

Council Meeting

The Graettinger City Council met in a regular session on Monday, September 22, 2025, at 6:00 P.M. at City Hall with Mayor Armstrong presiding. Present were council members Dyhrkopp, Masters, and T. Anderson employees Currans, Peterson, Hoffman, and B. Anderson. Absent: Alderson and T. Hoffman. Visitors: Henrik Nielsen

Motion by Dyhrkopp, seconded by T. Anderson to approve the 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 Graettinger Market Class E Alcohol License Premises, pending paperwork. 6. Approval of checks dated Sept 8, 2025, meeting postponed to September 22, 2025, due to illness and injury. Ayes-3. Carried.

City Clerk Currans reported to the council that she and Lisa attended the Iowa League of Cities Annual Conference in Des Moines on September 17-19. Mayor Armstrong addressed the topic of cell phone reimbursement for City Clerk Currans. The current billing rate is \$65.77 per line, with a proposed monthly stipend of \$32.88 for Currans' cell phone. Motion by Masters, seconded by Dyhrkopp, to approve. Ayes-3. Motion Carried

Peterson informs the council that Automatic Systems is scheduled to upgrade Well 7 this fall. The Patten water line upgrade will be completed with assistance from the Light Plant using the boring machine, and this work will be scheduled soon.

B. Anderson reported to the Council that the storm sewer main on Washington Street that required cleaning, has been completed. CIT Sewer Solutions removed seven loads of silt and debris, they have also identified a manhole that needs repair, after discussion and review, repair will be scheduled. Anderson also noted that Blacktop Services has finished street repairs, including work on South Cedar and West Pattison and Robins Street curb and parking painting. Anderson and Peterson have met with Engineers to discuss drainage issues in town; engineer required more time to evaluate town and will reschedule with City of Graettinger at later date with recommendations.

Dyhrkopp moved, seconded by T. Anderson, to appoint David Forsythe of Forsythe Law Office as Graettinger's new legal counsel, effective immediately, replacing Jennifer Finn following her resignation. The council thanked Finn and looks forward to working with the Forsythe Law office. The City Clerk will meet with Forsythe Law Office to discuss city matters. Motion carried. Ayes- 3.

The council discussed trees on city easements. The three (3) trees in question are a nuisance and will require removal/trimming by city. Anderson will collaborate with Graettinger Light Plant and obtain bids for council consideration.

City Clerk Currans presented the year-end totals for Graettinger Pool and reviewed Manager Girres' report. Next season's pool dates are set for June 1, 2026, to August 21, 2025, pending weather. Internet credit card payments will be discussed next season as Clerk Currans evaluates compatibility with the new Gworks/Simple City system. Friends of the Pool were able to donate new chairs, slides, refrigerator, and are working on new paint and flooring for office in 2026.

The Vision Committee has completed City View Park Playground. The new structures are suitable for children aged 2-12, including swings and a surrounding sidewalk. The ribbon-cutting ceremony will be held Oct 1, 2025, at 4:30 p.m. at City View Park.

City clerk Currans reviewed the Urban Renewal Report. Motion by Dyhrkopp, seconded by T. Anderson to approve Urban Renewal Area Data Collection report- TIF report- and submit to state. Ayes: 3. Carried.

Motion by Dyhrkopp, seconded by T. Anderson to approve application submittal to PACGDC for a demolition grant for Robert and Patricia Subbert and Katie Page. Ayes: 3. Motion Carried

Dyhrkopp introduced resolution no. 33-2025, "A resolution approving the road use report." and moved that it be adopted, seconded by T. Anderson. Ayes: 3. Resolution adopted.

T. Anderson introduced resolution no. 34-2025, "A resolution of the City of Graettinger to approve and authorize the mayor to sign a development agreement with Henrik and Lori Nielsen for the Iowa Economic Development Authority for a community catalyst building remediation grant for the proposed location at 103 E Robin St." Seconded by Dyhrkopp. Ayes: 3. Resolution adopted.

Dyhrkopp introduced resolution 35-2025, "A resolution authorizing a transfer of funds". Seconded by T. Anderson. Ayes: 3. Resolution adopted. Iowa Grants has approved a grant application for Henrik and Lori Nielsen for a Downtown Catalyst grant. Their new business would renovate an old building. The council has approved a matching city donation of \$10,000.

Electric scooters, as a device with up to three wheels, handlebars, a standing platform, an electric motor, and a maximum speed of 20 mph on level ground was reviewed and discussed, tabled till next meeting.

