

Council Meeting

The Graettinger City Council met in regular session on Monday, August 11, 2025, at 6:00 P.M. With Mayor Armstrong presiding. Present were council members T. Anderson, Masters, T. Hoffman, Alderson, Dyhrkopp and employees Currans, Petersen, C. Hoffman, and B. Anderson. Visitors: Megan Helmich, Ashley Demoss, Becky Carlin, Morgan Skattebo, Brooke Girres, and Henrik Nielsen.

Motion by T. Anderson, seconded by Dyhrkopp to approve consent agenda. 1. Motion to approve agenda. 2. Motion to approve minutes. 3. Motion to approve bills. 4. Motion to approve financial statement. 5. Motion to approve a Side Street Saloon Class C Retail Alcohol License. Pending paperwork. 6. Motion to approve a special outdoor permit for the Graettinger Veterans Club for September 2025. Pending paperwork. All ayes. Carried.

Currans advised the council she, along with Utility Clerk Lisa Harris, will be out of town for an IA League of Cities meeting on Sept. 17-19th. The City Hall will be closed. Peterson informed the Council he attended the IAMU Gas Conference on Aug 4-5, 2025.

B. Anderson reported to the Council that the storm sewer main on Washington Street requires cleaning, as the 30-inch main is obstructed with sand, silt, and debris. Following review and discussion, it was determined that CIT Sewer Solutions will be contracted to complete the work. Anderson also noted that Blacktop Services has finished street repairs, including work on South Cedar and West Pattison. In the future, he will investigate the possibility of full asphalt surfacing instead of the chip and seal method. Asphalt maintenance for all chip-sealed streets will be performed by Bargen Inc., utilizing RePlay sealant to minimize dust and extend the lifespan of both new and existing asphalt surfaces. Bargen Inc. will also address crack repairs on West Lost Island Street near the school, from South Lincoln Avenue to South Cameron Avenue, and will provide crosswalk and curb painting on Robins Street.

Motion was made by Masters, seconded by T. Anderson, to proceed with street work and engage CIT Sewer Solutions and Bargen Inc. for their respective projects. Motion carried, all ayes. Anderson further reported that the shelter house roof requires replacement. Three bids were solicited, with Mata Construction submitting the lowest bid at \$4,680. A motion was made by Masters, seconded by Alderson, to award the project to Mata Construction for the removal and installation of 14 square feet of shingles, including ridge cap, new weatherproofing on eaves, synthetic felt, and ventilation. Motion carried, all ayes.

B. Anderson updated the Council regarding the culvert on Cedar Avenue, indicating it is partially collapsed. He presented a bid from Lair Excavating for ditch cleaning near the football field and culvert replacement, totaling \$16,179. Additionally, Anderson advised that maintenance will be needed on the dike constructed behind the culvert to prevent water from impacting the adjacent golf course. The Council agreed to table this matter for further discussion at the next meeting, pending an engineering review of drainage issues in all affected areas.

The Council would like to inform residents that, following the receipt of numerous thoughtful nominations for the naming of the new park, a vote was held during the regular session. The Council has officially adopted "City View Park" as the new name. We thank everyone who participated and contributed their suggestions to help shape our community.

City Clerk Currans advises the council that Girres plans to close the pool on Aug 27, 2025.

Richard Brewer has submitted a letter of interest to join the Graettinger Board of Adjustment, with Mayor and Council approval, Dick is appointed for a 5-year term. Dick will replace Terry Behrends, whose term expired. Wayne Anderson has also agreed to renew his commitment to Board of Adjustments for another term. Motion by Alderson, seconded by T. Anderson to approve Board of Adjustments commission.

The city will receive a \$100,000 grant for Henrik and Lori Nielsen to renovate 103 W. Robins Street. The commercial space will be refinished to become a new business. The project will include remediation of the first-floor commercial, and building exterior, including roof, windows, and façade. Dyhrkopp introduced resolution No. 34-2025, "A resolution approving a contract with Iowa Economic

Development Authority for a 2026 Community Catalyst and building remediation grant program," and moved that it be adopted. Seconded by T. Anderson. Ayes: 5. Resolution adopted.

T. Anderson introduced resolution No. 24-2025 "A resolution authorizing a transfer of funds for Loan Robins Street Project." Seconded by Dyhrkopp. Ayes: 5. Resolution adopted.

