

OFFICIAL CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS  
REGULAR SESSION  
March 15, 2021

A regular session of the Granite Falls City Council was called to order by Mayor Dave Smiglewski at 7:00 p.m., Monday, March 15, 2021 in the Council Chambers of City Hall. Council Members present: DuWayne Galow, Steve Nordaune, Joe Fagnano and Scott Peterson. Absent: Sharon Pazi Zea and Brad Peterson. Staff present: Finance Director Neal Carstensen, City Manager Crystal Johnson, and City Clerk Christine Kleven. Also in attendance: Police Chief Brian Struffert; and Dani Prados Granite Falls City Artist-in-Residence. In attendance via telecom were: EDA Director Linda Mathiasen; Scott Knudson, Community Partners Research, Inc.; UMRDC Executive Director Dawn Hegland; Craig Bakkeland; Gary Pazi Zea; Cathy Jakobs; Rich Schneider; Michele Huggins; and Advocate Tribune News Editor Kyle Klausing.

CONSENT AGENDA: M/S NORDAUNE/GALOW TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS FOLLOWS: Minutes, Bills, Finance Report, Building Inspector Report, Police Chief's Report, Fire Department Report, Correspondence and Meetings & Events. Motion carried unanimously by those present.

BOARD OF APPEAL AND EQUALIZATION: will meet April 15, 2021 - 6:30 - 7:00 p.m. at the Granite Falls City Hall Council Chambers.

YELLOWSTONE TRAIL ALLIANCE: Following updates and discussion Nordaune introduced a resolution and moved its adoption to support the Yellowstone Trail Alliance of Western Minnesota in the amount of a \$250 donation.

RESOLUTION NO. 21-25

RESOLUTION APPROVING DONATION  
TO YELLOWSTONE TRAIL ALLIANCE OF WESTERN MINNESOTA

(Copy on file in city clerk's office)

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

2021 STREET & UTILITY PROJECT UPDATE: Bids will be received on April 14<sup>th</sup> and results shared at the April 19<sup>th</sup> council meeting.

CHRISTMAS STREET LIGHT DONATIONS: To date \$13,625 has been received.

MEMORIAL PARK – PHASE II UPDATE: The playground installation is planned for the week of May 10<sup>th</sup>. Damon Farber is working with Duininck's on a project list and schedule.

STATE FARM EVENT: Consensus to allow tent use on main street for a customer appreciation event.

**PUBLIC HEARING:** A duly advertised hearing to discuss the use of drones by the Granite Falls Police Department was called to order by Mayor Smiglewski at 7:15 p.m. Police Chief Brian Struffert was in attendance to answer any questions. There was no public comment. Following discussion, the hearing was closed at 7:16 p.m.

**REPORTS:** The EDA Board report was acknowledged at this time.

**EDA BOARD:** The board recommends LHB, Inc. to develop a Comprehensive Plan that will include Core Framework Elements. Mayor Smiglewski agreed to represent the city in a stakeholder group established to review and act as ambassadors to the process. Following discussion Fagnano introduced a resolution and moved its adoption to approve the proposal as presented at a cost not to exceed \$20,000.

**RESOLUTION NO. 21-26**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF CONTRACT  
FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES TO UPDATE THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN**

(Copy on file in city clerk's office)

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

**HOUSING STUDY:** Scott Knudson presented a housing study summary including demographics, rental market conditions, income and housing findings, projections and recommendations. **NORDAUNE/S. PETERSON TO APPROVE THE HOUSING STUDY AS PRESENTED.** Motion carried unanimously by those present.

**M/S/P NORDAUNE/S. PETERSON TO ADJOURN** at 8:06 p.m.