

Council Meeting

The Graettinger City Council met in a regular session on Monday, May 13, 2024, at 6:15 P.M. at City Hall with Mayor Armstrong presiding. Present were council members Dyhrkopp, Masters, Hoffman, and Alderson and employees Currans, Petersen, and B. Anderson. Visitors: Denny Harris, Jerilyn Maher (via phone) and Travis Anderson.

Motion by Dyhrkopp seconded by Alderson to approve consent agenda. 1. Motion to approve agenda. 2. Motion to pay bills with approval of payment for Petersen insurance. 3. Motion to approve minutes. 4. Motion to approve financial statement. All ayes. Carried.

A public hearing was held for a budget amendment for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023-24 for changes in the budget. No objections were heard or received.

A discussion was held on the vacant seat on the Council. This seat will be appointed to Travis Anderson. Mr. Anderson will replace Nate Harris; the term will end at the next election. If within fourteen days after the appointment, there is filed with the city clerk a petition that requests a special election to fill the vacancy, an appointment to fill a vacancy is temporary and the city council shall call a special election to fill the vacancy permanently.

Peterson advised the council of an out-of-town Clayton gas meeting he will attend in Omaha on May 23-24. Anderson will be out of town this month for CPO training.

The council reviewed the application received for an on-call Gas operator. Motion by Dyhrkopp, seconded by Alderson to hire Daniel Schnetzer for part-time, on-call utility help. Effective June 1, 2024. All Ayes. Carried. Wages were set for Daniel Schnetzer at a \$400.00 on-call weekly rate, \$48.75 per hour when called in for a City emergency. Masters introduced resolution no. 22-2024, "A resolution amending resolution no. 19-2022, "A resolution amending salaries for employees of the City of Graettinger," and moved that it be adopted. Seconded by Dyhrkopp. Ayes-5. Resolution adopted.

A follow-up Report from Graettinger Municipal Utilities for compliance with Natural Gas Safety Standards in Docket No. RG-0605 was received. Peterson reviewed with the council all recommendations received and implemented. The IUB has approved and conducted a follow-up and the remaining probable violations have been corrected.

Hoffman introduced resolution no. 24-2024, "A resolution approving and authorizing the mayor to sign a contract with central Tank Coatings, Inc. to clean the water tower," and moved that it be adopted. Seconded by Dyhrkopp. Ayes-5. Resolution adopted. Peterson made the council aware that Layne performed water well preventative, predictive maintenance, and testing evaluations on Well 8 and Well 7, report results were reviewed, and no corrective actions were required.

Dyhrkopp introduced resolution no. 25-2024, "A resolution approving and authorizing the mayor to sign a contract with Automatic Systems Company for Well #7 upgrade," and move that it be adopted. Seconded by Alderson. Ayes-5. Resolution adopted.

Anderson informed the council of street repairs that were needed this year. Beck Excavating Inc has completed a bid for repairs, Masters introduced Resolution No. 29-2024, "A resolution approving and authorizing the mayor to sign a contract with Beckett Excavating Inc." and moved that it be adopted. Seconded by Alderson. Ayes-5. Resolution adopted.

Harris was present to inform the council on proposed city clean-up days. Harris told the council that most city clean-up days are planned months in advance. The City of Graettinger has decided not to have an official city clean-up day and would like to continue to have residents utilize the garbage tags for additional garbage that needs to be picked up weekly. The council expressed that our residents are wonderful about keeping well-maintained property that enhances our neighborhood aesthetics and fosters community pride. Please call City Hall if you need information about the removal of appliances or other larger items.

Masters introduced Ordinance no. 232, "An Ordinance amending the code of ordinances of the city of Graettinger, Iowa, by adding a new subsection pertaining to penalties for nuisance abatement.". Then the ordinance was read and discussed. Motion by Masters, seconded by Hoffman to approve the first reading of said ordinance. Aye-5. Carried. Motion by Alderson, seconded by Dyhrkopp, to waive the rule requiring said ordinance be read at three separate meetings and move that it be adopted. Ayes-5. Motion carried.

Ordinance no. 233, "An ordinance amending the code of Ordinances of the City of Graettinger, Iowa, amending provisions about the nuisance abatement procedure". Then the ordinance was read and discussed. Tabled till next meeting.

Dyhrkopp introduced resolution no. 25-2024, "A resolution of appointments of a representative to the housing authority of the city of Graettinger, Iowa," and moved that it be adopted. Seconded by Alderson. Ayes-5. Resolution adopted.

