

Grand Meadow Council Meeting  
April 10, 2023 @ 6:00 p.m.  
Grand Meadow Community Center

Present: Mayor James Christian, Councilman Justin Bain, Councilman Blayne Stejskal, Councilman Aaron Myhre, Councilman Ryan Queensland, City Administrator Scott Kerrins, City Clerk Chris Hyrkas, Officer Domanic Merkel (GMPD), Sarah Burmeister (Library), Derek Olinger (Bolton & Menk), Gretchen Mensink (Mower County Independent) and Brian and Terri Fruth.

**CALL TO ORDER** – The monthly meeting of the Grand Meadow City Council was called to order at 6:00 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**CONSENT AGENDA** – Motion by R. Queensland, second by A. Myhre to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried.

**ASH TREE PROPOSAL** – Corey Olson presented a proposal to remove a set number of trees for \$10,000.00. This would be completed in one day and include grinding stumps, raking and hauling debris. If the set number was completed and there was still time left in the day additional trees would be removed. A formal bid will be submitted for removal of the trees around Veterans Park.

## REPORTS

**A. Library** – Written report submitted. No questions from council.

**B. Ambulance** – Written report submitted. No questions from council.

**C. Public Works** – In addition to the submitted report, Tom provided a quote of \$6,500.00 to shape and seed the ditch on the North side of the pond road and a quote of \$5,500.00 to remove concrete at the recycle bin area. It is requested that Tom confirm how much of the ditch will be shaped and seeded. Motion by A. Myhre, second by R. Queensland to accept the bid for removing the concrete from the recycling area. Motion carried.

R. Queensland inquired about the status of the roof replacement on the EMS building. S. Kerrins replied that insurance will allow replacement of entire roof or replacement of just screws. A warranty would not be provided with screw replacement.

The council also inquired about the bid for a steel roof on the community center. S. Kerrins reported that a quote has yet to be submitted.

R. Queensland inquired if anyone has spoken with the summer softball league regarding restrictions on using the ball fields due to construction. S. Kerrins said he would reach out to him.

- D. Police** – In addition to the submitted report, Officer Merkel passed from the Chief that it's time to remove vehicles from yards and clean up yards. No questions from council.
- E. Fire** – Written report submitted. No questions from council.
- F. City Clerk** – Written report submitted. B. Stejskal asked if there was a billing issue last month. S. Kerrins confirmed there were some errors due to programming issues, which should all be resolved at this point.
- G. City Administrator** – In addition to the submitted report, S. Kerrins proposed obtaining a shredding contract with Beckley's. The cost would be \$150.00 to purchase the container and then \$66.00 each time the container needed to be emptied. Motion by A. Myhre, second by J. Christian. Motion carried.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

- A. Lift/Street project update** – D. Olinger is expecting 2023 work schedule any day. R. Queensland inquired if communication has been on-going with them to push them to get started. D. Olinger confirmed it has. B. Stejskal asked who needed to be at the pre-construction meeting to which D. Olinger replied in the past it's been him, S. Kerrins, Bolton-Menk onsite manager, T. Bleifus, C. Turner and contractors, but anyone is welcome. J. Christian has already requested to be notified of these meetings.
  - i. Lift Station and Forcemain pay application #5** – D. Olinger reported work completed through the end of March included yard piping and storm sewers. Work on the meter building will start soon with the pouring of footings. R. Queensland inquired if they would be rocking the whole area, which D. Olinger confirmed was correct. Motion by J. Bain, second by R. Queensland to approve pay application #5 in the amount of \$128,763.95. Motion carried.
- B. Summary enforcement pleading** – S. Kerrins updated the council that a phone conversation took place with the city attorney regarding 317 Main St N and 312 1<sup>st</sup> St NW. All documents have been drafted and filed, property owners will be served, and court dates will be scheduled. If approved, contractors will be conducted for removal of property. Mower County Deputies will most likely be on site when removal occurs.
- C. Notice of Hearing – 3<sup>rd</sup> St SW Industrial Park** – S. Kerrins reported he had not been contacted, since sending the last violation letter so the next step would be to send the Notice of Hearing. Motion by J. Christian, second by J. Bain to send Notice of Hearing. Motion carried.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Liquor license approval** – Motion by A. Myhre, second by J. Bain to approve liquor licenses for Skjenke Bom Lounge and Honest Liquor. Motion carried.

- B. Building permit request** – Planning and Zoning recommended approval of both requests.
- i. **518 Glynn Ave SE** – Motion by J. Bain, second by R. Queensland to approve permit for building a house. Motion carried.
  - ii. **124 Main St S.** – Motion by A. Myhre, second by J. Bain to approve permit for the addition of a smokehouse. Motion carried.
- C. Gary Keim** – Gary Keim submitted a request for a water bill refund of base fees in the amount of \$2,943.82. Discussion ensued on the difference between turning the water off and requesting service be disconnected. The council determined a request to disconnect was never submitted so the property owner would still be accountable for base charges. Motion by J. Bain, second by B. Stejskal to deny request. Motion carried.
- D. Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation (SMIF) donation request** – The council decided not to submit a donation.
- E. Community Center** – The council considered allowing the consumption of alcohol at the Community Center. S. Kerrins provided information from the League of Minnesota Cities and the insurance agent. This is a common request from renters. J. Bain inquired what it would cost for a \$1,000,000.00 liability policy. J. Christian assigned S. Kerrins to research cost for a policy and to contact Stewartville to find out how they handle liability issues.
- F. Portable water meter** – A request was submitted for the city to purchase portable water meters that could be issued to a resident for a specific watering project, for a specified period of time, where sewer rates would not be charged. The council decided to purchase four meters to be used a maximum of one month. Cost will be \$25 deposit (refundable upon return of meter), \$25 rental fee, and \$5 per day late fee. Motion by A. Myhre, second by B. Stejskal to move forward with portable water meters. Motion carried.
- G. Housing in C-1 Central Business District** – Discussion took place on whether a variance or conditional use permit was issued to allow single family housing in a commercially zoned area. S. Kerrins was directed to check with the county to determine if a conditional use permit was ever recorded. If not, S. Kerrins should send a letter to the property owners and inform them they are not in compliance.
- H. City Hall repairs** – A. Myhre stated City Hall is in rough shape and work needs to be done before it gets more expensive. S. Kerrins was directed to contact Roman Yoder and obtain a quote for tuck pointing and brick replacement.

**OPEN FORUM** – R. Queensland asked if there are any restrictions of having LP in the Industrial Park. J. Christian responded there was not.

J. Bain inquired if there had been any movement on the permit request by Travis. S. Kerrins explained he had reached out to him with no response.

**ADJOURN** – Motion by R. Queensland, second by J. Bain to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The time was 7:10 p.m.