

COOPERSTOWN CITY COUNCIL
Regular Meeting August 7, 2023

The Cooperstown City Council met Monday, August 7, at 7:00 pm in the city council room. Present: Paul Paintner, Deb Eslinger, Larry Olson, Steve Perry, Seth Hanson, Charles Dehoff, and Allen Gruman. Others present: Public Works David Ludwig, Auditor Christine Olson, Deputy Auditor Naomi Trostad, Sheriff Bob Hook, Brandon Smith/Moore Engineering, Joanne White, Robin Hasenwinkel, Lauren Ressler/Park Board, and Bryce Trostad/Park Board. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Eslinger to approve July 10, 2023, meeting minutes. Motion carried.

Lauren Ressler provided an update on the status of the swimming pool. The Park Board has accepted an offer from Griggs County Central School to purchase the current swimming pool property for \$22,500, allowing them to pursue their expansion plan to the east. The board is currently in the research phase of how to go about building a new pool. They are leveraging the school connections with their architect and construction manager at risk and their connections with pool consultants. They have contacted Amber Wogslund to see if she would assist with grant writing and project management. They are currently building a team of experts to assist with a capital campaign and fund raising as they feel it just can't be the park board handling all the details. The goal is to have a viability plan going forward.

Sheriff Bob Hook reported that Griggs County Central School has voted to add a School Resource Officer. The school is requesting 172 shifts during normal school days. The SRO would be available for emergency call outs. The SRO will be supervised by the Griggs County Sheriff. The remaining 119 shifts would be available to the City of Cooperstown spread out over a year period. Collaboration with the city council will be done to ensure coverage is hitting the needs of the community, to include assisting with enforcing ordinances. With a policing contract there will be an additional Memorandum of Understanding between the Griggs County Sheriff's office and City of Cooperstown to guide the deputy through duties and responsibilities. The Sheriff's office will provide detailed records and planned scheduling to the city monthly. The cost request for this would be \$30,000 annually. The GCC school board has approved \$45,000 annually towards the cost of the deputy. The county will cover all remaining costs. Motion by Eslinger, seconded by Olson to enter into an agreement for policing with Griggs County for \$30,000 annually to be paid monthly. Motion carried.

Ludwig gave a report for the public works department. The culvert located at Roberts Ave and 1st Street has been removed, and a new concrete valley gutter poured. The city will need to cut the street back and taper it as the slope is very steep at this point. Once completed this area of the street will need to be paved, along with the area on Foster Ave between 13th St and 14th St where there was a water break. Also repaired were the curb at Roberts Ave and 13th St and the apron on 8th St south of the post office. Flushing of fire hydrants has been completed. All the curbs in town have been painted. The landfill fence has been repaired. The metal pile at the landfill has been cleaned up by Schafer Auto. Park 45 apartments had some sewer issues, so jetting of the sewer lines for a 2-block area was completed. An explanation of the pink water on July 29 was given. When flushing fire hydrants one of the chemical pumps needs to be unplugged. At the end of Friday, the pump was plugged into the wrong outlet, resulting in chemical being released into the water continually rather than as needed. Tim was called in on Saturday to begin flushing the system. Not all areas of the city were affected.

Brandon Smith provided a progress report for the street improvement project. He has been reviewing defective concrete work, and the decision as to how to proceed is now in the hands of the contractor, BPI. He has reviewed the chip seal loss, and asked if any council member would like to look at this with him following the meeting; Dehoff will look at this with him. Brandon and Andrew met with the Special Assessment Commission and went through the assessment list and made some adjustments. The assessment list and a Notice of Public Hearing will be published August 4 and 11. There will be a public hearing on August 21 at 6 pm for the public to express any opinions. Another Publication of Notice of Confirmation and Meeting for Action will be published on August 25. On September 11, during the regular meeting, the council will Hear Appeals and Act on Assessments and Confirmation of Assessment List.

