

OFFICIAL CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
REGULAR SESSION
October 21, 2024

A regular session of the Granite Falls City Council was called to order by Mayor Steve Nordaune at 7:00 p.m., Monday, October 21, 2024, in the Council Chambers of City Hall. Council Members present: DuWayne Galow, Dan Barber, Joe Fagnano and Scott Peterson. Council Member absent: Brad Peterson and Sharon Pazi Zea. Staff present: City Manager Crystal Johnson, Finance Director Krista Listul, and City Clerk Christine Kleven. Also present: Dani Prados and Advocate Tribune Editor Jessica Jacobs-Stolen.

CONSENT AGENDA: M/S GALOW/BARBER TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS FOLLOWS: Minutes, Bills, Finance Report, Correspondence, and Meetings & Events. Motion passed unanimously by those present.

REPORTS: EDA report was acknowledged at this time.

CAIR UPDATE: Dani Prados provided a summary of her CAIR trip to Taiwan, noting it was rewarding and helped her establish additional connections. She shared that a board game and CAIR starter kits are currently in development. A reminder was given about the KK Berge Building 100-Year Anniversary event on Saturday, the 26th, from 5:00 pm to 8:30 pm.

PUBLIC HEARING: A duly advertised public hearing to receive input from the public regarding an adjustment in sewer and water rates was called to order by Mayor Nordaune at 7:15 p.m. Following discussion, the hearing was closed at 7:22 p.m.

The Utility Commission reviewed the water and sewer funds, considering the 2023 audit, rate information, area comparisons, and sample resident impact data. After discussion, S. Peterson voted to recommend phased rate increases for both funds as follows:

- **Water Fund:** In 2025, increase the base/access fee by \$2.00 and the cubic feet rate from 0.0683 to 0.0700; in 2026, increase the base/access fee by an additional \$2.00 and the cubic feet rate from 0.0700 to 0.0725. This adjustment is needed to cover bond payments for the new facility, ongoing capital expenses, and the city's match for the watermain loop project.
- **Sewer Fund:** In 2025, increase the base/access fee by \$1.00 and the cubic feet rate from 0.0625 to 0.0650; in 2026, increase the base/access fee by an additional \$1.00 and the cubic feet rate from 0.0650 to 0.0675. These increases will support day-to-day expenses and savings for future facility improvements.

The commission recommended that the first increase take effect with the first billing cycle in January.

RESOLUTION NO. 24-121

A RESOLUTION APPROVING PHASED INCREASES
FOR WATER AND SEWER RATES

(Copy on file in city clerk's office)

With second by Fagnano, the resolution was adopted unanimously by those present.

T-HANGAR LEASE AGREEMENT: Galow introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption authorizing the execution of a lease agreement with David Barber – Unit #5 through August 31, 2026.

RESOLUTION NO. 24-122

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A
HANGAR LEASE AGREEMENT – DAVID BARBER - UNIT #5

(Copy on file in city clerk's office)

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

AIRPORT IMPROVEMENT PROJECT: following discussion and recommendation from the Airport Commission, Fagnano introduced a resolution and moved its adoption to approve the grant agreement from the Department of Aeronautics to update the Airport Master Plan.

RESOLUTION NO. 24-123

AUTHORIZATION TO EXECUTE
MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
GRANT AGREEMENTS FOR AIRPORT IMPROVEMENTS

(Copy on file in city clerk's office)

With second by Barber, the resolution was adopted unanimously by those present.

ORDINANCE: M/S GALOW/BARBER TO HAVE THE SECOND READING AND APPROVE THE PUBLICATION SUMMARY OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CITY CODE CHAPTER 98, PARKS - REGULATIONS PERTAINING TO GENERAL PARKLAND OPERATION, BY ADDING ORDINANCE 98.044, DOG PARK RULES AND CONDITIONS.

ORDINANCE NO. 225, 2ND SERIES

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF GRANITE FALLS, MINNESOTA, AMENDING CITY CODE CHAPTER 98, PARKS - REGULATIONS PERTAINING TO GENERAL PARKLAND OPERATION, BY ADDING ORDINANCE 98.044, DOG PARK RULES AND CONDITIONS.

Motion carried unanimously. The Ordinance will become effective following publication.

CHARITABLE GAMBLING: A gambling license application was acknowledged at this time for Granite Falls Lions Club to hold its annual calendar sales. Council acknowledged this charitable gambling application with no waiting period.

M/S S. PETERSON/BARBER TO ADJOURN at 7:30 p.m. Motion passed unanimously by those present.

Steve Nordaune
Mayor

ATTEST:

Christine Kleven
City Clerk