

Minutes of the Goessel City Council Meeting
6:00 p.m., Monday, March 16, 2026
Civic Center Community Room

Present: Mayor, Evan Esau; Council Members, Amanda Voth, Sam Griffin, John Stucky, Justin Nickel; City Clerk, Jennifer Bliss; Public Works, Alex Goossen; City Attorney, Reece Hiebert; Police, Anthony Voth

Guests: Glenn Herman, Luanne Soukup, John & Marcia Spielman

Absent: Duane Adrian

Call to Order:

- Mayor Esau called the regular council meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

Consent Agenda:

- **A Voth moved, seconded by S Griffin, to accept the minutes from the regular council meeting on February 17th and the financial report. Motion carried.**

Public Comment:

- Glen asked about the legal notice when water bills are past due.

Police:

- Anthony will finish getting things together for the new part-time officer to begin working.

Public Works:

- Looked into the shop painting further. Presented the updated quotes from Wheat State and Jason Riggs Painting. Lavon family painting did not submit an updated bid. Wheat States duration latex paint has a 5-year warranty on their paint if it has been applied as instructed.
- **J Stucky moved, seconded by S Griffin to accept the bid from Wheat State Paint Company, LLC not to exceed \$7,000. Motion carried.**
- \$22.50 per ton for asphalt millings was quoted from J.L. Unruh.
- 2 companies have been out and looked at the water tower but have not yet provided updated quotes. Viking and Maguire have taken photos and are working up quotes for the inspection and painting of the tower.

City Clerk:

- Working on some grant applications for projects as discussed previously.
- Working on the audit materials and requested documentation for the auditor.

Public Officer:

- Reviewed the report Kelli provided. No comments made.

Other Business:

- Memo of Understanding with Library – reviewed the changes that Reece presented. Reece will come back with some updated language in the memo. Discussed some of the tax numbers and mills the library received. The process of converting the library to a township library seems overwhelming but would overall benefit them positively.
- Tornado Siren – John talked with Federal Signal – for clarification the maintenance on the least expensive option the subscription that is annually covers the maintenance of the communication between the NWS and the device. There will be changes coming with their text system that will be population based with unlimited messages instead of on a set number of text messages per month. This is slated for the second quarter of this year but to expect that to mean for that to be third quarter. Plan is to go for the Frontier Farm grant for the quoted \$13,871.55 to get the siren converted to automatic setoff. June 30th is the deadline for the next application period. The project is necessary for public, volunteer, and employee safety.
- Nuisance Code Update – Reece needs to get a revised version that can be presented at the next meeting for approval.
- Emergency Plans – still working on some updated language and contact information for the plan.

- Water System – discussed the recent water test results and the elevated levels of nitrates in the water. We are currently in the process of taking a confirmation sample to re-test the nitrates level. Once the results are known, they will average the 2 samples. If the result brings the level below 10, there is no further action that needs to be taken. If the level stays high, the chance that the testing interval will increase to quarterly rather than annually and we will continue to provide bottled water for the vulnerable population will be followed. Marci with Marion County Emergency Management was able to source a pallet of water to get us started with the water to supply those needing it. Darcy Nickel has been pursuing the Drinking Water Protection Program and progress has been made. The program would help nitrate levels in the drinking water long term.
- Park Equipment – did not get the community foundation grant so we will keep moving forward with the original plan.
- Housing Expansion – Darin with EBH has provided some guidance on the expansion of town and looking for developers. He also provided some contact information for someone who is well versed in RHID.
- Sewer Project – you would not put the force main underneath the wetlands and would have to re-route the force main. We also would have to re-route the floodplain around the wetlands since they cannot be in the floodplain.
- Dog Kennel Requirement/Issues – Reece researched the requirement, licensed through KDA, designate language in our code, we would have to have inspections, certifying vet that can document they are the main veterinary provider for the pound, also may need to talk to neighbors to have approval for the designated kennel site. This would not apply if a dog were held for a few hours. There is a way to house them temporarily in a secure location, Reece will get that information to the council. Need a crate for transport and a cage for the holding of an animal.

Executive Session:

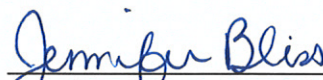
- **S Griffin moved, seconded by J Nickel to enter executive session for 10 minutes with council, chief of police, public works director and Mayor present for matters relating to the security of a public body or agency matters of the city. Motion carried.**
- Return to normal session. No decision to be made.
- **S Griffin moved, seconded by A Voth to enter an executive session for 10 minutes with council, Mayor and public works director present to discuss employer-employee relations and negotiations. Motion carried.**
- **Extended 7 minutes.**
- Return to normal session.
- **S Griffin moved, seconded by A Voth to enter an executive session for 7 minutes with council, Mayor, public works director, and clerk present to discuss employer-employee relations and negotiations. Motion carried.**
- **Extended by 10 minutes.**
- Return to normal session.
- **S Griffin motioned, seconded by J Stucky to hire Stacey Sawyer at a rate of \$20 per hour not to exceed 20 hours per week starting April 1st. Motion carried.**

Adjournment:

- **S Griffin moved, seconded by A Voth, to adjourn the meeting at 9:48. Motion carried.**



Evan Esau, Mayor



Jennifer Bliss, City Clerk