Christine provided the auditors report. We received notification on August 3 that the USDA Community Facilities Grant has been approved. We did have to provide a Letter of Conditions due to the fact we do not have an adopted Capital Improvement Plan; this needed to state that once the CIP is adopted, that it will show at least \$390,000 in capital improvements over the next 2-3 years. We do need to adopt a Resolution of Members or Stockholders as the final piece. Motion by Eslinger, seconded by Dehoff to approve the adoption of the Resolution of Members or Stockholders. Motion carried. Naomi has completed the Tree Grant that we were approved for and sent in reimbursement forms last week. We were able to plant 22 trees with the grant. Mike Eslinger will be doing the Highway 200 ditch work, and the completion date given to the state was November 1st. The Fire Dept garage door has an odd wrinkle in it, reported by Torry Reuter and Terry Kenninger. Twin City Garage Door has been contacted to look at the door and possibly fix it. Also contacted was NDIRF. Naomi attended the MFOA Conference on July 24-26. Webinars attended were an Audit Summit and Ordinances. The NDLC Annual Conference is Sept 20-22, Christine and Naomi will be attending, and council members are encouraged to attend as well, especially the Elected Officials Training.

The financial report was presented. Paintner had asked for the following information regarding bond payments to be presented.

Fund		Remaining Balance	Final Payment		
303	2006 Water Treatment Plant Modifications	\$ 31,200.00	Sept 2025	2.50%	Restructured in 2012
	2011 Water Line Improvements	\$ 365,000.00	Sept 2031	2.50%	
	2013 Well House Relocation	\$ 186,750.00	Sept 2032	2%	
	2014 Water Treatment Plant	\$ 90,100.00	Sept 2033	2%	
	2015 Water Transmission Line Replacement	\$ 372,550.00	Sept 2045	2%	
509	Street Improvement 2012	\$ 1,208,485.00	May 2027		Refinanced in 2021

Perry asked about Fund 400 Prairie Dog Funds and Fund 412 American Rescue Plan Act Funds and what they could be used for. Fund 412 ARPA money can be used for infrastructure; we need to commit this money by Dec 31, 2024, and have it spent by Dec 31, 2026. Fund 400 Prairie Dog money can be used for new infrastructure or to replace existing infrastructure to include water, wastewater, or roads. Motion by Eslinger, seconded by Olson to approve the financial report. Motion carried.

The list of bills was presented. Motion by Olson, seconded by Perry to approve payment of the bills presented. Roll call vote with all voting aye, motion passed unanimously.

The 2024 Preliminary Budget was presented. Motion by Hanson, seconded by Eslinger to approve the 2024 Preliminary Budget. Motion carried. The budget hearing date will be September 11, 2023, at the regular meeting.

Motion by Perry, seconded by Gruman to approve a Liquor/Beer license renewal for The Fish Bowl. Motion carried.

Motion by Gruman, seconded by Perry to approve a Liquor/Beer license renewal for Coachman Inn. Motion carried.

Motion by Hanson, seconded by Olson to approve a Local Permit submitted by Titan Elementary Football for a raffle. Motion carried.

Motion by Eslinger, seconded by Olson to approve a building permit submitted by Phil Fowler for an addition to his garage. Motion carried.

Motion by Dehoff, seconded by Hanson to approve a building permit submitted by Diane Olson for a fence and pergola. Motion carried.

A drawing submitted by Dirt Pro and Larry Olson for proposed septic system at 1003 Hobart Ave NE, lots 18-20 of Block 9 was discussed. Christine talked with Jake Anderson from Grand Forks Public Health, and neither Griggs County or Nelson-Griggs Public Health have a septic code, so there are no permits required. There is no city sewer located within 200 feet, so the septic system is what needs to be installed. Jake recommended having drawings and photos of the before, during and after construction to have on file since it is within city limits. Perry brought up the fact that the Cooper Drain is near the drain field, so feels it should only have a septic tank and not include a drain field.

Gruman informed the council of a resident in his neighborhood that has an aggressive dog.

Eslinger informed the council of a discussion she, Christine, and David had with Scott Boura, retired from City of Grafton and currently living in Cooperstown. He is only interested in working approximately 20 hours per week or in doing some contract work, at an estimated \$25 per hour, on an as needed basis. Scott has had some experience with planning and zoning, enforcing their building codes, building permits, and nuisances.

