

City of Gregory

City Council Meeting Minutes

Monday, November 6, 2023 | 6:00 PM

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

The Gregory City Council met in regular session on Monday November 6, 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 Kristi Drey. Absent was Maurice Schlaht. Also present were News Reporter Patty Connealy, City Attorney Amy Bartling Jacobsen, Police Chief Ryan Cook, GED Director Rachelle Bloom, Library Director Tara Engel, Chamber Director Ana Smiley, and Finance Officer Trudy Waterman. Guests were Pleasant View residents, Police Officer Jeremy Atkins, Darlene Dennison, Richard Papousek, and Kristi Roeder.

The meeting was opened at 6:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Agenda Corrections/Additions/Approval

Kristi Drey made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Guhner Kepler. All ayes. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes for the Meeting on October 16, 2023.

Darwin Grim made a motion to approve the minutes from October 16, 2023, seconded by Cory Graber. All ayes. Motion carried.

Public Forum

Darlene Dennison addressed the Council regarding a memorial plaque for Charles Whitepipe to acknowledge his service as a Code Talker in World War II and address the impact that these men had on the outcome of WWII. Mayor Al Cerny agreed it was a good idea and that the Council would look into it. Ms. Dennison also provided two visual examples of potential plaques. Ms. Dennison then addressed the dog-at-large issue here in Gregory reporting that she had a pack of five dogs in her yard one morning. Police Chief Ryan answered Ms. Dennison and explained the Gregory Police Department's procedures for reporting dogs-at-large. Ms. Dennison thanked the Council for their time.

Kristi Roeder acknowledged that the theater had received some spray foam in the cracks along the north wall as a first step to keep the elements out of the theater. She also inquired as to the next step and if a contractor had been found to do a more extensive repair on the wall. Mayor Al Cerny reiterated that we still have heard nothing from any contractors and finding someone to work on the wall has been tough. Ms. Roeder expressed the same frustration that the Council feels in that winter is coming and the theater is not completely protected. Opening day for the winter theater season is November 17, 2023.

Department Head Reports

Rachele Bloom, GED Director announced that Ciavarella Design Group would be here, Wednesday November 8, 2023, at 6:00 PM in the Auditorium meeting room, to present the Downtown Design to the GED, the Council, and the public. There will be chili on a first-come, first-serve basis. All are welcome.

Ana Smiley, Chamber Director, handed out the Chamber financial reports for the last two months. She also said that the tree lighting is set for November 25, 2023, at 7:00 PM. Ms. Smiley closed with a report that the chamber was refused two grants that they had applied for.

Tara Engel, Library Director, handed out the library financial report for October. She also announced that the postage for inter-library purchases and book loans will now be paid by the Gregory Auxiliary Book Club and that the library received a grant that will help purchase 72 new hardcover books of the library's choice. The cost to the library is \$400 and the grant match is \$800. The Lego Club is still going strong as is the Gregory Auxiliary Book Club. Ms. Engel concluded by asking the Council to add Kristen Jacobsen to the next council meeting agenda to discuss her reappointment to the Library Board. Reappointment would be for another three-year term.

Ryan Cook, Chief of Police, reported that the first month of the Speed & Seatbelt program has been successful. Chief Cook also announced that the GPD received another grant that will cover the shipping costs of the new digital speed signs the GPD is getting through the Highway & Safety Grant for Highways 18 & 47.

Committee Reports

Cory Graber stated that Pat Shaffer from the Athletics Club had contacted him about the old Fireworks Stand across from Runnings. He told Mr. Graber that the building is mostly shot and asked if the City of Gregory had another available spot to put a permanent or temporary building. Mr. Graber asked the Mayor and Council to consider any possibilities and that that could be considered at a future time.

Conflicts of Interest

None

New Business:

A. Streets – Phase 1

A contingent of four residents of the Pleasant View Addition addressed the Council regarding their frustration with their streets, stating roads are terrible, they have received no updates, no progress, and nothing official announced.

Mayor Cerny addressed the contingent with information regarding the expected bid process and the hope that work on Phase 1 will begin in 2024 and go into 2025. Mayor Cerny also stated that at this time there is no way to know if Phase 1 will begin on the north or south end of the city. Mayor Cerny also explained that the project was deeper than streets and that to get new streets there had to be a new water and sewer line installed.

The contingent also stated that they had paid their assessment a long time ago and for a long time and were very frustrated that the streets in Pleasant View had had nothing done to them in years when they were promised a three-to-five-year maintenance plan.

Mayor Cerny then explained the process of digging, replacing pipes, a gravel base, and an asphalt layer to finish. He also said that funding was coming from the Bi-Partisan Infrastructure Bill which meant that once the engineers have finalized the plan, the state of South Dakota has 30-60 days to approve the plan before bidding can be opened.

