

City of Gregory
City Council Meeting Minutes
Monday, June 5, 2023 | 6:00 p.m.
Gregory City Hall, 120 W 6th St, Gregory, SD 57533

The Gregory City Council met in regular session on Monday, June 5, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. with Mayor Al Cerny presiding. The following members were present: Kristi Drey, Guhner Kepler, Darwin Grim, and Maurice Schlaht. Absent were Council Members Cory Graber and Ashley Lozano. Also present were News Reporter Patty Connealy, Assistant Finance Officer Jennifer Keegan, Chief of Police Doug Catts, Chamber Director Ana Smiley, Chamber Board Member Liz VanOvershelde, Chamber Intern Natalie Smith and guest Ryler Stevicks.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Cerny congratulated the Gregory Boys for their team title at state track.

Agenda

Motion was made by Kristi Drey, seconded by Darwin Grim, to approve the agenda with the following additions: Public Nuisance House Complaints Update and Gate Opener for Airport, (\$6,600). All members voted aye; the motion carried.

Minutes

Motion was made by Darwin Grim to approve the regular minutes from 5/15/23 and the special meeting minutes from 5/22/23, seconded by Kristi Drey. All members voted aye; the motion carried.

Public Forum

Melvin Vosika commented that he has been helping elderly residents mow their lawns and encouraged others to do the same. He also expressed his interest in the property at 6th & Logan Avenue (Whitepipe house) that was recently turned over to the City of Gregory from the county.

Ryler Stevicks asked whether the 4th of July Parade route would be changed this year.

Dept. Head Reports

Chamber Director Ana Smiley presented the council with a new route for this year's 4th of July Parade. Smiley also handed out an income/expense report and her work log for the chamber. Smiley informed the council that the chamber is sponsoring Rib Fest on Sat., June 10, 2023 from 5-9 p.m. at the Gregory City Park. Natalie Smith, the chamber's intern, was introduced.

Police Chief Doug Catts reminded the council the police department will be hosting a bike rodeo and registration on Sat., June 10, 2023 in front of the police station from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Catts collaborated with Ana Smiley on the new parade route and has been preparing for this year's carnival and parade. His work on the highway safety grant is in process. This grant will help pay for new solar speed signs.

Conflict of Interest

Conflicts of interest were stated as none with the new business portion of the agenda.

New Business

Building Permits

Motion was made by Kristi Drey to enter the board of adjustment to discuss building permits, seconded by Guhner Kepler. All members voted aye; the motion carried. Mayor Cerny presented the following

building permits: West River Haven, shed; Kevin Mikkelsen, above ground pool; and Jason Nebola, garage. Mayor Cerny stated that the planning and zoning board made the recommendation to approve the three building permits. Motion was made by Maurice Schlaht, seconded by Darwin Grim, to approve the three building permits presented. All members voted aye; the motion carried. Motion was made by Kristi Drey, seconded by Darwin Grim, to exit the board of adjustment. All members voted aye; the motion carried.

Summer Youth Rec Concession Stand and Groundskeeper

Contracts for the concession stand worker at the little league complex and for the groundskeeper for dragging, chalking, and lining up umpires for all baseball fields for all games were discussed. Nick Reber, Summer Youth Recreation President, was present and advised the council that the Summer Youth Rec board had met. He thanked the council for their support. Motion was made by Kristi Drey, seconded by Maurice Schlaht, to approve the 2023 concession stand employment contract with the city paying \$1600 for the season with any bonuses or remaining to be paid by the Summer Rec Committee. All members voted aye; the motion carried. Motion was made by Kristi Drey, seconded by Darwin Grim, to approve the 2023 groundskeeper contract with the city paying \$1500 for the season with any bonuses or remaining to be paid by the Summer Rec Committee. All members voted aye; the motion carried.

One-Day Liquor License - Gregory Community Foundation

Motion was made by Kristi Drey, seconded by Guhner Kepler to approve the one-day liquor license for the Gregory Community Foundation's Polka Fest at the 4-H building in the Gregory City Park on June 30, 2023. All members voted aye; the motion carried.

Planning & Development District III Agreement for Services

Mayor Cerny stated that District III provides high value services. District III has sent the city a statement of extension and asked the council to indicate their intention to join as a member for 2024. Motion was made by Maurice Schlaht, seconded by Kristi Drey, to approve the extension with District III in the amount of \$2,596.00. All members voted aye; the motion carried.

Consumers Federal Credit Union Signatures

Motion was made by Darwin Grim, seconded by Maurice Schlaht, to approve removing Alex Hamilton as a signer from the city's account at Consumers Federal Credit Union, and adding Al Cerny as an approved member on the account. All members voted aye; the motion carried.

6th & Logan Property

With the city recently taking over possession, the next steps were discussed on the house at 6th & Logan Avenue. Mayor Cerny reminded the council that the reason the city took over possession was so that they could control what happened to the house. The Whitepipe family has asked that they be able to remove some personal items from the property. The council agreed to give them until July 15, 2023. Melvin Vosika stated his interest again in the property and said he would tear down the house. The council agreed to table any decision on what the next steps should be.

1st & 4th Street Bid Notice

Bid notice for the 1st & 4th Street Project has been published. Bid opening for the 1st and 4th Street Utility and Street Improvement Project will be held on June 15, 2023 at 10:30 a.m. and Gregory City Hall. The hopes are to get the 1st Street Project done this year which includes two blocks of shaping the street, paving, and curb and gutter to the of end Joel Bartling's lot.

