CITY OF GRANITE FALLS
OFFICIAL CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
REGULAR SESSION
April 7, 2025

A regular session of the Granite Falls City Council was called to order by Mayor Steve Nordaune at 7:00 p.m., Monday, April 7, 2025, in the Council Chambers of City Hall. Council members present: DuWayne Galow, Beth Pullan, Dan Barber, Brad Peterson, Craig Opdahl, and Scott Peterson. Staff present: City Manager Crystal Johnson, Finance Director Krista Listul and City Clerk Christine Kleven. Also present: Kelly Roth; Sharyn Gregor, Ken Gilchrist, and Tribune Editor Jessica Jacobs-Stolen.

CONSENT AGENDA: M/S/P B. PETERSON/BARBER TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED: Minutes, Bills, Correspondence, and Meetings & Events.

FLOODWALL MURAL: SammyJo Miller appeared before the council to request $1,621 in funding for mural supplies. She also asked if the city would be able to assist by pressure washing the mural surface prior to the project. B. Peterson introduced a resolution and moved its adoption to accept the proposal as presented with funding from the Granite Falls Energy dividend fund.

RESOLUTION NO. 25-34

A RESOLUTION APPROVING FUNDING FOR MURAL PROJECT SUPPLIES AND AUTHORIZING CITY ASSISTANCE FOR SITE PREPARATION

(Copy on file in city clerk's office)

With second by S. Peterson, the resolution was adopted unanimously.

REPORTS: KCC and Utility Commission reports were acknowledged at this time.

UTILITY COMMISSION: The Utility Commission recommended approval of a quote from O&S Construction in the amount of $17,250 to assist with the continued replacement of aged underground electrical lines. This project is part of the planned utility infrastructure improvements and is included in the current budget. Following discussion, Galow introduced a resolution and moved its adoption accepting the bid from O&S Construction as presented.

RESOLUTION NO. 25-35

A RESOLUTION APPROVING QUOTE FROM O&S CONSTRUCTION FOR UNDERGROUND ELECTRICAL LINE REPLACEMENT

(Copy on file in city clerk's office)

With second by Opdahl, the resolution was adopted unanimously.

BLUENOSE FENCE AND FOOD TRUCK: Bluenose requested continued approval from the Council to extend a fenced area into the rear parking area during the summer months, spanning the width of their property. In addition, with the business reopening, Bluenose requested permission to allow food trucks to park parallel in front of the building on Friday and Saturday evenings, as well as Sunday afternoons. M/S/P B. PETERSON/PULLAN TO APPROVE THE REQUEST FROM BLUENOSE GOPHER BREWERY TO INSTALL FENCING AT THE REAR OF THEIR PROPERTY, EXTENDING 16 FEET INTO THE PARKING LOT AND RUNNING THE FULL WIDTH OF THE BUILDING. APPROVAL ALSO INCLUDES ALLOWING FOOD TRUCKS TO PARK PARALLEL TO THE FRONT OF THE BUILDING AS REQUESTED.

THC LICENSING FEE: In accordance with the statutory guidelines, the Council considered the appropriate fees for registration at the city level. Staff recommended that the Council also review the fee for low-potency THC product licensing, which is a separate license. Following discussion, S. Peterson introduced a resolution and moved its adoption, approving the following fees:

- High-Potency THC License: $500 initial application fee and $1,000 annual renewal fee.
- Low-Potency THC License: $250 annual registration fee.

RESOLUTION NO. 25-36

A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING FEES FOR THC PRODUCT LICENSES

(Copy on file in city clerk's office)

With second by Opdahl, the resolution was adopted unanimously.

BRIDGE LIGHTING: M/S BARBER/PULLAN TO APPROVE THE REQUEST TO ILLUMINATE THE BRIDGE IN PINK AND BLUE ANNUALLY IN OCTOBER IN RECOGNITION OF INFANTS REMEMBERED IN SILENCE (IRIS). Motion carried unanimously.

DNR JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT: The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has proposed a Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) with the City of Granite Falls to support improvements to Memorial Park and other outdoor recreation areas within the City. This partnership builds on the DNR's 2023–2024 public engagement process focused on outdoor recreation investments in the Upper Minnesota River Valley. Under the agreement, the City will develop and implement a spending plan for outdoor recreation projects, which may include expanded camping, trails, water access, modernized sanitation, and planning for future nature-based recreation. The DNR will provide funding assistance up to $1,550,000 for eligible City project costs and will collaborate on plan reviews, technical assistance, and contract oversight.

The agreement will be effective March 31, 2025 (or upon full execution) and will expire March 31, 2027, with three optional one-year renewals unless terminated by either party with three months' notice. Barber introduced a resolution and moved its adoption to approve the Joint Powers Agreement with the MN Department of Natural Resources as presented.

RESOLUTION NO. 25-37

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT WITH THE MN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

(Copy on file in city clerk's office)

With second by Pullan, the resolution was adopted unanimously.

COUNTY FAIR REQUESTS: Following discussion, Galow introduced a resolution and moved its adoption approving a donation of $500 to each the Chippewa and Yellow Medicine County Fairs. The funding will be sourced from the Granite Falls Energy Dividend Fund.

RESOLUTION NO. 25-38

RESOLUTION APPROVING DONATIONS TO CHIPPEWA AND YELLOW MEDICINE COUNTY FAIRS

(Copy on file in city clerk's office)

With second by B. Peterson, the resolution was adopted unanimously.

1560 9TH AVENUE PROPERTY INSPECTION: The Council reviewed a report from Building Inspector, Darin Haslip, recommending removal of the foundation due to damage. Opdahl introduced a resolution and moved its adoption calling for a public hearing on May 19th at 7:15 for the City Council to consider declaring property at 1560 9th Avenue as public nuisance.

RESOLUTION NO. 25-39

RESOLUTION CALLING FOR PUBLIC HEARING

(Copy on file in city clerk’s office)

With second by B. Peterson, the resolution was adopted unanimously.

ADJOURN: M/S/P S. PETERSON/B. PETERSON TO ADJOURN AT 7:50 PM.

Steve Nordaune
Mayor

ATTEST: Christine Kleven
City Clerk