CITY OF VERGAS SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA

Virtual Meeting 1:35 P.M. on Wednesday, April 1, 2020

- 1. Call to order
- 2. Coronavirus (COVID-19)
- 3. Personnel
- 4. Utility late fee and shut off
- 5. City Accounts Payable
- 6. Adjournment

CITY OF VERGAS Special Council Meeting Wednesday, April 01, 2020 1:45 P.M.

The City Council of Vergas met for a special meeting at 1:45 p.m., Wednesday, April 1, 2020 in a virtual meeting due to state of emergency addressing CORVID-19 with the following members present: Mayor Dean Haarstick, Council Members Julie Bruhn, Logan Dahlgren, Paul Pinke and Natalie Fisher. Absent: none. Also present: Clerk-Treasurer Julie Lammers, Utilities Superintendent Mike DuFrane, Barbie Porter of the <u>Frazee-Vergas Forum</u> and Steve Peloquin of Peloquin Law Firm.

Mayor Dean Haarstick called the meeting to order.

Lammers reviewed the procedural changes the City has made with the Coronavirus (COVID-19) which include City Office being closed and Lammers doing a majority of her work at home (City phone has been transferred to her cell phone), park equipment closed, Event Center closed, limiting utility employees to work within 6 feet of each other, closing Liquor Store on Sundays and not allowing more than 10 customers in the Liquor Store at a time.

Lammers presented information regarding the new Employee Rights paid sick leave and expanded family and medial leave under the families first coronavirus response act (FFCRA). The act becomes enforceable from April 2, 2020 to December 31, 2020. A poster explaining the act will be posted in the hallway of the City building on the City bulletin board. Motion by Bruhn, seconded by Dahlgren to approve the following forms; form to request FMLA for COVID-19 and Form to request federal paid sick leave for COVID-19 with the addition of putting numbers by the items to check on the form to request federal paid sick leave for COVID-19. Voting yes: Dahlgren, Bruhn, Pinke and Fischer. Voting No: none. Motion carried.

Discussed personnel policy regarding workers during stay at home order by Governor Tim Walz. City receptionist is the only non-essential employee the City currently employs. Essential employees will continue to work their regular schedules. Council made no changes to the current personnel policy. Receptionist will decide if she wants to work from home a limited number of hours and/or draw unemployment.

Council discussed utility billing late fee and shut off policy. Council requested Lammers provide a form for residents to request penalty be removed if they have a financial impact from the COVID-19. Criteria may include loss of work, reduction in hours and payment of total utility bill within 90 days. Discussed shut off policy and DuFrane mentioned public health issues. Lammers will provide a form(s) for the April 14, 2020 Council meeting for Council to review for both penalty and shut off requests.

Motion by Bruhn, seconded by Dahlgren to approve city bill listing for \$6,505.89. Voting yes: Dahlgren, Bruhn, Pinke and Fischer. Voting No: none. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 2:35 pm.

Clerk-Treasurer Julie Lammers, CMC