Taggart Maintenance Agreement

The council considered an agreement for the maintenance of the West 15' of Lot 45 Hills Addition to the City of Gregory, by grading and graveling the space and providing snow removal in the area when they are maintaining the adjacent alley between Lots 44 and 45 in Hills Addition. Mayor Cerny advised the council the agreement could be canceled with a 30-day notice by either party. The council agreed to table their decision to review the city attorney's final version of the agreement.

City Planning Meeting

Mayor Cerny invited Kari O'Neill, with SDSU Extension, to come and help the city council develop a five-year strategic plan and mission statement for the city. The council agreed to meet with O'Neill on Thursday, June 15, 2023 from 4-8 p.m.

April Financial Report

Mayor Cerny presented the April Financial Report. General Fund, \$1,435,304; Water fund, \$211,905; Sewer Fund, \$556,555; City-Wide Street Fund, \$85,561 and; 3rd Cent Sales Tax, \$33,978.

Pochop Lots/City Parking Area

The city council agreed to discuss an offer to purchase two lots adjacent to the ambulance barn in the city parking area in executive session.

Public Nuisance House Complaints

Mayor Cerny informed the council that the city has received written complaints regarding two houses. Cerny has contacted the code enforcer, health officer and city attorney regarding the properties. It was agreed to get a judge's order to proceed with an inspection and work with all the officials, including the police department, to continue with a plan of action.

Airport Gate Opener

The gate opener at the Gregory Airport is not working properly. It was agreed to order a new opener at the cost of \$6600. There is a good chance that the city could get a grant. Mayor Cerny added that the snow had ruined part of the fence and that it should be fixed as well.

Claims

ACE'S BACKHOE SERVICE LLC	WATER LEAK REPAIR 10TH&CHURCH	449.65
AFLAC	AFLAC INSURANCE	236.76
AMERICAN ENGINEERING TESTING	CITY SHOP ADDN SOIL TESTING	5,550.00
APPEARA	MATS/MOP/HNDCNR/COVERALLS/AIR FRESH	152.13
AXON ENTERPRISE INC	2021 TASER 7 BASIC BUNDLE YR 1	1,062.90
B & L COMMUNICATIONS	MOBILE RADIO/ADAPTER	1,434.96
CIVIL AIR PATROL MAGAZINE	COLUMN INCH AD	95.00
CYBERTEK SYSTEMS	MANAGED IT/PHONE SYSTEM	437.00
DIVISION OF CHILD SUPPORT	CHILD SUPPORT	505.92
EFTPS	FED/FICA TAX	4,314.05
GOLDEN WEST	PHONE/INTERNET SERVICE	830.15
GREGORY COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPT	ROAD MAINTENANCE REF#1976/1977	395.00
GREGORY MUSIC BOOSTERS	ACTIVITY CALENDAR	10.00
GREGORY SCHOOL DISTRICT	AUD LIGHTING PRJ COSTSHARE YR1	3,810.19
GREGORY YOUTH BASKETBALL	SD COMM FDN PASS THRU GRANT	1,200.00

HARRY K NAPA	INTERIOR DOOR HANDLE/O5 CHEVY	14.35
HAWKINS INC	AZONE/CHLORINE/SODIUM HYDR/FEE	5,677.93
HEALTH POOL OF SD	HEALTH INSURANCE	4,660.02
KLEIN'S TRUE VALUE	FITTINGS/SUPPLIES	426.26
MEIERHENRY SARGENT LLP	BOND COUNSEL	55,559.00
OFFICE PRODUCTS CENTER	PAPER/SERVICE CONTRACT/FOLDERS	92.12
PETTY CASH	POOL BEGINNING CASH ON HAND	50.00
PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY	WATER TESTING	13.00
ROSEBUD ELECTRIC COOP INC	ELECTRIC PAYMENT	5,739.07
RUNNINGS SUPPLY INC.	CHAINS/BATTERIES/TARP/SUPPLIES	614.53
SCHMUCKER PAUL NOHR AND ASSOC	ENGINEERING FEES	45,250.00
SDRS	SD RETIREMENT	4,968.64
SDRS SUPPLEMENTAL RETIREMENT	SUPPLEMENTAL RETIREMENT	600.00
TRIPP COUNTY WATER USER DIST	MONTHLY WATER SERVICE	3,000.00
US POSTAL SERVICE	WATER BILLING POSTAGE	280.80
US POSTAL SERVICE	PO BOX RENTAL FEE	178.00
WILSON'S HEATING & COOLING	AUD CHANGE FILTERS/FILTERS	165.00
WM KROTTER CO	SAND/ATHLETIC MKR/CONC PATCH	180.33
Accounts Payable Total		147,952.76
Invoices: Paid		10,906.17
Invoices: Scheduled		137,046.59
Payroll Checks		14,857.30
***** REPORT TOTAL *****		162,810.06

Motion was made by Darwin Grim, seconded by Maurice Schlaht, to pay the claims. All members voted aye; the motion carried.

The next regular council meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 20, 2023 due to the Juneteenth holiday.

Executive Session

Motion was made by Darwin Grim, seconded by Maurice Schlaht, to enter executive session to discuss the personnel and an offer to purchase property. Council went into executive session at 6:58 p.m. At 7:30 p.m., Mayor Cerny removed the council from executive session.

Results of Executive Session.

After reviewing the price asked by Jim and Doug Pochop, the council decided to make a counteroffer of \$20,000 for the two lots adjacent to the ambulance barn. The council also agreed to continue advertising for applications for the finance officer position until the position is full.

Motion was made by Kristi Drey, seconded by Darwin Grim, to adjourn. All members voted aye; the carried.

Al Cerny, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Jennifer Keegan, Assistant Finance Officer