

**CITY OF GRAFTON
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
MEETING OF AUGUST 10, 2015**

The regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Grafton, North Dakota was held in the Council Chambers, City Hall, Grafton, North Dakota at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, August 10, 2015.

Mayor Chris West presided. Members present: Dave Fellman, Don Hutson, Chris Lipsh, Brian Sieben, Mary Stark, Len Wysocki, and Greg Young. Member absent: Shane Mohn. Others present: Nick Ziegelmann, Nick Hall, Alex Droske, Ken Miskavige, and Jon Markusen.

PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing was held to consider an amendment to the existing Renaissance Zone Development Plan. The Amendment includes an additional 11 blocks within the City that will be eligible for property and state tax incentives to stimulate economic and social growth of the City. No one appeared in opposition to the amendment. City Administrator Nick Ziegelmann reviewed the blocks proposed to be added to the Renaissance Zone, noting that former Central Middle School, Hardee's, and the Life Skills and Transition Center are all included. No one appeared in opposition to the proposed amendment. He explained that if approved by the City Council the amended Zone will be forwarded to the North Dakota Department of Commerce for final approval. It was moved by Mr. Fellman and seconded by Mr. Hutson to approve the Amendment to the existing Renaissance Zone Development Plan as presented. On roll call vote the following voted in favor thereof: Mr. Fellman, Mr. Hutson, Mr. Lipsh, Mr. Sieben, Ms. Stark, Mr. Wysocki, and Mr. Young. Those opposed: None. Member absent: Mr. Mohn. Mayor West declared the motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor West asked if any Council member wanted to remove any item from the Consent Agenda. It was moved by Mr. Fellman and seconded by Mr. Young to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

4.1 Approval of Minutes:

- a) City Council regular meeting of July 13, 2015.

4.2 Reports of Officers:

- a) City Auditor-Treasurer
- b) Municipal Judge
- c) Chief of Police
- d) Building Official
- e) Parks and Recreation
- f) Others, if any

4.3 Game of Chance Applications:

a) 896 – Walsh County Gun Club

4.4 Site Authorization Applications:

All members present and voted in favor thereof; Mayor West declared the motion carried.

BILLS, CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS

It was moved by Mr. Young and seconded by Mr. Lipsh that the General, Special, Capital Projects, Debt Service, and Enterprise Funds bills be approved for payment in accordance with the listing submitted; said listing to be a part of these minutes as if herein set out verbatim. Mr. Young asked about the bill under the Fire Department listed as troubleshooting phone line interference. Administrator Ziegelmann explained that was a Century Link outage between the Century Link building and Thrifty White Drug Store. Dispatch was experiencing interference with City net; it was approximately a week and a half that phone services were poor. Mr. Sieben asked if the City will be reimbursed for the mowing done by Grafton Floral, The Yardman, and Custom 365. Mr. Ziegelmann explained that mowing services at private property will be collected, however staff has been recently notified by Dakota Northern Railroad that Federal regulations pre-empt local ordinances and the City is not allowed on DN Railroad property. City Attorney Hall said the City is not permitted on the property, however Mr. Hall encouraged the City to keep communicating with the railroad. On roll call vote the following voted in favor thereof: Mr. Fellman, Mr. Hutson, Mr. Lipsh, Mr. Sieben, Ms. Stark, Mr. Wysocki, and Mr. Young. Those opposed: (None). Member absent: Mr. Mohn. Mayor West declared the motion carried.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

On recommendation of the Public Utilities Committee, it was moved by Mr. Lipsh and seconded by Mr. Sieben to approve the bid submitted by DSG for wire at \$2.55/ft. The following proposals for three rolls or 8500' of 4/0 HV wire 220 mil were received: Resco \$2.78/foot, Border States Electric \$3.15/foot, and Dakota Supply Group \$2.55/foot, delivery from all suppliers is two weeks. On roll call vote the following voted in favor thereof: Mr. Fellman, Mr. Hutson, Mr. Lipsh, Mr. Sieben, Ms. Stark, Mr. Wysocki, and Mr. Young. Those opposed: (None). Member absent: Mr. Mohn. Mayor West declared the motion carried.

On recommendation of the Public Utilities Committee, it was moved by Mr. Sieben and seconded by Mr. Lipsh to approve the sale of the 1975 Ford 2-ton truck with sewer cleaner as the 2000 Freightliner truck with jetter was recently delivered. All members present voted in favor thereof; Mayor West declared the motion carried.

On recommendation of the Public Utilities Committee, it was moved by Mr. Sieben and seconded by Mr. Lipsh to approve the application submitted by Alan Collette Farms to close 8th Street from the railroad tracks to Stephen Avenue approximately September 7th-21st 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. to facilitate a safe harvest. All members present voted in favor thereof; Mayor West declared the motion carried.

On recommendation of the Public Utilities Committee, it was moved by Mr. Lipsh and seconded by Mr. Sieben to approve the application submitted by Grafton Company, d/b/a Extra End to

extend its alcoholic beverage license to the Armory on Saturday, September 26th from 5:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m. for the McCann wedding dance. All members present voted in favor thereof; Mayor West declared the motion carried.

REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

City Administrator Ziegelmann reported the Economic Development Committee approved entering into a strategic planning contract with Praxis to review the buildings at the Life Skills and Transitions Center, to look for future uses, and to communicate and educate decision makers for the best uses of the buildings. The contract is for \$3,350 payable from the Sales Tax Fund and Mr. Ziegelmann will ask Walsh County Job Development Authority to cost share.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Jon Markusen of Kadrmas, Lee & Jackson, Inc. (KLJ) reported on the progress of the Flood Risk Reduction Project. There was a meeting with representatives of the North Dakota Department of Transportation last week to review the Highway 81 and Highway 17 crossings for any feedback or concerns they may have. KLJ has prepared an information packet for Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) which they plan to deliver soon; they have not been able to set a meeting date yet with BNSF. BNSF is not considering abandonment of any lines at this time. KLJ is working utility coordination and developing utility conflict plans. They are also pulling title certificates and developing preliminary plats for the right of way. The geotech investigations are about 70% complete. Mr. Markusen reported that the Mayor, City Administrator and he met with State Water Commission representatives regarding funding opportunities and are monitoring when the State Water Commission meets to attend when necessary. The information to request funds from the State Water Commission is being developed. The hydraulics, which will analyze the upstream and downstream impacts, will be completed next. KLJ will continue to work with the Walsh County Water Board on the McLeod Drain project. Meetings with landowners are going well.

NEW BUSINESS

It was moved by Mr. Young and seconded by Ms. Stark to approve the application submitted by Pete Johnson to possess and consume alcoholic beverages at the Grafton Armory on August 15th from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. for a private anniversary party. Mr. Fellman recused himself from voting. All other members voted in favor thereof; Mayor West declared the motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Annual North Dakota League of Cities Convention will be held in Fargo September 25 and 26; notify the office by September 8th if you plan to attend.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mr. Wysocki, seconded by Mr. Young and carried to adjourn the meeting.

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Chris West, Mayor

Connie A. Johnson, City Auditor