

Minutes of the Goessel City Council Meeting
6:00 p.m., Mon., May 15, 2023
Civic Center Community Room

Present: Mayor Ben Schmidt; Council Members, Amanda Voth, Evan Esau, Ariel Kraus, Dean Snelling, Duane Adrian; City Clerk, Jennifer Bliss; Public Works, Karen Dalke; Police, Anthony Voth; Free Press Reporter

Absent: Public Works, Karen Dalke

Guests: Lloyd Voth

Call to Order:

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

Consent Agenda:

- **A Voth moved, seconded by D Snelling to accept the consent agenda which included the amended minutes from the April 17th regular council meeting and the financial report. Motion carried.**

Appointments:

- **A Voth moved, seconded by D Adrian to appoint Jennifer Bliss as City Clerk/Court Clerk. Motion carried.**
- **A Voth moved, seconded by D Adrian to appoint Greg Nickel as municipal judge. Motion carried.**
- **A Voth moved, seconded by D Adrian to appoint Adrian & Pankratz with Reece Hiebert designated by them as city attorney. Motion carried.**
- **A Voth moved, seconded by D Adrian to appoint Courtney Demaray as City Treasurer. Motion carried.**

Official Bank Depository:

- **A Voth moved, seconded by A Kraus to designate The Citizens State Bank as the official depository for the City of Goessel. Motion carried.**

Official Newspaper:

- **A Voth moved, seconded by D Snelling to designate The Hillsboro Star Journal as the official newspaper for the City of Goessel. Motion carried.**

RFQ Selection:

- The task force recommends that EBH engineering be chosen for the water drainage and flood improvement project. Reasons for the recommendation include: they are local, Hillsboro has used them, they are qualified, and they have a lot of small-town experience. Proceeding from here, the task force will meet with the selected engineer and show them the problem areas and discuss the project timeline and bring information back to the council after this has happened.
- **E Esau moved, seconded by D Adrian to hire EBH to come out and begin the project process for both the park and drainage issues. Motion carried.**

Survey Results:

- The results from the community survey were compiled and provided to the city council. Council would like to have more time to review the results and will have discussion next month.

Building Inspection/Code Inspection/Animal Control:

- Using a home inspector or company would not work. We are trying to enforce the city code which would be beyond the scope of what building inspectors would be willing to do. You may be able to find one but it could be difficult to do so.
- Council would like to offer Ben Steketee \$250 per property to write up a city code violation list for the property owners that have requested one. We would also offer anyone he is training that same amount. These lists are not a requirement and are more of a courtesy to the property owner.
- There needs to be an update to the Uniform Building Code to use a more recent version of the code.
- Regarding animal control, Amanda would like to provide a person with training if available. Present the job description to James and have him review. He is still willing to volunteer his time. Get suggestions and an opinion from Reece about this position being volunteer, equipment, and any training information.

Police:

- Suggestion to hire a full-time officer.
- Stop storing the police car where it is publicly accessible.
- Charger Disposition. It could give another employee (building inspector or animal control) the use of a vehicle. We could send out a notice to other entities to see if there is interest. Look at getting a value on the charger to see what we could ask for it. Send out an email to see if there is interest and then get an appraisal and if they ask let them know.
- Graphics are in for the Durango. They are being scheduled to be installed.

City Clerk:

- Need to go get tag for the Durango.
- Picnic Tables quote: If you order 1-2, they are \$1,220 each plus shipping. If you order 3+ they would be \$1,170 each. Move the ones that are not as nice to the open shelter and put the new ones by the shelter house. Order 1 ADA compliant rectangle table and 1 regular table or 2 regular?
- **D Snelling moved, seconded by A Kraus to order 3 8ft park tables. Motion carried.**
- Talked about the potential software problem.
- Talked about the planning and zoning board letter received.

City Officials Report:

- It was suggested that each member be a representative of some entity and they would go to one of their meetings and bring a report to the council to stay in the loop. Some suggestions would be the Community Foundation, Recreation Commission, School Board, Housing Authority Board, Library Board, Museum Board, Fire Board, Bethesda Board, Garden Club.

Other Business:

- Nex-Tech Update: Reece verified that the council would like to ask Nex-Tech for a monthly lease fee of \$600 for the first year and a 10% increase annually. If they do not accept that, do we want to accept anything else or propose anything else? Consensus was to go for 10% if not then 5%.
- Housing Authority: Reece does not recommend that we dissolve the board. Jonna is still willing to serve. The thought was to find others that are willing to run it to continue to operating as usual.
- Vision: Second Option was preferred by Ariel; she has heard that we are not very welcoming. Reviewed them and will continue to review and discuss next month.
- Harvest Festival – car show, Dean knows a guy at his work that is big on car shows and would be able to pass on information to others who do car shows so we could get some recruited for that. October 7th is the planned date. By June 16th the school should have a decision on what they would like to do. Farmers Market from 9-noon. Fire breakfast is a go. Pronto pups for October 7th. GRC doing Bingo. Bethesda doing Pumpkin carving contest. 3-on-3 basketball tournament. Petting Zoo by 4-H. Sponsorships
- Threshing Days Events – Lost in the Sauce and Smokin' Diner are willing to do our event. We should provide some activities for people to do. The decision to not do any live music for this event. Give out frisbees with our logo on them.
- Feral cat ordinance. Something to lessen the number of cats running around.
- Micro surfacing the streets along with the county. Do we want to get a firm price on getting Main Street done that would last a little longer than the chip & seal? It would be approximately \$65,000 per mile. This would get Main Street smooth and fill in cracks.

Adjournment:

- **A Voth moved, seconded by D Adrian to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m. Motion carried.**