

Clerk-Treasurer Council Report
May 2024

Camera's

Attached is quotes for both the ballfield and the government services office cameras.

Construction Permits

Construction permits and grade and fill permits have expanded, and I am spending about 15 hours a week working on permits. Concern with repairs at 1156 Frazee Area (see attached information). Otter Tail County does not issue permits for rip wrap and we may want to discontinue permits for areas below an ordinary high-water mark as this is the DNR's jurisdiction.

Resolution

Paperwork is complete for donation of park. See attached resolution.

Grants:

Applied:

Municipal Clerks Advanced Academy Grant, \$100.00. In process.

Government Services Building

New front door, window in Clerk-Treasurer office scheduled to be installed week of May 28. Office entry way scheduled to be painted by Memorial Day Weekend.

Employee Review

Receptionist Ronola Richards has worked for the city for 6 years as of April 10. Review was provided and employee performance rating code 28; needs improvement. Goals to master the utility billing program and update the website.

Education and Trainings:

Attended

Emergency Preparedness April 18, 2024 Perham Community Center

Discussed the importance of an alert and warning system. There are no tornado sirens; there are outdoor warning sirens. Siren means go indoors and get more information. If GPS location is turned on SMART911 will give alerts to your phone whenever you are in an area that has Smart911. Most important thing for employees and volunteers to do in an emergency is to document, document document. Activity involved damage and impact assessment of multiply tornadoes.

Loss Control April 23, 2024, St Cloud

Importance of a wellness program: more positive and productive employees. Allows employees to learn about healthy behavior.

Contracts reviewed what to look for with contracts and informed Clerks League Attorney Chris Smith will review contracts for free.

All city websites must be ADA compliant by December 31, 2024. I will work with our website for complacency.

Reviewed de-escalating behavior and diffusing situations. City needs to have a plan in place and employees need to know and practice the plan.

Otter Tail County Workforce Summit, April 24 Ottertail

Think big, start small and move fast. Otter Tail County has worked diligently to get people to come now it is time to work on keeping them here. Stressed the need for welcoming communities. Current unemployment in Otter Tail County is 3.3%, a record low. There are .4 people for every 1 job. Need to focus on what vergas can do for its residents. People do not want their community to provide everything they just need to get to the essentials within 45 minutes. Currently there is a fight for people, and we need to make everyone feel welcome. Advertise outside of our local area and meet their social needs when they get here.

Ringdahl Ambulance Meeting April 24 Fergus Falls

Ambulances are not essential services, and the government does not have to pay for this service. Ringdahl has been meeting with Otter Tail County for over a year and they do not want to take the problem with funding away from the state. 25 years ago ambulances were run by volunteers, but volunteerism is dying. Reasons for financial situation: If they do not transport someone, they receive no pay. Medicare has not increased their rates since 2003. The Medicare fix is 5-8 years away. There is a one-time emergency aid funding being discussed at the state level which would help for 2024. Jordan Rasmussen has introduced another bill to help with the crisis. Ambulances on the Iron Range are already closing. Ringdahl had 4 crews, they now have 2.

The following have paid: City of Pelican Rapids, Townships Norwegian Grove and Pelican. They have contracts stating they will pay with Candor and Erhard Grove Township. They are requesting any size payment. Vergas request is for either \$5,163.78 if we are figuring by household or \$6,652.96 if we are figuring by person. This information is based on all parcels with structures.

If funding is not received, they will be decreasing their services from ALS (full ambulance) to BLS Basic Life Support.

Attending

No training is scheduled.