

Minutes of the Goessel City Council Meeting
6:00 p.m., Tuesday, December 12, 2023
Civic Center Community Room

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

Absent: Anthony Voth; City Attorney, Reece Hiebert

Guests: James Bowlin, Glenn Herman, Mark & Joanna Talbert

Call to Order:

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

Consent Agenda:

- **A Voth moved, seconded by D Snelling to accept the minutes from the regular council meeting with two amendments from 24' to 20' and \$2,735 to \$2,725 and the financial report. Motion carried.**

Public Comment:

- James Bowlin attended the meeting to introduce himself to the council. James was hired contingent upon the passing of the challenge exam next week. Amanda explained that we desire a higher police presence around town, presence in the school and prevention of crime are our top priorities. Council wished him the best on the challenge exam.
- Mayor Esau presented Dean with a plaque for his 10 years of service.
- Mayor Esau also thanked CJ Padget with Evergy for putting up our Christmas decorations. Clerk will send out a thank you card to him.
- Mark Talbert approached the council with issues he has been having. He presented some documents to the council discussing these issues. Mr. Talbert suggested the city make a law/policy for future that states there cannot be rights of egress and ingress through easement. Get with Reece to find out rules on an easement for the Talberts to have ingress/egress. They want to put in a driveway right next to the current driveway that they used to use.
- There is a tree on the Talbert/City property line. They are willing to go in 50/50 to remove the tree to prevent it from falling on either the city building or the Talbert's home.

Handbook Policy Updates:

- The handbook has been updated and formatted with all requested changes.
- **A Voth moved, seconded by A Kraus to approve the changes made to the personnel handbook. Motion carried.**

Park/Flood Project:

- Two temporary access agreements have been returned to the city. These allow the city access to the creek to determine what we need to do and how big of a job it will be to clean out the creek to improve water flow.
- Park improvements – top items additional equipment (younger & older), pickleball court, landscaping around the sign to make it look nice. Grant cycles??

Ordinance 308 – Building Permit Fees:

- Discussed proposed ordinance 308. Reviewed some examples of what other cities are charging for their building permit fees. Tabled until more research can be done.

Public Works:

- Pushed snow on Sunday after we had the snow storm.
- Grader batteries were replaced since it wouldn't start.
- Christmas lights have been put up. Funk Electrics' bucket truck was out of service so Karen had CJ Padget with Evergy put them up. Will send a thank you.
- Soap dispensers were ordered for the ball diamonds.
- Sewer pump has been installed so we are back to 2 pumps.
- Battery connection on the backhoe was busted. It would not start.

- The backup pump was delivered and Ben Schmidt helped unload it with the school's tractor.
- Straightening signs.
- Called in locates to put in some meter cans to change out some meters.
- 21 loads of asphalt millings were put on the streets

Police:

- Nothing to report.

Clerk:

- Gave an update that was sent by the city attorney.
- Briefly discussed water rates. Did not make a decision on an increase at this time. Clerk will review the water fund at the end of the year and observe any surplus or deficit we may have.

Other Business:

- December 17th- 24th Christmas light judging. Winner to be announced in the January meeting.
- **A Voth moved, seconded by S Griffin to go into executive session to discuss personnel matters for 10 minutes. Motion carried.**
- Returned to normal session at 8:55.
- **S Griffin moved, seconded by D Snelling \$300 for full-time \$75 for part-time employees. Motion carried.**

Adjournment:

- **D Snelling moved, seconded by D Adrian to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m. Motion carried.**

Evan Esau, Mayor

Jennifer Bliss, City Clerk