The contingent felt that their sewer and water lines should be fine and that they just needed a new surface. The Council answered that the sewer cameras had been sent down and had reported issues all over the city. The city, as it was built in phases, had different pitches and laterals in the sewer system that can potentially cause severe problems soon and would require the new surface to be replaced again. This would be an expense the city could not afford.

City Attorney Amy Bartling reiterated to the contingent the lack of funding for streets and street projects and that new streets had to be the endgame (expense) tacked onto new sewer and water lines. She also tried to break down the process schedule for Phases I, II & III.

The contingent also stated that there need to be meetings with the engineers before the plans went to bid and that that would only be fair to the residents. The Council strongly retorted that there have been several advertised meetings with the engineers for the public to attend and that no-one came to those meetings.

Mayor Cerny ended the conversation with his, and Supervisor Josey Larsen's, plans to grind some existing streets, level and blade, and contract for some blotter seal or chip sealing to more immediately improve some roads in Gregory. Mayor Cerny also stated that the Pleasant View Contingent could meet with the engineers once the plans are nearing completion and ready to go out for bid.

B. 2024 Liquor License Renewals

Dollar General retail Shear Creation retail Buche Foods package Gus Stop package

Big Ass Liquor package Gregory Lanes retail Mary Bob's Bar retail Triple V LLC retail

Motion made by Kristi Drey, seconded by Darwin Grim to approve all applications for 2024 Liquor Licenses both On and Off-Sale. All ayes. Motion carried.

C. Whitepipe Surplus Bids

The envelopes were opened during the meeting for the items listed on the bid notice for the surplus property related to the Whitepipe House. The results are as follows:

1. Sara & Kevin Mikkelsen	Gate & Fence & Concrete Pillars	\$1000.00
	Oval front door	<u>50.00</u>
		\$1050.00

Motion made by Ashley Lozano, seconded by Guhner Kepler to accept the Mikkelson bid on the above items. All ayes. Motion carried.

2. Richard Papousek	Windows	\$600.00
	Fireplace and Insert	250.00
	Woodwork	<u>250.00</u>
		\$1150.00

Motion made by Guhner Kepler, seconded by Kristi Drey to accept the Papousek bids on the above items.

D. Renew gWorks Municipal Software Program

Motion made by Guhner Kepler, seconded by Ashley Lozano to renew the gWorks Municipal Software program. All ayes. Motion Carried.

E. FEMA Hazard Letter of Commitment

The Letter of Commitment is the City of Gregory’s pledge to participate in the Gregory County Multi-jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan. Motion made by Darwin Grim, seconded by Kristi Drey to commit the City of Gregory to the plan. All ayes. Motion carried.

F. Work Order Changes 1st St

1. There will be two driveway entrances for Dakota Auto (Jason Birkeland), one will be wider than the other. The second change will be adding an approach to Coaches Lawn Service (Richard Stephens) as this lot was purchased after the plans were finalized. These changes will result in a cost increase of approximately \$5,000.00.
2. There has been an overall cost decrease on the project of approximately \$54,000.00.

Motion made by Darwin Grim, seconded by Ashley Lozano to approve the changes on the 1st St project. All ayes. Motion carried.

G. Cost Share on Oven for Senior Meal Center

The total cost, installed, for the new restaurant grade oven is \$20,623.89. The ROCS has asked the City of Gregory to do a 50% cost share resulting in a cost to the city of \$10,311.95. Mayor Cerny stated that the city has annually budgeted \$5,000.00 for the ROCS program but said we haven't tapped it in a while and that the cost would only be \$5,311.95 over that budget.

Motion made by Kristi Drey, seconded by Guhner Kepler to approve the City of Gregory's cost share participation for the oven. All ayes. Motion carried.

