

**CITY OF GRAFTON  
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMITTEE  
MEETING OF JULY 6, 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, July 6, 2015.

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

**FINANCIAL REPORTS**

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

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Police Chief Dumas reported the Department was very busy during Summerfest. Tornadoes west of town on Saturday afternoon added to the work and officers wrote 13 tickets for minor in possession on Saturday night. Friday night there were two officers at the dances and Officer Burke requested additional officers for Saturday as she felt enforcement was an issue on Friday. He said it is a difficult situation to control when you mix youth and adults. Alcohol gets brought in from other places. Wristbands were placed on people at the street dance and they thought that was for 21 and older but there were kids as young as 17 years old found wearing the wristbands. Chief Dumas reported the Department took 81 calls on Friday and Saturday night. Mr. Ziegelmann said maybe the City Council should require use of I. D. scanners and wristbands in order to close a public street, another option would be to make the dance 21 and older. John Tweten of Polly's charged a \$2 cover charge for the street dance; Mr. Mohn thought it was inappropriate to charge a \$2 fee to enter the street. It was reported people trying to get to The Edge for a youth fundraiser event had to pay the \$2 fee to enter the area on Friday. Mayor West said we should be working with the Chamber to make sure they plan events in the evening for youth and young adults so they have things to do other than the street dance.

Power Department Superintendent Russ Geddes reported there was a problem during Ribfest as people kept moving barricades and driving over the cable that feeds the temporary power panel, which damages the insulation in the cable. The cable has been replaced a few times in the last few years due to this; he replaced the barricades three times that night to protect the cable.

Mr. Geddes reported they finished installation of a power line to complete the service loop at the Life Skills and Transitions Center. He said that turned out to be a bigger project than planned due to the debris in the excavation site. Mr. Geddes said they completed the service installation

to Strata's new batch plant project. In the near future they will be installing a new service to Johnson Oil bulk storage tanks.

Mr. Geddes said the protected turn lane of the traffic signal at 12<sup>th</sup> and Hill will be changed to a new style by the NDDOT; the turn lane will need to be closed while it is installed.

Mr. Geddes recommended the switch near the hospital be replaced due to age and condition. The estimated cost to replace it is \$25,000; he will have proposals for the City Council's consideration at the next meeting.

Gene Loftsgard reported a wheel bearing went out on the motor grader.

Mr. Lipsh reported the pedestrian crosswalk signs by Hwy 17 and Prospect Ave are backwards.

Mr. Ziegelmann reported that a new muffin monster was ordered for the State School lift station at a cost of approximately \$10,000. The equipment quit working and is beyond repair. The pump is salvageable, but a new stainless steel basket was ordered as well. The equipment was ordered without the Committee's knowledge as staff have been manually emptying the lift station even on weekends until the new equipment is delivered.

It was moved by Mr. Lipsh and seconded by Mr. Young to recommend the City Council approve the construction engineering contract with Kadmas, Lee, and Jackson, Inc. for the 2015 Chip Seal project in the amount of \$15,850. Mr. Lipsh asked if City staff could do the crack filling and chip sealing; Mr. Ziegelmann said he will have to check into that. All members were present and voted in favor thereof; Chairperson West declared the motion carried.

Mr. Wysocki reported the trees along the west side of Lessard Addition are dying. Mr. Ziegelmann said it is because they have been under water too long because the corn stocks are blocking drainage so it is not going to the east as it should. They will be removed soon.

Water Department Superintendent Ken Miskavige reported he spoke with Watersmith regarding the status of the Red River pumping station pump repair project; all of the parts are in and they hope to have everything in place within a week or two.

The Water Department has started working with Florian & Sons at the High School as they will be re-routing the water line and updating the water line and fire protection. That will probably be a week-long project.

Mr. Miskavige reported construction at the Water Plant is in process and at this time they are waiting for materials. The next step of the project is to remove the garage roof.

A water service line was leaking at 10<sup>th</sup> and Kittson; Mr. Miskavige thinks it was a lead service line left in service after a construction project.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

It was moved by Mr. Sieben and seconded by Mr. Wysocki to recommend the City Council approve the application from Grafton Co. d/b/a Extra End Thursday, Friday, and Saturday July 23, 24, and 25 from 5:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m. for Extra End's 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary party. All members were present and voted in favor thereof; Chairperson West declared the motion carried.

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

\* \* \* \* \*

---

Chris West, Chairperson

---

Connie A. Johnson, City Auditor