

**CITY OF GRAFTON
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMITTEE
MEETING OF AUGUST 3, 2015**

The regular meeting of the Public Utilities Committee of the City of Grafton was held in the Council Chambers, City Hall, Grafton, North Dakota immediately following the 5:30 p.m. Ways and Means Committee meeting, Monday, August 3, 2015.

Chairperson West presided. Members present: Chris Lipsh, and Brian Sieben. Members absent: Shane Mohn and Len Wysocki. Others present: Dave Fellman, Greg Young, Don Hutson, Mary Stark, Nick Ziegelmann, Ken Miskavige, Tony Dumas, Russ Geddes, Rock Desautel, and Todd Kjelland.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

It was moved by Mr. Lipsh and seconded by Mr. Sieben to accept and order filed the Balance Sheets, Income and Expense Statements, and subsidiary reports for all Enterprise Funds for the month ending June, 2015. All members present voted in favor thereof; Chairperson West declared the motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Police Chief Dumas reported Officer Dallas graduated the FTO program so he is now working on his own. Kids and Kops is scheduled for August 18th from Noon-4:00 p.m. Last year 538 kids attended the event.

Power Department Superintendent Russ Geddes presented proposals for three rolls or 8500' of 4/0 HV wire 220 mil: Resco \$2.78/foot, Border States Electric \$3.15/foot, and Dakota Supply Group \$2.55/foot; delivery from all suppliers is two weeks. It was moved by Mr. Lipsh and seconded by Mr. Sieben to recommend the City Council approve the bid submitted by Dakota Supply Group for 8500' of 4/0 HV wire 220 mil at \$2.55/ft. All members present voted in favor thereof; Chairperson West declared the motion carried.

There was an electrical outage between 5th and 7th Street from Western to McHugh Ave. this month. It was caused by an underground fault; the cable was installed in 1983. Mr. Geddes reported while boring for replacement of the switch near the hospital, they clipped a phone line; phone lines are normally 2 feet deep but this one dipped to 4 feet deep. An insurance claim has been submitted to cover the cost of the phone line repair.

City Administrator Ziegelmann reported the City has switched to KorWeb which is an automated system for receiving notices from North Dakota One-Call for locates. Requests for utility locates used to be faxed to City Hall and then distributed to all the Departments, but with KorWeb each Department receives texts and emails directly, making the process more efficient for the Departments and providing for a more timely response.

Street Superintendent Rock Desautel said Astech Corp, the contractor for the 2015 Chip Seal Project, notified Kadrmas, Lee & Jackson, Inc. they will be here August 17th for a pre-construction meeting; at that time the City will discuss adding a few extra blocks to the contract as the bid came in lower than estimated. The extra streets that may be added are 15th Street from School Road to Western Avenue as that road is so heavily traveled, Evergreen Drive, and the Armory and City Hall parking lots. If 15th Street is chip sealed the crosswalks may be done also rather than the crosswalks at Central School, as that school is now closed. Mr. Ziegelmann said the Airport asked for an estimate to chip seal also but that would be funded from the Airport Fund.

It was moved by Mr. Sieben and seconded by Mr. Lipsh to recommend the City Council approve the sale of the 1975 Ford 2 ton truck with sewer cleaner as the newly-purchased 2000 Freightliner truck with jetter was delivered last week. It is hoped that a smaller town in the area might be able to use the old truck. All members were present and voted in favor thereof; Chairperson West declared the motion carried.

Mr. Desautel reported the new muffin monster for the State School lift station was installed July 23rd; the cost was \$10,800. Kieley Electric also fixed a burnt wire and replaced 2 hydraulic hoses. The new stainless steel basket was purchased from Grand Forks Welding for \$2,300.

Water Department Superintendent Ken Miskavige reported the contractor has finished retooling the north water pump at the Red River Raw Water Pumping Station and that is working well. The Department will start lead and copper sampling mid August at 20 sites across town as required by the Health Department. He said it is very important for people to do the sampling properly so staff spends time in training and following up with residents who are taking the samples for the City. The Department has finished waterline work at the High School, Remington Seed, and Strata and everything seems to be working well.

Water Department Superintendent Ken Miskavige reported that the contractor is waiting for materials ordered to proceed with the Water Plant Phase III Project. Last week they poured the pad for the generator, all the asbestos has been removed, his office has been relocated, and they are jack hammering in the garage area to improve the footings then they will remove the roof. Mr. Ziegelmann reported he hopes to have information to bring before City Council next week with regard to a proposed change order as it has been determined a spread footing along the block wall will be necessary and that was not included in the design bid.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Chairperson West reported he has noticed excessive grass clippings in the street around town as people are deliberately blowing them into the street and not cleaning up after themselves. These clippings fill up the catch basins and keep storm water from flowing properly. Mr. Lipsh stated the ordinance should be enforced but it is important to educate citizens first either by letter, Channel 3 or the utility bill.

NEW BUSINESS

It was moved by Mr. Sieben and seconded by Mr. Lipsh to recommend the City Council approve the application submitted by Alan Collette Farms to close 8th Street from the railroad tracks to Stephen Avenue from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. approximately September 7th-21st to facilitate a safe harvest. It is noted the barricades are removed to facilitate normal traffic when possible. All members present voted in favor thereof; Chairperson West declared the motion carried.

It was moved by Mr. Lipsh and seconded by Mr. Sieben to recommend the City Council approve the application submitted by Grafton Company, d/b/a Extra End to extend its alcoholic beverage license to the Armory 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; Chairperson West declared the motion carried.

The City Administrator reported staff has been looking into a new phone system for City Hall as the system is quite old and unreliable; there is sufficient budget in the Finance Department technology appropriation.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mr. Sieben, seconded by Mr. Lipsh and carried to adjourn the meeting.

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Chris West, Chairperson

Connie A. Johnson, City Auditor