

OFFICIAL CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
REGULAR SESSION
February 1, 2021

A regular session of the Granite Falls City Council was called to order by Mayor Dave Smiglewski at 7:00 p.m., Monday, February 1, 2021 in the Council Chambers of City Hall. Council Members present: DuWayne Galow, Sharon Pazi Zea, Steve Nordaune, Brad Peterson, Joe Fagnano and Scott Peterson. Staff present: City Manager Crystal Johnson, and City Clerk Christine Kleven. Also in attendance: EDA Director Linda Mathiasen; Fire Chief Craig Opdahl; Firemen: Chris Anderson, Kyler Jelen, Aaron Cella, Nick Lund, Alex Schlanger, and Kyle Redetzke. In attendance via telecom were: Michele Huggins; Dani Prados Granite Falls City Artist-in-Residence; and Advocate Tribune News Editor Kyle Klausing.

AGENDA ADDITION: Consideration of LGA Resolution. Utility Truck Update will be tabled.

CONSENT AGENDA: M/S/P NORDAUNE/S. PETERSON TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS FOLLOWS: Minutes, Bills, Fire Department Report, Correspondence and Meetings & Events. Motion passed by those present.

FIRE DEPARTMENT 2020 UPDATE: Chief Opdahl gave an overview of the past year. With 100+ years of total experience, 4 Firemen retired in 2020: Dave Beasley 33 years, Mike Knutson 25 years, Joe Rohlic 21 years, Matt Frerichs 20 years, and Will Balfany 11 years transferred to Sacred Heart FD. The 2020 Firefighter of the Year – Kevin Jensvold. Part of the update included a list of collaborative efforts with Upper Sioux Agency - always exceptionally supportive of the Fire Department. Chief Opdahl introduced the new firemen who have been through training and received their Black Firefighter Helmets: Chris Anderson, Kyler Jelen, Aaron Cella, Nick Lund, Alex Schlanger, and Kyle Redetzke.

CITY ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE UPDATE: Dani Prados shared a few highlights for upcoming events. The Art by Appointment Visiting Artist Series will begin with Bethany Lacktorin. Several Ole & Lena Days events are in the works. YME One Act Play will collaborate with other local talent for a performance at the YES House. To add to all events planned, a request for open fire pit use was requested. M/S/P PAZI ZEA/B. PETERSON APPROVED FIRE PIT USAGE DURING OLE AND LENA DAYS AT LOCAL BUSINESSES ON SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6.

EDA: EDA Director Linda Mathiasen presented Granite Falls Market Analysis and Market Area Profile study options. The University of MN Extension Center for Community Vitality Propose A Market Area study proposal. For an additional \$500 a Business Study could be completed at the same time. The city approved participating in both studies and has offered to pay half of the total cost of \$2000 with the EDA paying the remaining half. Following discussion Nordaune introduced a resolution and moved its adoption authorizing the city's participation in the Market Area Analysis and Business Study at a cost of \$1,000.00.

RESOLUTION NO. 21-11

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN
MARKET AREA PROFILE AND BUSINESS STUDY

(Copy on file in city clerk's office)

With second by B. Peterson, the resolution was adopted by the following vote: Aye: Galow, Pazi Zea, Nordaune, Smiglewski, B. Peterson, and S. Peterson. Nay: Fagnano.

BENCH PROJECT: EDA and City were awarded \$7000 from Southwest MN Arts Council for city beautification project called "get to know granite falls- then & now." There will be a call for artists in the spring.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN: Council is in agreement that a new comprehensive plan is needed. A proposal for bids is being created.

REPORTS: The Utilities Commission report was acknowledged at this time. The Commission recommends the purchase of cameras for the Water Plant at a cost of \$4,353.56 from Backes Technology Services. Also, fencing installation around the CO2 tanks is being considered. A sewer forgiveness request from Betty Pfaff was approved. The water from a boiler leak was absorbed into the dirt floor and did not go into a drain. Par Piping will be privately installing a larger service line to deal with water volume needs.

LGA: Nordaune introduced a resolution encouraging the State Legislature to pay LGA on time and in full.

RESOLUTION NO. 21-12

RESOLUTION ON PAYING LGA ON TIME AND IN FULL

(Copy on file in city clerk's office)

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

HYDROPLANT UPDATE: FERC has approved plans for the powerhouse repairs. BARR will move forward with advertising for bids.

221 BALDWIN ST: Homeowner has accepted the city offer and legal council is drafting a purchase agreement.

215 9TH AVENUE: EDA will handle development of the lot. Following discussion Nordaune introduced a resolution to waive the \$150 property tax fee as part of the purchase price.

RESOLUTION NO. 21-13

RESOLUTION WAIVING SPECIAL ASSESSMENT AND FEES –
YELLOW MEDICINE COUNTY PARCEL NO. 34-300-2901

(Copy on file in city clerk's office)

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

CENTURY LINK AND MEDIACOM POLE ATTACHMENT CONTRACT UPDATE: Century Link contract will expire on February 11, 2021. After that date they will be charged \$15 per pole. A new pole attachment agreement will be drafted for both Century Link and Mediacom.

COVID UPDATE: Council agrees to continue offering zoom for council meetings.

ADJOURN M/S/P NORDAUNE/S. PETERSON AT 8:34 P.M.