H. Claims to Pay

CLAIMS REPORT		
VENDOR	REFERENCE	AMOUNT
ACE'S BACKHOE SERVICE LLC	BACKHOE WORK-SHOP WATER LEAK	1,287.43
AFLAC	AFLAC- PRE-TAX	495.70
APPEARA	ST-TOWELS/HNDCLNR/CVRALLS/ETC	130.44
BLACKSTRAP INC	ROAD SALT	1926.00
CITY OF GREGORY	EQUIP REIM	75.00
CODE ENFORCEMENT SPECIALISTS	CODE ENFORCE - 10/1-31/2023	894.88
CORE & MAIN LP	WATER - MOTOR FOR PUMPHOUSE	418.98
CYBERTEK SYSTEMS	MANAGE IT/PHONE SYS/BACK-UP	475.97
	CONSTRUCTION STRM WATER	
DANR - FISCAL OFFICE	PERMIT	100.00
DIVISION OF CHILD SUPPORT	CHILD SUPPORT	505.92
EFTPS	FED/FICA TAX	4028.95
ELAN FINANCIAL SERVICES	FIN OFF - GOOGLE WORKSPACE	227.35
GOLDEN WEST TELECOMMUNICATIONS	PHONE/INTERNET SERVICE	886.25
GREGORY AMBULANCE SERVICE	AMB-REFUND TREASURY PYMT	1000.00
GREGORY BUILDING CENTER	GEN GOV BLDG-EXPAND FOAM THTR	139.86
GREGORY COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPT	ROAD MAINTENANCE	240.00
GREGORY COUNTY TREASURER	GPD - LW ENF ONCALL 10/20/2023	525.00
GREGORY LIBRARY	PASS THROUGH GRANT	216.31
GREGORY PUBLIC LIBRARY	BOOKS/SUPPLIES	874.62
GREGORY TIMES-ADVOCATE	COUNCIL PUB/LTRHD/POOL ADD LBL	551.09
MARK JACOBSEN	PARK-MOWER PARTS	151.00
HARRY K NAPA	STREET-VEHICLE MAINTENANCE	110.35
HAWKINS INC	POOL-CHLOR CYLNDR FEES	40.00
HEALTH POOL OF SD	HEALTH INSURANCE	6969.03
HELMS & ASSOCIATES	AIRPORT- T-HANGAR DESIGN ENG	4321.61
JEREMY ATKINS	POL DEPT-REIMB GAS RAPID/CANDY	306.61
JIM'S GARBAGE SERVICE	GARBAGE SERVICE	400.00
KLEIN'S TRUE VALUE	SUPPLIES/MATERIALS	53.99

LANES DIESEL REPAIR LLC	SEWER-JETTER TRUCK REPAIR	700.00
LONNIE KLUNDT	PARK-BALLFIELDS WINTERIZE	850.00
MARTY JUNG	SEWER- REIMB WRKSHP/EXAM	
MR. AUTOMOTIVE	ML/GS	173.90
OFFICE PRODUCTS CENTER	SUPPLIES/MATERIALS/MAINTENANCE	360.96
OFFICIAL SECURITY LLC	OFFICE SUPPLIES	308.40
OPPERMAN INC	GPD-AMMUNITION (CST SHARE GCSD	550.00
PETTY CASH	STREET-51.13T GRAVEL/DEL	1113.61
PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY	REIMBURSEMENT	13.03
RDJ SPECIALTIES, INC.	WATER-WATER TESTING	373.00
REXWINKEL CONCRETE INC	GPD-COLORING BOOKS (KID SFTY)	209.30
ROSEBUD CONCRETE INC	ST SHOP-PYMNT 3	110443.48
ROSEBUD ELECTRIC COOP INC	STREET- ST SHOP FLOOR	366.00
ROSEBUD TITLE COMPANY	ELECTRIC PAYMENT	4753.43
RUNNINGS SUPPLY INC.	JENSEN DWN PYMNT/CLS COST	5000.00
RYAN COOK	SUPPLIES/MATERIALS	215.09
SCHMUCKER PAUL NOHR AND ASSOC	GPD- REIMB CAPS	31.86
SDRS	1ST & 4TH ST IMP ENG/EXP	21122.89
SDRS SUPPLEMENTAL RETIREMENT	SDRS- POLICE	4636.40
TRIPP COUNTY WATER USER DIST	SUPPLEMENTAL RETIREMENT	550.00
US BANK	WATER- MONTHLY SERVICE	3000.00
US POSTAL SERVICE	SALES TAX REV BONDS	660.00
US POSTAL SERVICE	WATER BILLING POSTAGE	302.43
VANDERPOL DRAGLINE INC	WATER BILLING POSTAGE	66.00
Accounts Payable Total	PAY REQUEST #1 1ST/4TH ST	162562.91
Invoices: Paid		345715.03
Invoices: Scheduled		10694.40
Payroll Checks		335020.63
***** REPORT TOTAL *****		13635.07
GENERAL FUND		359350.10
3RD CENT SALES TAX		342361.55
WATER FUND		1875.71
SEWER FUND		13285.80
TOTAL FUNDS		1827.04
		359350.10

There was a request to check on an invoice from Rosebud Concrete to the City of Gregory and identify the charge. (Addendum: Bill was for new shop, should have gone to Rexwinkle Concrete, Rosebud Concrete notified).

Motion made by Ashley Lozano, seconded by Guhner Kepler, to approve the claims to pay after confirming Rosebud Concrete Bill. All ayes. Motion carried.

I. Executive Session

At 7:15 pm Mayor Al Cerny requested an executive session. Motion made by Ashley Lozano, seconded by Cory Graber to move into executive session. All ayes. Motion carried.

At 7:46 pm the Council exited executive session.

Results of the Executive Session: Motion was made by Guhner Kepler, seconded by Kristi Drey to impose a five (5) day loss of pay on the salary of Jeremy Atkins to be paid by December 31, 2023. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

J. Adjourn

Motion made by Kristi Drey, seconded by Ashley Lozano to adjourn the meeting. All ayes. Motion carried.

Mayor Al Cerny

ATTEST: Trudy Waterman, Financial Officer