

GRAND MEADOW COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

JULY 14, 2025 @ 6:00 PM
GRAND MEADOW CITY HALL

Present: Mayor Tim Fenton, Councilor Blayne Stejskal, Councilor Isaac Tangen, Councilor Caden Fruth, Councilor Thomas Oehlke, City Administrator James Christian, Clerk Chris Hyrkas, Librarian Sarah Burmeister, Police Chief Jim Richardson, GMAAS Director Lori Brogan, Irene Jones, Ben Thompson

Absent: Councilor Isaac Tangen

1. CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Fenton called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. CONSENT AGENDA: Stejskal asked about an additional \$600 invoice from Olson Tree Service; Christian responded that it was to remove a linden tree in City Park. Stejskal motioned to approve the consent agenda, Oehlke 2nd. Motion passed unanimously.

- A. Approve additions & corrections to the agenda
- B. Approve June regular meeting minutes
- C. Approve General Fund payments in the amount of \$203,055.90

3. OPEN FORUM: Mayor Fenton asked if there was anyone to speak in the open forum. There was none.

4. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

- A. Library – Report Provided. Burmeister presented her finances for the first half of 2025. There were no questions from Council.
- B. Ambulance – Report provided. Brogan asked Council to approve Tom Brogan joining the department. Stejskal motioned to approve the appointment of Brogan, Fruth 2nd. Motion passed unanimously. Brogan mentioned that she is looking into options with billing companies to streamline the process.
- C. Public Works – Report provided. Stejskal asked Christian about the process used to clean the inside of the water tower, which Christian described. Stejskal asked Christian to remind the Public Works crews to shut the gate to the pond road in the evening.
- D. Police – Report provided. Richardson reported some of the issues that the GMPD had been dealing with over the last month, including bad checks and property issues. Richardson updated Council on the new squad vehicle, and predicted that it would be in service within a couple of months.
- E. Fire – Report provided. Hyrkas reported that the property owner of the old ambulance building had reported that the Fire Dept had left some ruts in the grass behind her building over Meadowfest. Christian stated that the ruts would be repaired. Discussion was had regarding security at Meadowfest. It was decided to revisit the issue at a later date.
- F. City Clerk – Hyrkas reported that National Night Out would be held in Veterans Memorial Park on Tuesday, August 5, 2025, from 5-7 pm and encouraged Council to attend and serve food.
- G. City Administrator – Report provided. There were no questions from Council.

5. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Unopened Street and Alley Policy: Discussion was held on the proposed policy, carried over from the June meeting. Ben Thompson requested that the alley behind his house on 2nd St SW be improved. Christian pointed out that the alley had never been used as an alley since it had previously been pasture in that area before Stier Lane was constructed. A long discussion ensued on that alley and other unimproved alleys in town. Stejskal motioned to approve the Unopened Street and Alley Policy, Oehlke 2nd. Motion passed unanimously.

6. NEW BUSINESS

- A. 2025 Bituminous Seal Coating – Pearson Bros, Inc: Christian presented a quote from Pearson Brothers, Inc. for sealcoating various streets in town for the amount of \$24,225.00. Christian stated that this money had been budgeted for this project. Stejskal motioned to approve the seal coating, Fruth 2nd. The motion passed unanimously.
- B. Water Tower Painting – Maguire: Christian presented a quote from Maguire to clean, prep, and paint the water tower for the amount of \$76,500. Christian reported that the company offered to spread the price out over three years with zero interest. The work would be done in 2026. Stejskal motioned to approve the project, Fruth 2nd. The motion passed unanimously.
- C. Permits:
1. 520 Glynn Ave – Fence: Christian reported that the fence met all setback requirements and P&Z recommended approval. Stejskal motioned to approve the permit, Fruth 2nd. Motion passed unanimously.
 2. 408 2nd St NE – Chickens: Christian reported that he did not receive the required notification of neighbors documentation by meeting time. Stejskal motioned to table the application until that documentation is received, Oehlke 2nd. Motion passed unanimously.
- D. Fee Schedule changes – Lift Assist: Motion by Stejskal, 2nd by Oehlke to add the lift assist fees to the fee schedule (\$300 for care facilities per occurrence, \$100 per occurrence after two in a calendar year for residential calls). Motion passed unanimously.

7. ADJOURN