

City Council Meeting
August 5, 2024

The City Council met at 6:00 PM at Oakes Community Center with the following members present: Mayor Sitzler, Council: Hernandez-Waite, Hollingsworth, Kelly, and Day. Employees present: Matthew O'Brien, Dan Brandner, Lee Bredeson and Zasha Johnson.

Engineer Report: Josh Roehrich provided an update on the next phase of the street project, contractors are planning to be in town on Monday the 19th to start paving. Contractor's application for payment #2 was presented, Kelly moved, Day second to approve payment, carried. Moore Engineering invoice for construction engineering was presented, Day moved, Hollingsworth second to approve payment of invoice 39477, carried. An invoice for water treatment plan assistance from Moore was presented, Kelly moved, Hernandez-Waite second to approve payment of invoice 39474, carried. There was discussion about additional paving at the entrance to Cummings field at the intersection of Main Avenue and 12th Street, this area is not a plotted city street, it is property owned by the Park Board. Estimated cost of the work is in the \$80,000 range. Kelly moved, Hernandez-Waite second to add the extra paving to the street project, motion failed. Hernandez-Waite moved, Kelly second to add the paving to the project contingent upon the park board paying one-third of the cost, carried.

Minutes, Auditor and Court Reports: Hollingsworth moved, Day second to approve minutes, police report and auditor reports, carried.

Building Permits: Hernandez-Waite moved, Day second to approve building permits as listed, carried.

1. Lots 1 & 2, & N 33' of W 150' of Vacated ST, Blk 1, Reko's 1st Add. – Fence

Bills: Hollingsworth moved, Day second to approve bills as presented and those sent later pending no concerns, carried.

Aflac	118.10	American Welding & Gas	39.80
Avid Hawk	200.00	Aqua Pure	6250.14
B&B Gardens	106.99	Bank of ND	22,590.68
Computer Express	521.98	Crossroads Electric	5000.00
Dakota Performance	116.95	DRN	969.65
Galls	167.47	Kustom Machine	58.46
Midwest Pest Control	63.00	Nichole Nitschke	36.84
Moore Engineering	657.50	ND One Call	18.00
NDPERS INS	21,093.56	NDPERS-Retirement	9,366.49
ND Sewage Pump Lift Station	3502.86	Oakes Area Chamber	375.00
OEI	11,704.51	Otter Tail Power	8,312.42
Rod's Cleaning	80.00	Starion Bank	2,407.04
Starion Insurance	50.00	Team Labs	1560.00
Transource Truck & Equipment	864.98	USDA Rural Development	23,678.07
Verizon	487.59	Visa-library	288.74
Visa-City	848.75	Vistos	834.67
Waste Management-Recycle	4,628.65		
Payroll Taxes	17,156.50	Salaries	70,894.02

Visitors: Micah Malmberg presented his Eagle Scout Project, installing a fence along the alley at the community park on Main Ave. He has received funds from the OACF and has a list of others to also ask. Day moved, Kelly second to approve \$2,000 in tourism funds for the project, carried.

Preliminary Budget Hearing: Johnson presented the preliminary budget for 2025. The proposed budget would include a levy of 98.53 mills generating \$505,048.03. It was explained that this preliminary budget can be decreased before the final budget hearing but cannot be increased. The garbage fund was discussed as garbage disposal costs have increased significantly and rates will need to be adjusted to offset these costs. The last rate increase was in 2015, Johnson will work on a proposal for the next meeting. Hollingsworth moved, Day second to approve the preliminary budget as presented, carried.

Committee Reports: Mayor Sitzler asked for a motion to move the September meeting to the 10th to allow the city attorney to attend. Hollingsworth moved, Day second to change the meeting date, carried. Kelly discussed damage to a curb/gutter from a private contractor. The part ordered to fix the stop sign north of the school did not correct the issue. 3D Specialties will be in town the week of the 19th and will look at it then. Kelly is looking into options for a tractor/box scraper for alleys. Questions were asked about sump pumps running year-round and what ordinance says about where the water should be directed. The storm sewer is where pumps should be directed as the sanitary sewer lifts may not be able to keep up if storm water is run through them. Hollingsworth stated he spoke with a resident in Ludden and they explained Ludden hauls a city owned trailer to the landfill in Gwinner to dispose of their trash, could suggest this option for Guelph. He asked that the bullpen area at the city shop be cleaned up, anything that is no longer usable should be disposed of. There are some tools the crew has asked to purchase for the shop, they will work with Hollingsworth. Also, an inventory of all tools will be updated.

Unfinished Business: The request for trash services in Guelph was reviewed. After the previous discussion around the garbage fund, it was decided that at this time we cannot add additional services. Day moved, Hernandez-Waite second to deny the request for services to Guelph, carried.

New Business: Propane bids, two bids were received from Economy Propane & Agtegra Coop. Day moved, Kelly second to accept the Agtegra bid of \$1.289/gallon for the upcoming winter season, carried. The council was informed of a sewer line that runs through private property owned by Dollar General. The property is changing ownership and they would like an easement for the line if one cannot be found, will discuss this with city attorney.

Announcements & Correspondence:

Day moved, Hollingsworth second to adjourn the meeting at 7:27 PM.

MAYOR _____

ATTEST _____

(minutes subject to correction and approval at the next regular meeting)