Gruman asked if we are still pursuing moving the items on the property at 605 14th St NE. Christine explained that the person we had lined up last fall is no longer interested in doing the work, so we need to find someone else to move the nuisances.

The next regular meeting will be held on September 11, 2023, at 7:00 pm.

Motion by Dehoff, seconded by Olson to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm.

Christine Olson, Auditor

Paul Paintner, Mayor

1130 Citizens State

110726e	BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD	8/1/2023	\$10,083.49	BLUE CROSS
110727e	VERIZON WIRELESS	8/26/2023	\$120.03	MIFI INTERNET
110728e	VISA	8/11/2023	\$642.95	Microsoft Office
110729e	VISA	8/21/2023	\$69.97	Storage bins/Squeegee/Car wash brush
110730e	EFTPS	9/1/2023	\$6,491.78	PAYROLL TAXES
110731e	NDPERS	9/1/2023	\$3,468.86	RETIREMENT
113962	TEAM LABORATORY CHEMICAL	8/3/2023	\$364.52	Yellow street paint x 2
114013	GENERAL EQUIPMENT & SUPPLI	8/8/2023	\$249.72	Komatsu couplers
114014	SWEENEY CONTROLS CO.	8/8/2023	\$140.00	Service call-low level lockout alarms
114015	CASH	8/8/2023	\$115.73	Tree grant postage
114016	ARAMARK	8/9/2023	\$302.97	Mops, towels, mats
114017	TOWN & COUNTRY CO-OP	8/9/2023	\$2,267.02	Ambulance fuel - Acct 17635
114018	MARCO TECHNOLOGIES	8/10/2023	\$114.73	COPIER LEASE
114019	NDDEQ	8/10/2023	\$18.54	Water sample - flouride
114020	NODAK ELECTRIC COOPERATIV	8/11/2023	\$250.10	MAIN LIFT
114021	METRO-BILLING SERVICES	8/14/2023	\$288.00	Claims x 12
114022	FOSTER COUNTY MEDICAL CEN	8/14/2023	\$101.00	CDL physical - David Ludwig
114023	DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION	8/17/2023	\$22.00	License/Title for Vac Tron trailer
114024	POSTMASTER	8/22/2023	\$242.43	Utility bill postage
114025	TEAM LABORATORY CHEMICAL	8/21/2023	\$877.12	Fine road patch x 50 bags
114026	DIRT PRO	8/21/2023	\$8,000.00	Grading ditches along Hwy 200
114027	JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL	8/25/2023	\$602.63	Landpride mower spindle/belt
114028	RUBY ALVAREZ	8/29/2023	\$1.07	Utility Billing Credit Refund
114029	Baron, Ryan	8/31/2023	\$36.50	
114030	Flatt, Matthew	8/31/2023	\$201.32	
114031	Flatt, Terrah	8/31/2023	\$88.66	
114032	Keller, Julie M	8/31/2023	\$1,042.63	
114033	Ludwig, David O	8/31/2023	\$5,289.53	
114034	Ludwig, Maximus	8/31/2023	\$312.07	
114035	Martin, Amanda R	8/31/2023	\$127.32	
114036	Michaelis, Bennett W	8/31/2023	\$941.97	
114037	Moser, Christopher I	8/31/2023	\$156.99	
114038	Olson, Christine L	8/31/2023	\$3,261.87	
114039	Paintner, Nancy	8/31/2023	\$686.16	
114040	Paintner, Paul	8/31/2023	\$385.51	
114041	Turner, Jayden	8/31/2023	\$553.07	
114042	Urness, Mark	8/31/2023	\$179.16	
114043	Varberg, Timothy G.	8/31/2023	\$2,756.61	
114044	ZAUN, HANNAH, C	8/31/2023	\$429.43	
502969e	Monthly ACH	8/31/2023	\$13,424.72	
Total Checks			\$64,708.18	