

**CITY OF VERGAS  
REGULAR MEETING**

**Tuesday, November 10, 2020 6:30 P.M.**

The City Council of Vergas met at 6:30 p.m., on Tuesday, October 13, 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, Loren Menz, Keith Sandau, Steve Peloquin, Shane Poss, Carol Albright, Bruce Albright, Scott Kolbinger and Barbie Porter of the Frazee-Vergas Forum.

Mayor Dean Haarstick called the meeting to order.

No citizens' concerns were discussed.

Motion by Pinke, seconded by Fischer to accept agenda as presented. Voting yes: Pinke, Bruhn, Dahlgren and Fischer. Voting no: none. Motion carried.

We are unable to canvass the vote until after Friday due to the law allowing votes coming in the mail. We will not have official election results until after Thursday. Motion by Bruhn, seconded by Pinke to hold a special council meeting on Monday, November 16 at 6:30 pm. Voting yes: Pinke, Bruhn, Dahlgren and Fischer. Voting no: none. Motion carried.

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

- a. Council Minutes of the October 13, 2020.
- b. Bills paid between Council meetings and Council bills for a total of \$42,076.86.
- c. Liquor Store bills for October 2020 for a total of \$51,864.55.
- d. General Fund/Special Revenue Money Market Account Report
- e. 2020 Investment Schedule/Bond Schedule
- f. COVID19 Spending Report
- g. Late water/sewer bills
  - i. COVID19 applications-no one has applied

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

Parcel lines along Pelican Avenue and Glen Street have been discussed and property owners have expressed agreement with moving property lines. The City will donate property in the back of parcel 82000990136000 to make up for property being lost on side of their property. Property owners at 82000990136000 stated they want to remain whole in both financial and land since they are not requesting this change. Jack Rosenthal of Trust Compass reviewed boundary line changes and stated they have contracts with all parties, and they are in favor of moving forward with the property. Peloquin stated he will draw up the deeds and get them recorded after they are signed. Discussed payment of deeds and recording of the deeds. Motion by Pinke, seconded by Dahlgren to charge property owners for deeds and recording; the City to pay their portion and for parcel 82000990136000 portion. Voting yes: Bruhn, Pinke, Dahlgren and Fischer. Voting no: none. Motion carried.

Motion by Pinke, seconded by Bruhn to approve the following: grade and fill permit for 202 S Townline Road. Voting yes: Bruhn, Pinke, Dahlgren and Fischer. Voting no: none. Motion carried.

The City needs to pay their portion of the 2019 CDH-Vergas Fire Pension Payment which is divided by Candor Township, Dunn Township, Hobart Township and the City of Vergas.

Motion by Bruhn, seconded by Pinke to sign a 5-year agreement with Hoffman, Phillip, & Knutson, PLLC. Voting yes: Pinke, Bruhn, Dahlgren and Fischer. Voting no: none. Motion carried.

Pinke reviewed the street committee report regarding plowing gravel roads and driver feedback signs. Shane Poss reviewed why he filed a complaint regarding the plowing of Bennett Road. Bennett Road's gravel is in the ditch and wash boarded due to the plowing of a road before the frost. No Township plowed during the October storm because they know better. Plowing this early only causes problems with gravel roads. Council asked Poss to provide information to be put into a snow plowing policy. The driver feedback sign policy was discussed, and the street committee recommended moving forward with this if there is no cost to the city. Motion by Pinke, seconded by Bruhn to fill out driver feedback sign form with Otter Tail County requesting the signs be here in the spring and/or summer. Voting yes: Pinke, Bruhn, Dahlgren and Fischer. Voting no: none. Motion carried.

Carol Albright reviewed the Park and Trail Advisory Committee. Motion by Bruhn, seconded by Fischer to approve Steph Hogan as a Vergas Park Board member replacing Mike Goettel. Voting yes: Pinke, Bruhn, Dahlgren and Fischer. Voting no: none. Motion carried. Motion by Bruhn, seconded by Pinke to purchase 4 garbage cans for the park at \$500.00 each. Voting yes: Pinke, Bruhn, Dahlgren and Fischer. Voting no: none. Motion carried.

Economic Development Authority/Housing Redevelopment Authority (EDA/HRA) report was reviewed. Council encouraged them to proceed with the plan of a multi-use facility and to look for funding.

Planning Commission report was reviewed. Motion by Pinke, seconded by Bruhn to vacate the road over the ballfield. Voting no: Bruhn, Pinke, Dahlgren and Fischer. Voting yes: none. Motion failed. Peloquin will provide resolution for December meeting. Discussed easement area at 88 Park View Drive. Council is recommending a berm in the easement and we are waiting for their contractor to provide us a quote for the work.

Event Center committee recommended a \$20.00 exercise rate at the event center. Motion by Bruhn, seconded by Pinke to add a \$20.00 fee for exercise events. Voting yes: Bruhn, Pinke, Dahlgren and Fischer. Voting no: none. Motion carried.

Lammers requested we sell 2021-yard waste permits, after the 2020 permits (we have 7 left) are sold instead of waiting until January. Motion by Fischer, seconded by Pinke to sell 2021 permits after current year permits are sold. Voting yes: Bruhn, Pinke, Dahlgren and Fischer. Voting no: none. Motion carried.

Bruhn reviewed utility positions in Vergas. Bruhn provided information from other communities regarding public works employees, stating most of the other communities with populations close to Vergas, have 1 full time position and 1 part time employee.

Lammers reviewed COVID19 procedures for the city.

Utilities Superintendent Mike DuFrane provide a written report.

Streets- Motion by Dahlgren, seconded by Pinke to purchase snowplow from Detroit Lakes for \$12,000. Voting yes: Bruhn, Pinke, Dahlgren and Fischer. Voting no: none. Motion carried.

Lammers reviewed Liquor Store activities. Discussed electronic sign and Council asked Lammers to get more quotes on other signs. Motion by Bruhn, seconded by Pinke to hire Shawna Jones at

\$10.60 an hour at the Vergas Liquor Store. Voting yes: Bruhn, Pinke, Dahlgren and Fischer. Voting no: none. Motion carried.

2021 Budget was reviewed. Motion by Bruhn, seconded by Dahlgren to approve the final 2021 General Fund budget. Voting yes: Pinke, Bruhn, Dahlgren and Fischer. Voting no: none. Motion carried.

Haarstick thanked City residents for allowing him to be on Council these past 31 years.

The business for which the meeting was called having been completed, the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Clerk-Treasurer Julie Lammers, CMC