

Minutes of the Goessel City Council Meeting
6:00 p.m., Mon., November 21, 2022
Civic Center Community Room

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

Absent: Police, Anthony Voth

Guests: Keith Banman – The Cabinet Shop, Kyle Funk – Funk Electric

Call to Order:

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

Consent Agenda:

- **D Snelling moved, seconded by E Esau to accept the minutes from the October 17th regular council meeting and the financial report. Motion carried.**

Funk Electric – Container:

- Kyle came to the meeting to discuss his desire to use storage containers. He would like the council to consider allowing him to use storage containers without having to file a permit or pay any fees to have them there. Kyle would place them on the east side of his shop. Kyle is wanting to have 2 containers that are allowed to come and go.
- **D Adrian moved, seconded by D Snelling to allow Kyle to have 2 cargo containers that are able to come and go as needed without the need for a permit or any fees. Motion carried.**
- Keith Banman with the Mennonite Disaster Service Cabinet shop is also wanting to ask permission to have a container as well. They are needing to have more space to store the finished product before they get shipped. They would place it either behind the building or right next to it. He does not know how long they would need it, it would hopefully be just until something permanent can be done. Revisit it in a year to see where they are at.
- **E Esau moved, seconded by D Adrian to allow MDS to have 1 container that follows all setbacks. We will revisit it in 1 year. Motion carried.**

Variance Template:

- Discussed a drawn-up template from the city attorney. Decided to table the issue until the attorney is able to be present.

Tornado Siren:

- Looked for different options to allow us to use the current system without having to replace the whole system. Using the uhf/vhf radios would be an option and having the calling system would be an option. This option would require FCC license fees and having a channel issued for use. Get with Matt to make sure we are getting the radios that will work for him.

Nex-Tech:

- Tabled until after he is able to meet with the Mayor.

Building Inspector:

- Ben Steketee recently resigned from his position as the building inspector. Discussed what we could do to replace him. We could talk to Newton/Moundridge/Hesston and see if they would be willing to help us in this area.

Public Works:

- Been working on raising valve stems on 2 water valves. Had to rent a jackhammer to dig up the street.
- Replaced a valve at the water well.
- Requested a quote from APAC to pave the front parking area of the city building and also got a quote to asphalt the parking lot. It is difficult for some people to get around in the parking lot and it would make it look a lot nicer.

- Also had the idea to replace the current park shelter building. There would need to be some trees removed and some moving around to be done but a 40X50 sized building would be able to fit there. Also would like to see some more equipment. Develop a plan to upgrade the park.

Police:

- Diann Richards-Root sent a letter to update the council on her progress.
- Joseph touched base with Joe Base and Penny Morgan.
- Dave Johnson has worked on the roof of the blacksmith shop. There is more that is needing addressed on the building but he is starting with the roof.
- Melody Hall knows that her home is un-livable and she knows it needs torn down but she does not have the money to do so. How do we want to proceed? Ask Joe what the best plan of action for this situation. Ask Joe to contact her to see what can be worked out with her. How can we work together to get the situation taken care of and do what's best for all.

Streets:

- There were two valves that have been dug up on State Street. One of them has created a hole and she is wondering if it could be patched.
- Streets are needing graded. Once we get moisture the roads can be graded.

Wastewater:

- The state has issued an updated permit. In order to stay in compliance with them we will need to submit a quarterly report and stay within our permit limits. If by March of 2024 we have not shown compliance we will need to hire an engineer to do another project to fix the issue. If we are not discharging, we are considered passing and in compliance.
- Bethesda board also does not want to help pay for any recycling.

Employee Reviews/Wages:

- **E Esau moved, seconded by D Snelling to go into executive session with council and mayor present for 20 minutes to discuss employee wages. Motion carried.**
- Return to normal session at 7:45.
- **E Esau moved, seconded by D Snelling to increase wages 6% across the board for all employees both part-time and full-time. Motion carried.**
- Dean presented Karen with a 15 years of service plaque and thanked her for her years of service.

Other Business:

- Next month's meeting is on the same night as the K-5 Christmas Concert. Meeting will be moved up to 5:00 on December 19th.
- Christmas Light Contest approval of \$100 gift card for first place and \$50 gift card for second place to the grocery store.

Adjournment:

- **D Snelling moved, seconded by D Adrian to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m. Motion carried.**

Ben Schmidt, Mayor

Jennifer Bliss, City Clerk