Masters introduced resolution no. 26-2024, "A resolution to Certificate of Appointment of a representative to the Northwest Iowa Regional Housing Authority," and moved that it be adopted. Seconded by Dyhrkopp. Ayes-5. Resolution adopted.

Oath for Northwest Iowa Regional Housing Authority completed for Brandon Armstrong, mayor.

Nuisance abatement letters have been sent to Dunbar, Lopez, Chinn, Hoss, and Ebel for city nuisance complaints. Residents will have to remove or clean up Nuisances or be assessed a penalty. The city of Graettinger would like to thank those residents who have taken the time to address nuisances, all other residents will be sent an invoice, or city cleanup will be scheduled. Invoices have been sent to Ebel, Lopez, and Dunbar.

City Clerk Currans advised the council regarding pool rates, rates have remained the same since 2006. The council has decided to keep rates the same with no increase this year. The new mats have been received for hallways within the Pool shelter. Anderson and Peterson completed the cleaning of the inside and outside of the Pool building, floors will be ready for painting. A grant was received by 'Paint Iowa Beautiful' for floor paint in bathhouses, non-slip additive will be infused with paint. The City of Graettinger applied for an additional grant from POET for additional mats for the bathhouse. The Pool Board is raising money for additional mats with a 'Bouy'tiful Flamingo swimming pool fundraiser, additionally, the pool has a 'wish list' for individuals who are interested in donating, they are hoping for more community involvement. Anyone with questions can contact City Hall, the Graettinger Pool Board, or Staci Girres. The pool opening date is tentatively set for June 1, 2024.

Speed Bumps will be placed on S. Cedar Ave to slow down traffic. Signage will be placed on both sides of the street regarding new speed bumps.

Jerilyn Maher called in, via phone, to review the Audit for Fiscal Year 2023-24 for the city of Graettinger. Findings and recommendations were reviewed and discussed. No non-compliance matters were noted. Cornwell, Frieders, Maher & Associates PLC will conduct the City of Graettinger's audit yearly. Motion by Hoffman, seconded by Alderson to approve audit and recommendations by Cornwell, Frieders, Maher & Assoc PLC. Ayes-5. Motion carried.

Motion by Alderson, seconded by Hoffman to approve Robins Street closure for June 28, 2024, for Classic Car show for Graettinger Business Club. Ayes-5. Motion carried.

Bills for May 2024					
Amazon	Supplies	965.50	Graettinger Times	Publication	288.13
IRS		4,430.98	Graettinger Hardware	Supplies	2,483.35
Bomgaars	Supplies	155.95	Graettinger Chiropractic	Testing	24.00
Clayton	Gas	10,029.52	PEFA	Gas	12,546.25
Graettinger Business Club	Dues	50.00	Van Wert Co.	Supplies	200.00
Graettinger Market	Supplies	136.51	RVTC		8,101.85
GMU	Electric	1,998.46	Layne	Well	500.00
Graham Tire	Supplies	682.20	IA Parks & Recreation	Training	175.00
Groebner & Assoc	Supplies	210.08	City Laundering	Supplies	22.00
Harris Sanitation	Contract	5,956.32	Municipal Maintenance LLC	Supplies	950.00
Hawkins	Chlorine	40.00	New Tec	Shelving	4,640.00
IAMU	Training	890.42	Wayne Torreson	Rebate	150.00
IA Prison Industry	Supplies	661.32	Payroll	total	16,212.00
IPERS		4,019.07		Claims total	163,473.02
PA Co-Treasurer	Contract	696.33		General	64,718.12
Peterson Insurance	Insurance	65,909.00		RUT	1,821.32
Pro- Coop	Gas	912.57		Emp Ben	8,859.21
RVTC	Well	616.79		Water	25,734.92
US Cellular	Phone	216.13		Sewer	8,575.14
Wellmark		7,697.62		Gas	40,417.02
PA CO Sheriff	Contract	5,231.33	Receipts		
GMLP	Supplies	32.10	General	105662.17	
Utility Safety & Design	Safety	585.00	RUT	9517.7	
Unity Point Clinic	Testing	42.00	Emp Benefit	34369.85	

Tug Helmers	Pool	1,950.00	Emergency	2780.13	
Stamp Fulfillment	Supplies	1,030.47	LOST	8942.36	
Airgas	Oxygen	474.39	Water	9036.7	
Visa	Pool	1,552.88	Sewer	9501.02	
Culligan Water	Water	7.50	Gas	52348.08	
			Cust. deposits	1003.71	
			Stormwater	761.14	
			total	101915.82	

Motion by Dyhrkopp, seconded by Hoffman adjourned meeting at 7:45 P.M.

Brandon Armstrong, Mayor

Kara Currans, City Clerk