONTROL	273.75
RICHARDSON LAW FIRM	ALLEY BLK 1 GREGHGTSADD	480.00
ROSEBUD ELECTRIC COOP INC	ELECTRIC PAYMENT	4953.88
SDRS	SD RETIREMENT	4728.02
SDRS SUPPLEMENTAL RETIREMENT	SUPPLEMENTAL RETIREMENT	1650.00
US BANK	ADMIN FEES	660.00
US POSTAL SERVICE	WATER BILLING POSTAGE	328.72
Accounts Payable Total		195006.35

Motion to pay claims made by Ashley Lozano, seconded by Kristi Drey. All ayes. Motion carried.

H. Executive Session- None

I. Adjourn Motion to adjourn made by Maurice Schlaht, seconded by Kristi Drey. All ayes. Motion carried.

Mayor Al Cerny

ATTEST: _____

Finance Officer Trudy Waterman