

Minutes of the Goessel City Council Meeting
6:00 p.m., Monday, January 13, 2025
Civic Center Community Room

Present: Mayor, Evan Esau; Council Members, Amanda Voth, Sam Griffin, John Stucky, Duane Adrian, Ariel Kraus; City Clerk, Jennifer Bliss; Free Press Reporter; Public Works, Alex Goossen; City Attorney, Reece Hiebert

Absent: Anthony Voth, Police

Guests: Tim & Colton Wiebe, James Kraus

Call to Order:

- Mayor Esau called the regular council meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

Consent Agenda:

- **S Griffin moved, seconded by J Stucky to accept the minutes from the regular council meeting on December 9th, 2024, the special council meeting on January 2nd, 2025, and the financial report. Motion carried with A Kraus abstaining.**

Public Comment:

- Tim Wiebe came to discuss his plans to build 5 houses on the lots he has purchased. His son would like to build somewhat quickly on his lot so would want to have an answer within the next couple months. On the other 4 lots, the plan is to build single family houses that would likely be rentals. They are looking at this opportunity for the future and would not need utilities at this time.

Reserve Fund Resolutions:

- **A Voth moved, seconded by A Kraus to adopt the reserve fund resolutions as presented. Motion carried.**

Public Works:

- Pushed a lot of snow this past week.
- Was able to get the grader out and get some practice time in.
- Alex passed the Class I water certification.
- Andy currently is our certified operator for both the water and sewer. Now that Alex is certified, Mayor Esau would like to drop the use of Andy as the water operator and once he enters the OIT program, if that is the direction of the council, we would be able to also drop Andy as the sewer operator.
- **J Stucky moved, seconded by S Griffin to stop the use of Andy's certification in water now that Alex is certified and to enroll Alex in the OIT program. Once he is enrolled we can discontinue the use of Andy as the certified wastewater operator. Motion carried.**
- Thanked Funk Electric for taking down the Christmas lights.

Police:

- Worked a burglary case and recovered the stolen property.
- Suspicious activity call.
- Received the new body camera and are working on getting it set up.

City Clerk:

- February meeting date moved to Tuesday, February 18th due to Presidents Day.
- Citywide cleanup on June 28th. Citywide garage sales are set for Saturday June 21st.
- Discussed the Nex-Tech proposal that was presented. It was decided not to pursue this at this time.

Other Business:

- Cat Ordinance – A Kraus did some research and found some information on the City of Plainville. S Griffin thinks that we should leave it as it is and let people take care of the cats as they see fit. Strongly encourage people not to feed animals that aren't yours.
- Recreational Vehicles – A Kraus read a letter submitted by Sara Hiebert, Administrator for Bethesda Home. Jennifer researched what other cities do and passed the information along to the

council members. Work on something that would limit people living in them in town, not being able to park in the street, roadworthy and tagged, stored neat and orderly, parking them on gravel or concrete.

- A Voth asked about the municipal judge position and whether the city would prefer to have an attorney as the municipal judge. Council will think about this and will talk about it in the future.
- Give the owners that own private roads the options that are available. Easement or maintain themselves. We would need a written agreement or some kind of easement on the 3 private roads. This would require surveys, and we could ask them to pay for the survey in exchange for the city performing maintenance on the private road. The purpose would be so that city employees and private owners would know the boundaries of the easement/private road. From a liability standpoint, us continuing as a courtesy to maintain private roads is not the answer and could lead to problems. B Road, Church Street, and the Mobile home park are the three roads in question. If there is no response by a certain number of days, it will be assumed they are willing to continue to maintain them.
- Eye Med Coverage was offered by the insurance company as an additional benefit.
- **S Griffin moved, seconded by A Kraus to provide the Eye Med coverage 100% for the employees and the employees would pay the additional for family, spouse or children. Motion carried with D Adrian abstaining.**
- Discussed the compensation for the city council members. Regular rate for the main monthly meeting and then a lower rate for any work session or special meeting. Regular rate is \$75 for council and special meetings \$50 and for Mayor would be \$120 for all meetings. This was the consensus and expectations for the numbers.
- Sump pump survey example has been received from Hillsboro and gives us a place to start for the enforcement of our sump pump amnesty program.

Executive Session:

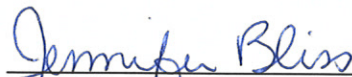
- **S Griffin moved, seconded by D Adrian with Alex present for 10 minutes to discuss an applicant. Motion carried.**
- Returned to normal session at 8:57
- **S Griffin moved, seconded by J Stucky starting the 27th at \$16 per hour to hire Klay Willis as part-time public works subject to approval at the interview. Motion carried.**

Adjournment:

- **D Adrian moved, seconded by A Voth to adjourn the meeting at 8:58 p.m. Motion carried.**



Evan Esau, Mayor



Jennifer Bliss, City Clerk