Dyhrkopp introduced resolution No. 36-2025, "A resolution to certify the assessment against taxable property located at 306 N Lincoln Ave, Graettinger, IA," and moved that it be adopted. Seconded by Masters. Ayes: 3. Resolution adopted.

The council reviewed pictures of nuisances of property owners. Additional nuisance abatement letters will be sent for city nuisance complaints. Residents will have to remove, clean up, or be assessed a penalty.

Mayor Armstrong introduced Ordinance No. 238, “An Ordinance amending the code of ordinances of the city of Graettinger, Iowa, by amending provisions pertaining to Storm Sewer Utility Rates.” The ordinance was read and discussed. Motion by Dyhrkopp, seconded by T. Anderson, to approve the rate increase from \$2.00 to \$3.00 for Storm Sewer Rates. This rate increase will allow city to continue to clean and maintain Storm Sewers within city limits. Roll call vote. Ayes-Dyhrkopp, Masters, and T. Anderson. Nay- none. Ordinance adopted. Motion by Dyhrkopp, seconded by T. Anderson, to waive the rule requiring said ordinance be read at three separate meetings and move that it be adopted. Ayes-3. Carried.

City Clerk Currans will update Ordinance book with collaboration of Simmering-Cory, tabled till next meeting.

25-Sep					
Amazon	Pool	\$182.62	NWIA Bone & Joint	Deductible	\$186.99
Arnold Motor	Vehicle	\$426.99	Bargen Inc	Street Shelter	\$15,549.43
IRS	Tax	\$5,424.74	Mata Construction	House	\$4,680.00
Barco	Signs	\$128.33	Valley View	WR Grant	\$1,863.00
Bomgaars	Uniform	\$120.59	Myla Murphy	Training	\$37.50
Clayton	Gas	\$2,169.32	Adileigh Heinrichs	Training	\$100.00
Dakota Supply	Supplies	\$632.15	Lillian Vanderhoff	Training	\$112.50
Energy Economics Inc	Supplies	\$4,480.12	Allyson Thompson	Training	\$45.00
GMU	Utility	\$4,231.32	Kaleb Borchers	Training	\$107.50
			Linda Betsinger		
Groebner & Assoc	Supplies	\$999.03	McCann	Library	\$125.00
Harris Sanitation	Contract	\$5,934.63	Roger Petersen	Rebate	\$100.00
Hawkins	Chemical	\$892.70	Payroll		\$22,538.29
IA League of Cities	Dues	\$890.00	Total	\$130,837.79	
IA Prison Ind.	Signs	\$1,652.30	General	\$38,069.83	
Ipers		\$4,480.83	WR Grant	\$28,116.43	
PA Co Treasurer	Contract	\$693.33	RUT	\$14,778.70	
Pro Coop	Gas	\$1,059.50	Emp Benefit	\$3,125.06	
RVTC	Telephone	\$598.83	Library Memorial	\$125.00	
Treasurer	Sales Tax	\$249.54	Debt	\$8,101.85	
Us Cellular	Phones	\$161.62	Catalyst	\$5,834.63	
Wellmark	Insurance	\$7,437.42	Water	\$6,152.55	
PA Sheriff	Contract	\$5,287.58	Sewer	\$2,603.41	
Daktronics	Scoreboards	\$13,769.00	Gas	\$19,768.01	
State Hygienic Lab	Testing	\$31.00	Storm water	\$2,970.00	
Visa	Supplies	\$286.99	Self-Insured	\$186.99	
Culligan	Water	\$15.00	Receipts		
Gr Hardware	Supplies	\$6,294.95	General	\$14,200.97	
Gr Times	Legals	\$245.84	WR	\$1,863.00	
Hawks	Auto	\$759.49	RUT	\$9,514.72	
Cengage	Library	\$41.85	Emp Ben	\$334.51	
Treasurer	Wet tax	\$646.20	LOST	\$8,280.97	
Pefa	Natural Gas	\$2,441.56	Library Memorial	\$20.86	
RVTC LOAN	Loan	\$8,101.85	Debt	\$97,223.00	
City Laundering	Supplies	\$26.63	Water	\$17,151.27	
McQueen	Street	\$1,628.73	Sewer	\$13,625.63	
CIT Sewer Solutions	Storm Sewer	\$2,970.00	Gas	\$11,886.80	
			Storm Water	\$11,674.44	
			Total	\$187,501.78	

Motion by Dyhrkopp, seconded by Masters to adjourn at 6:50 P.M. All ayes. Carried.

Brandon Armstrong, Mayor

Kara Currans, City Clerk