Mayor Armstrong introduced Ordinance No. 236, "An Ordinance amending the code of ordinances of the city of Graettinger, Iowa, by amending chapter 2.05, Terms of Mayor". The ordinance was read and discussed. Motion by Masters, seconded by Dyhrkopp, to approve the first reading of said ordinance. Aye-5. Motion carried. Motion by Dyhrkopp, seconded by Alderson, to waive the rule requiring said ordinance be read at three separate meetings and move that it be adopted. Ayes-5. Motion carried.

The Council wishes to inform residents that the Graettinger Library has requested a letter of support from the City for their application to the Aureon Grant program. The Library is seeking grant funding to digitize past editions of the Graettinger Times, our local newspaper, to help preserve community history and improve public access to important records. The Library Board, with Council approval, has approved Tammy Bisgaard and Ashley Demoss to Library Board. Demoss will be replacing Linda Sievers.

The Council received an invoice from Larry Lair Excavating for services rendered at a property whose owner has since moved out of state. The City will remit payment for these services and, in accordance with municipal procedure, a lien will be placed on the property to recover the costs incurred.

The council reviewed pictures of nuisances of property owners. Nuisance abatement letters have been sent to Dunbar, Schnell, Pattison, Geesman, Whitmer, and Johnson. Residents will have to remove, clean up, or discontinue nuisances or be assessed a penalty.

Peterson and B. Anderson will keep Citizens Park bathrooms open for Labor Day. The pickleball and basketball courts will be cleaned. Motion by Dyhrkopp, seconded by T. Anderson to approve the closing of Robins Street and S. Washington Ave for the Labor Day Celebration. All ayes. Carried.

25-Aug

Amazon	Supplies	\$452.15	Rec Supply	Pool	\$316.16
Arnold Motor Supply	Supplies	\$21.58	Treasurer/WET	Tax	\$64.27
IRS	Tax	\$6,419.74	Weavers	Uniform	\$29.90
Clayton	Reservation	\$6,333.00	PEFA	Gas	\$2,490.00
Currans P&H	AC	\$105.00	Core & Main	Supplies	\$280.41
Dakota Supply	Supplies	\$2,585.93	RVTC Loan	Loan	\$8,101.85
Gr. Market	Supplies	\$1,606.75	Gordon Flesche	Copier	\$1,136.49
GMU	Electric	\$4,295.21	Itron	Software	\$815.74
Harris Sanitation	Contra	\$6,187.37	City Laundering	Supplies	\$13.79
Hawkins Inc	Supplies	\$1,892.88	Spencer Hsp.	Deductible	\$529.75
IAMU	Supplies	\$394.83	Miles Heady	Sewer	\$203.36
IA One Call	Locate	\$36.90	Payroll		\$27,985.82
IPERS		\$2,524.68	Claims		\$102,305.21
Larry Lair Ex.	Asmar	\$856.00	General		\$47,525.56
Northern Lights	Concessions	\$585.88	Pool Board		\$60.97
PA CO Emergency Mgmt.	Civil Defense	\$2,802.00	WR Cameras		\$4,975.00
PA CO Treasurer	Contract	\$693.33	RUT		\$5,978.67
Petty Cash		\$100.00	Emp Ben		\$3,125.06
Pro-Coop	Gas	\$823.79	Library Memorial		\$29.67
RVTC	Contract	\$768.66	Debt		\$8,101.85
US Cellular	Cell	\$216.12	Water		\$8,073.84
Wellmark	Insurance	\$7,014.58	Sewer		\$5,166.52
PA CO Sheriff	Contract	\$5,287.58	Gas		\$18,738.32
John Deere Financial	Supplies	\$212.89	Self-Insurance		\$529.75

			Receipts:	
IA DNR	Dues	\$210.00	General	\$16,714.78
Michaelson	Supplies	\$865.62	WR	\$85,000.00
RVTC Equip	Cameras	\$4,975.00	RUT	\$9,089.14
Unity Point Clinic	Testing	\$42.00	Emp Ben	\$400.65
Visa	Supplies	\$862.51	LOST	\$12,106.75
Utility Equip	Supplies	\$582.11	Lib Memorial	\$245.01
Culligan	Supplies	\$37.00	Water	\$9,484.91
Gr. Times	Legals	\$274.20	Sewer	\$7,857.81
Gr. Hardware	Supplies	\$247.03	Gas	\$11,169.32
Cengage	Library	\$25.35	Cust Deposit	\$4,929.10
			Storm	\$743.28
			Total	\$157,740.75

Motion by Dyhrkopp, seconded by T. Anderson to adjourn at 7:20 P.M. All ayes. Carried.

Brandon Armstrong, Mayor

Kara Currans, City Clerk