

Minutes of the Goessel City Council Meeting
6:00 p.m., Monday, July 17, 2023
Civic Center Community Room

Present: Mayor Ben Schmidt; Council Members, Amanda Voth, Evan Esau, Ariel Kraus; City Clerk, Jennifer Bliss; Public Works, Karen Dalke; City Attorney; Free Press Reporter

Absent: Dean Snelling, Duane Adrian, Anthony Voth

Guests: Diann & Stephen Richards, Darin Neufeld – EBH Engineering, John Stucky, Brian Stucky

Call to Order:

- Mayor Schmidt called the council meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Consent Agenda:

- **A Voth moved, seconded by E Esau to accept the consent agenda which includes the minutes from the June 20th regular council meeting and the financial report. Motion carried.**

Public Comment:

- John Stucky came with a few questions regarding the sewer for his shop that was built just southwest of the city building. He presented a map showing the old sewer lines as well as the proposed line for his sewer connection to his shop. They attempted to trench the line and there was hesitation due to the location and the conditions of the dig. His shed has 2 sinks, and 1 toilet so there would be not much flow so to prevent issues that would come up with digging into the creek, he is requesting to “Y” into Mark Talbert’s current line that is there. In the long-term having a separate line is the best option for the city.
- John also discussed the disc golf course. There was discussion about putting in something to help get across the blue line stream to the one of the baskets. There has been good feedback on the disc golf course. Darin stated that 1’ above existing flow is the rule of thumb but once you start asking questions you can get yourself into some trouble. Decision to tie any bridge ideas into the park project.

Diann Richards:

- Diann came to the council to discuss her home on Buller Street. Garage has been removed and the rest of the debris will be removed as further work has been done. They have resided the boxcar to match any other storage facility within the city. She is willing to finish up what they can and put the house back on the market. The council can not do anything at this point since the process has been continued to court. She will have the opportunity to tell the judge at court of the progress she has made on the property.

EBH Engineering:

- Darin came to discuss the park project and the flood study project. Once you get both the feds and the state involved, the cost substantially increases as it takes more time and effort to pull together the information needed to make recommendations on fixing the flooding. There are 3 blue line streams that go through town and we are stuck with them there is no way to remove them. EBH will first do survey shots (approximately 1000) to pick up all the critical pieces to solve our flooding problems. He discussed the different sections of the contract to further help the council with the contract proposal decision.
- **A Voth moved, seconded by A Kraus to accept the contract proposal for civil engineering services with EBH & Associates. Motion carried.**
- Park project discussion. More equipment for smaller age kids (0-2) and equipment for older children (8+). Refurbishment of the basketball court. We have an existing concrete pad that we would like to utilize in some way, such as pickle ball. The shelter house is in poor condition with restrooms that need updated and ADA compliant. There is FEMA money available for storm shelters so we may be able to incorporate that into this project. Bridge for the disc golf course. Depending on the funding source will determine what is allowable in the park project. He can pull together some quick data to give us an idea of the cost of paving the front parking lot at the city building.

RNR Hearing & Budget Hearing:

- The council provided the clerk permission to notify the county clerk of the intent to exceed RNR.

County Notification Area:

- Sharon Omstead with the county asked for response to the hearing about the proposed changes to the city notification area. A Voth is willing to write up a response stating that the city council is okay with the proposed changes and that we would like them to move forward with the proposed changes.

Survey Discussion:

- Tabled until more council members are available for discussion. Post the first 2 graphs on Facebook and repost the previously posted graph.

Emergency Preparedness Plan Update:

- Tabled until November.

Public Works:

- Put in 2 culverts and put the rock in the alley as requested. Put up city limit sign and replaced the no parking on this side of street. Put together the 3 ordered picnic tables.
- Cleaned out the ranger truck. It is officially no longer drivable and has been parked behind the shop.
- No update on the status of the pump.
- The backhoe is overheating. She washed the radiator and put in a new filter. It could be a belt, but she expressed that she is not a mechanic and does not know what to do. Needed council direction.
- Discussed a new truck. Decision to put out a notice for bids and specify what we want. Base trim level, minimum 6ft bed, 4wd, 5 years or newer, automatic transmission, receiver hitch. Send a bid letter to Midway Motors, Hillsboro Ford, Conklin Cars, Revolution Auto.

Police:

- The Charger has been stripped and needs to be cleaned for sale.
- Fixed Durango lights.
- Took James Kraus to qualify.
- Investigated an illegal burning call.
- Issued traffic warnings.
- Nuisance cases were held last month and will be scheduled for court appearance this month.

City Clerk:

- Parade candy that was given out last year was sufficient. Do the same as last year.

Other Business:

- A. Vision/Mission/Core Values – briefly went over the information that has been provided over the months. They felt the items provided were great.
- B. Sidewalk Plan – want to have a sidewalk plan with allotted money per year to replace/maintain areas of sidewalk.
- C. Building Inspection/Code Enforcement – the prospective building inspector did not contact the city.
- D. Harvest Fest/Frisbees & Food trucks update. John Stucky would also like to plan a frisbee golf tournament. He will put together some ideas and get back with the clerk with an idea of a schedule.
- E. Housing Authority – need to reach out to specific people about serving on the housing authority.
- F. Shirt sales fundraiser – provide a link for the sales to do a fundraiser for the park.
- The city council and Mayor are passing on the hiring of the officer applicant.
- Ben Schmidt submitted his resignation from his Mayor position. **A Voth moved, seconded by A Kraus to approve Ben's resignation as Mayor. Motion carried.**
- The city clerk administered the oath of office for new Mayor Evan Esau.

Adjournment:

- **A Voth moved, seconded by A Kraus to adjourn the meeting at 9:14 p.m. Motion carried.**

Ben Schmidt, Mayor

Jennifer Bliss, City Clerk