

Minutes of the Goessel City Council Meeting
6:00 p.m., August 15, 2022
Civic Center Community Room

Present: Mayor Ben Schmidt; Council Members Evan Esau, Duane Adrian, Amanda Voth, Dean Snelling; City Clerk Jennifer Bliss; Police Anthony Voth; Free Press Reporter; Joseph Uhlman – City Attorney

Guests: Valarie & Erminio Guerrero, Luanne Soukup, Ariel Kraus, Glenn Herman, Kristina Conrady, Matt Lehman Wiens, Rick & Denise Woelk,

Absent: Public Works Karen Dalke;

Called to order at 6:00 pm

Consent Agenda:

- **A Voth moved, seconded by D Snelling to accept the consent agenda which included the minutes of the June 22nd regular meeting as amended and the financial report. Motion carried.**

Goessel Community Foundation:

- Matt Lehman Wiens attended the council meeting to discuss the city sponsoring to the Goessel Community Foundation golf tournament. The money raised goes to the community foundation impact fund that provides grants to those in the community. He also mentioned a seminar that covers natural disasters that he is inviting the council to attend. He will send a report afterwards for those who cannot attend.
- **A Voth moved, seconded by E Esau to donate \$250 to sponsor the Goessel Community Foundation golf tournament. Motion carried.**

Ordinance 300 - Chickens:

- Council reviewed the proposed ordinance to allow chickens in city limits. The proposed ordinance would allow for 6 hens and no roosters would be allowed. They would also have to be in cages they would not be allowed to be free range.
- Public comments included those that felt the chickens would be a nuisance from the smell to the sound. There was also concern over those who would not take care of them. Others felt that other cities around allow chickens and they felt that we should also be allowed to have them. Chickens are beneficial because they eat bugs, they teach children about raising your own food, and they provide a healthy alternative to store bought eggs.
- **A Voth moved, seconded by D Adrian to adopt the proposed ordinance #300 as written. Motion carried.**

Emergency Water Plan Update:

- **D Snelling moved, seconded by D Adrian to adopt the changes to the emergency water plan. Motion carried.**

Tornado Siren:

- Only received one quote at this time. The quote gives the city council an idea of what we can expect cost wise. They also included the option to join IPAWS which is run by the National Weather Service that would automatically set the siren off if it fell within the polygon where a warning is.

Standard Traffic Ordinance #301:

- **D Snelling moved, seconded by D Adrian to adopt Ordinance #301 adopting the current version of the Standard Traffic Ordinance. Motion carried.**

Uniform Public Offense Code #302:

- **D Snelling moved, seconded by E Esau to adopt Ordinance #302 adopting the current version of the Uniform Public Offense Code. Motion carried.**

Public Works:

- Had the water inspection and passed with no violations.
- Discussed the lead and copper survey that was mailed out. Also discussed the violation from the water sampling plan in December.

Police:

- Nuisance Properties were discussed. David Johnson called and requested more time to continue working on his shed. He has the material now he just needs to get the time to work on it. He made improvements on his home and will continue working to improve the look of his shed.
- Assisted McPherson county with a juvenile case.
- Need to have the motion light outside the police department repaired/replaced. Clerk will have it replaced.

Park:

- Briefly discussed options for the bridge at the park for the disc golf course. Will seek a letter from the state specifically stating what we can and cannot do. Tabled for now.

City Clerk:

- Brought up the police shed carport door. Due to the high cost and the structural questionability of the door the council decided to not pursue it.
- Bag worms had been brought up to see if there was something we could do as a city to help with bag worms. It was mentioned that we are too late to treat for them.
- Recycling was brought up and the clerk asked what other cities are doing. We have a few options and we discussed these. We will reach out to Jonah Goering and find out if the county would be interested in providing this service once more.

Executive Session:

- **Esau moved, seconded by D Adrian to enter executive session to consult with the attorney for 10 minutes with council and attorney present. Motion carried**
- Return to normal session at 7:27.
- **E Esau moved, seconded by D Snelling to adopt the child at work policy as proposed. Motion carried.**

Other Business:

- Discussed Steve's recycling operation and how it is an eyesore that visitors see when they come to games at the school. Joseph discussed writing up a violation for him keeping and maintaining a nuisance. Putting up a fence would be a feasible option that would require a variance due to the location of roads in the area and power lines. Mayor Schmidt and Joe Uhlman walked through a few months ago and asked him to clean up some areas and for the most part he has cleaned up what we asked but it has once again gotten out of hand. We discussed serving the property owner instead of the tenant. It was noted that the owner of the property is very delinquent on taxes so may not be as motivated to clean it up as someone who did not owe back taxes.
- Ariel Kraus is willing to serve on the city council. She attended this evening and accepted running. Chad Lindeman is also willing to serve on the city council. Amanda suggested sending out an email with the questions we asked previously when looking into replacing a council member and discussing the responses at the next council meeting.

Adjournment:

- **D Adrian moved, seconded by D Snelling to adjourn at 7:30 p.m. Motion carried.**

Ben Schmidt, Mayor

Jennifer Bliss, City Clerk