

**CITY OF GRAFTON
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMITTEE
MEETING OF MARCH 2, 2020**

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, March 2, 2020.

Vice Chairperson Greg Young presided. Chairperson West was out of town. Members present: Phil Ray, Brian Sieben, Mary Stark, and Greg Young. Others present: Dave Fellman, Don Hutson, Shane Mohn, Nick Ziegelmann, Tony Dumas, Kevin Sevigny, Rock Desautel, Todd Morgan, and Shirley Burns.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

It was moved by Mr. Sieben, seconded by Ms. Stark and carried to accept and order filed the Balance Sheets, Income and Expense Statements, and subsidiary reports for all Enterprise Funds for the month ending January 2020.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Police Chief Dumas reported the new vehicle has arrived. They have ordered several accessories and they are waiting for those to come in. Chief Dumas said he will email the Police Department Year-End Report by the end of the week. A May vehicle auction will be held for any junk or abandoned vehicles that have not been claimed.

Administrator Ziegelmann reported the Power Department has been conducting maintenance on the Unit 3 diesel generator at the Power Plant. Mr. Ziegelmann reported he, Russ Geddes and Kevin Sevigny have been working with Widseth, Smith & Nolting on the AMI project. They will be visiting Roseau this week and Valley City soon to see what they have. They will have conference calls with Moose Lake and Melrose. They all use different systems for the electric and water utilities, so it is valuable to learn their experiences. He hopes to have a recommendation for the Public Utilities Committee within the next 30 to 60 days.

Street/Wastewater Superintendent Rock Desautel reported the Street Department has been doing minor repairs on equipment. They did get the truck steamer out last week. They have a few pallets of bags of asphalt so they will be going around filling potholes.

Mr. Desautel reported the Master Lift Station generator is still not working. There are some minor problems with it which require a mechanic coming to make adjustments.

Rocks Electric is still working on the SCADA system but it should be up and running soon. Mr. Desautel is not sure when Phase 2 will be started.

Mr. Ziegelmann reported they did start releasing water at Homme Dam today to draw that down slowly. Grafton should start seeing some water here as a result. He also reported the storm sewer project is not complete yet, but there is some water in the lines. Gladen Construction will be in town next week to start those pumps so we can get rid of the water in the lines before the spring melt.

Water Department Superintendent Sevigny reported he, the Administrator, and the Mayor went to Drayton last week to present a proposal for selling water to Drayton. Jeremy Praska started working 3 weeks ago and is doing very well. Some of the seasonal residents are starting to return so staff have been reconnecting some homes. There was one service line break over the last month which was the homeowner's responsibility and about 6 frozen meter bottoms which is common when the weather warms.

Mr. Young reported the City Cemetery Sub-Committee has been looking at some columbariums and presented a picture of an example for reference. Predictions are by 2025 cremations will be 65%, by 2030 72%, and by 2035 80% compared to conventional burials. The Committee has been looking into different options for columbariums at the City Cemetery to provide families interment options. They have asked for proposals from three different suppliers for a 48-niche columbarium. Mr. Young explained they are looking locations at within the existing City Cemetery to develop a viewing area for the columbarium that would include a bench and cement pad with a sidewalk. It has not yet been determined how many grave sites will be lost when a columbarium is placed in the Cemetery.

NEW BUSINESS

It was moved by Ms. Stark and seconded by Mr. Ray to recommend the City Council approve the application for a special event alcoholic beverage license from Polly's Lounge, Inc. at the Centennial Center on March 28-29 from 4:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m. for the Mega Raffle Hockey. All members present voted in favor thereof; Vice Chairperson Young declared the motion carried.

It was moved by Ms. Stark and seconded by Mr. Ray to recommend the City Council approve the application for a special event alcoholic beverage license from Grafton Co. d/b/a Extra End at Centennial Center April 4th from 4:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m. for the Fireman's Annual Fundraiser. All members present voted in favor thereof; Vice Chairperson Young declared the motion carried.

It was moved by Ms. Stark and seconded by Mr. Sieben to approve the application for possession and consumption of alcoholic beverages in public areas special event permit submitted by the Grafton Area Chamber of Commerce for the Beer & Bacon Bash on Thursday, March 26th from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. The licensed vendors are those included with the application. All members present voted in favor thereof; Vice Chairperson Young declared the motion carried.

It was reported Airborne Custom Spraying will perform aerial mosquito spraying at a rate of \$2.50/acre or \$5,325/application.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mr. Ray, seconded by Ms. Stark and carried to adjourn the meeting.

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Greg Young, Vice Chairperson

Nick Ziegelmann, City Administrator