

**CITY OF VERGAS
REGULAR MEETING**

Tuesday, September 8, 2020 6:30 P.M.

The City Council of Vergas met at 6:30 p.m., on Tuesday, September 8, 2020 in a Zoom virtual meeting with the following members present: Mayor Dean Haarstick, Council Members: Logan Dahlgren, Julie Bruhn, Paul Pinke and Natalie Fischer. Absent: none. Also present: Clerk/Treasurer Julie Lammers, Utilities Superintendent Mike DuFrane, Dustin Nash, Loren Menz, Keith Sandau, Bridget Sutterland, Dan Snider, Steve Peloquin, Carol Albright, Bruce Albright, Peter Kastella and Barbie Porter of the Frazee-Vergas Forum.

Mayor Dean Haarstick called the meeting to order.

No citizens' concerns were discussed.

Motion by Dahlgren, seconded by Pinke to accept agenda with the following addition: Pioneer Tractor Pull and Pioneer Days. Voting yes: Pinke, Bruhn, Dahlgren and Fischer. Voting no: none. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Pinke, seconded by Bruhn to approve the following consent agenda:

- a. Council Minutes of the Aug. 18, 2020
- b. Bills paid between Council meetings and Council bills for a total of \$24,564.67.
- c. Liquor Store bills for August 2020 for a total of \$68,830.27.
- d. General Fund/Special Revenue Money Market Account Report
- e. COVID19 Spending Report
- f. 2020 Budget Comparison
 - i. General
 - ii. Water
 - iii. Sewer
- g. Late water/sewer bills
 - i. COVID19 applications-no one has applied

Voting yes: Bruhn, Pinke, Dahlgren and Fischer. Voting no: none. Motion carried.

Council was asked they would be interested in allowing the Pioneer Tractor Pull and Pioneer Days to use property in the Vergas City Limits. The only property Lammers knew of large enough to hold the event would be the City property on Lake Street. Council asked for more information before they could decide if property could be used.

Jack Rosenthal of Compass Consultants Inc. has provided a survey of Pelican Avenue properties for Dustin Nash and Keith Sandau. The City street committee has discussed proposal and recommends keeping Glen Street right of way at 66 feet for future development. Loren Menz reviewed his property and feels his property line should also be moved if this proposal is approved. Property owners would like to meet and discuss a proposal for next month's meeting.

Dan Snider representative of Colonial Life presented a pre-tax benefit for City employees. A \$10,000 life insurance policy will be paid for by Colonial Life to all employees who speak with Colonial Life. Motion by Pinke, seconded by Dahlgren to allow Colonial Life to provide benefit to City employees as an employee paid payroll deduction. Voting yes: Bruhn, Pinke, Dahlgren and Fischer. Voting no: none. Motion carried.

Motion by Bruhn, seconded by Pinke for the City of Vergas to waive the monetary limits on municipal tort liability established by Minnesota Statutes 466.06 accepting liability coverage limits of \$1,000,000 on a single occurrence from the League of Minnesota Cities Insurance Trust. Voting yes: Bruhn, Pinke, Dahlgren and Fischer. Voting no: none. Motion carried.

Kolbinger reviewed 2019 Street Project. Anderson Brothers filled cracks and placed epoxy on curb on September 5, 2020 and DuFrane stated there were more cracks. DuFrane and Kolbinger will review new cracks. The City street committee has met and recommends we keep a 66 foot Right of Way on Glen Street. Discussed the infiltration system on Diane and Eva project which DuFrane and Kolbinger will review for October Council meeting. Motion by Dahlgren, seconded by Bruhn to approve the KLJ task order for Glenn Street Right of Way and the estimates for the infiltration system for standard hourly rates. Voting yes: Bruhn, Pinke, Dahlgren and Fischer. Voting no: none. Motion carried.

Park and Trail Advisory Committee reports were reviewed. Albright requested to have a part-time parks department employee for \$5000.00 in 2021. Albright questioned expenditures for the park board. Lammers explained the park board advisory board does not have authorization to spend money; they are to make recommendations to the Council. DuFrane does have authority to spend up to \$1,000 for Council approved budgeted expenses. Discussed putting a curb along the parking lot by the beach. A berm (curb) will stop the beach from washing out after each rain. Discussed steps by the wall and boardwalk to Frazee Avenue. Motion by Pinke, seconded by Fischer to spend \$1,000 on steps. Voting yes: Bruhn, Pinke, Dahlgren and Fischer. Voting no: none. Motion carried. Discussed artificial wood (like trex) for steps. Motion by Pinke, seconded by Fischer to amend motion to spend \$1,500 if they include artificial wood. Voting yes: Bruhn, Pinke, Dahlgren and Fischer. Voting no: none. Motion carried. Motion by Bruhn, seconded by Fischer to approve Driveway Service proposal of \$2000.00 to put in berm. Voting yes: Bruhn, Pinke, Dahlgren and Fischer. Voting no: none. Motion carried.

Economic Development Authority/Housing Redevelopment Authority (EDA/HRA) report was reviewed.

Planning Commission report was reviewed.

Yard waste committee met due to complaints from Otter Tail County. Dumpsters have been moved and there has been no garbage placed at yard waste since meeting.

Bruhn reviewed CDH-Vergas Fire Board report. Remodeling project has been completed. Requested \$4,400 for masks be paid for out of cares funding. Motion by Bruhn, seconded by Bruhn to spend \$4,400 for masks for fire department out of cares funds. Voting yes: Bruhn, Pinke, Dahlgren and Fischer. Voting no: none. Motion carried.

Bruhn reviewed employee performance evaluation forms. Motion by Dahlgren, seconded by Pinke to approve both supervisor and non-supervisor evaluation forms. Voting yes: Bruhn, Pinke, Dahlgren and Fischer. Voting no: none. Motion carried.

Lammers reviewed COVID19 procedures for the city.

Utilities Superintendent Report

Parks-Docks will be removed by September 11, 2020 and bathrooms will be closed.

Water and Sewer- Discussed electronic meters in homes and we have 35 left to install. Proposed a fee to charge property owners to read their meter if they do not have an electronic meter by December 31, 2020.

Motion by Pinke, seconded by Bruhn to charge \$10.00 to read meters manually. Voting yes: Bruhn, Pinke, Dahlgren and Fischer. Voting no: none. Motion carried. Motion by Pinke, seconded by Dahlgren to amend motion to charge \$25.00 a month to read meters starting January 1, 2021. Voting yes: Bruhn, Pinke, Dahlgren and Fischer. Voting no: none. Motion carried. Hydrants will be flushed before next month's Council meeting.

Streets- DuFrane asked Council to purchase a snowplow truck from the City of Detroit Lakes. Council discussed and asked DuFrane to bring a purchase proposal to next month's meeting. Motion by Dahlgren, seconded by Fischer to approve Driveway Services proposal for patching for \$3,275.00. Voting yes: Bruhn, Pinke, Dahlgren and Fischer. Voting no: none. Motion carried.

Lammers reviewed Liquor Store activities.

2021 Budget was discussed. Motion by Fischer, seconded by Pinke to approve Resolution 2020-006 (A complete text of the resolution is part of permanent public record in the City Clerk's office) regarding 2021 tax levy of \$229,149.00. Voting yes: Bruhn, Pinke, Dahlgren and Fischer. Voting no: none. Motion carried.

Haarstick stated he has attended several meetings with Lakes Country Service Association.

The business for which the meeting was called having been completed, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Clerk-Treasurer Julie Lammers, CMC