

## **GROVE CITY REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

**October 13, 2014**

**Present: Drange, Miller, Peterka, Johanneck**

**CONSENT TO AGENDA:** A motion was made by Councilmember Peterka to approve the consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Miller. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None.

**FIRE:** Chief Jans reported that there were three calls during the month. The Fire Department has no rope or bouey. One of the calls required rescuing someone out of water and they had to use fire hose. They are going to get some prices and would like to get permission to purchase some equipment. The garage door for the grass rig could use a garage door opener and the department would like to purchase an opener. The equipment truck needs new breaks. The new tanker has an air compressor on it but it is not big enough and to purchase a new one and get bids on the installation.

**RESCUE:** Chief Munoz reported that the Department had several calls during the month. They also have one new applicant. The Department needs to purchase a hazardous material bin. They can no longer use Litchfield's. The cost with a twice a year pick-up might be around \$120 per year. Councilmember Peterka made a motion to approve purchasing a hazardous material bin. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Miller. Motion carried. The old rescue rig is being sold for \$1,000 which will go back into the truck fund. There will be less day coverage from the department due to one of the member's work schedule is changing. The Rescue Department would like to do a Craft Day with the kids in December. The next Rescue meeting is on December 21<sup>st</sup> @ 6:30pm and Chief Munoz invited the Council to attend.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**UTILITY BILLING CLERK:** Councilmember Peterka and the City Clerk informed the rest of the Council that Rita Herschmann had been hired to fill the position and she has started the job. She will work 3 days per week. The agreement was for 20 hours per week at \$11.00 per hour.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**BOLLIG-LAND PURCHASE AGREEMENT:** Brian Bollig came to discuss with the Council the land purchase agreement with Richard Struthers. The land is for the new sewer ponds and will consist of 40 acres at a price of \$10,000 per acre. The length of the agreement is for 4 years and \$100 of earnest money needs to be paid to Mr. Struthers. The buyer will pay the boundary survey, closing costs, re-route tile lines, etc. A motion was made by Councilmember Miller to purchase the 40 acres at \$10,000 per acre and pay the \$100 of earnest money to lock in the purchase agreement. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Peterka. Motion carried.

**Task Order #5:** Task Order #5 is in regards to some Pre-Design Tasks that need to be done in regards to the new sewer pond project. "These tasks will consist of gathering topographical & utility survey data and geotechnical investigation, modeling water and sewer utilities, conducting a flat roof I/I inspection, providing an earthwork balance to verify land needed for wastewater ponds, amending Preliminary Engineering Report and ongoing funding coordination." A Microloan from Rural Water in the amount of

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\$254,000 will need to be acquired to cover the costs of the Pre-designing and this loan amount will be eventually included in the overall costs of the project when seeking grants. Only the interest will need to be made in the first three years and the interest rate is at 1.9%. The Council was advised that by moving forward with the pre-design tasks and taking this microloan out, it could help to speed up the funding process and these tasks would have to be done eventually regardless. A motion was made by Councilmember Miller to approve Task Order #5. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Johanneck. Motion carried.

**TASK ORDER #6:** The task is in regards to relocating water mains to alley north of Highway 12 and designing sewer main in same alley right-of-way. Discussion revolved around the fact that Highway 12 will be torn up next summer and that this will a good time to look into relocating the water mains into the alley. Businesses located on the highway may have to look into moving the water lines within their buildings to the alley. A motion was made to approve task order #6 by Councilmember Peterka and seconded by Councilmember Miller. Motion carried.

**OFFICE FURNITURE:** The Clerk explained to the Council that after interviewing the candidates for the Utility Billing Clerk position, it was discussed that there should be two desks in the office so both employees could have their own work area. She told them she had been working with Ed Davis from Willmar and a floor plan along with the cost was in their packets. The cost of two desks and filing cabinets along with a floor mat would come to \$767. The old desk can be sold. Councilmember Peterka made a motion to purchase the new office furniture from Ed Davis. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Johanneck. Motion carried.

**SET DATE TO MEET WITH THE TOWNSHIPS:** The Council decided to schedule the annual meeting with the townships on Monday, November 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm.

**SOUTH GROVE:** Councilmember Peterka explained that there had been several water line leaks within the copper lines and Gary Palmer had been called in to fix the leaks. The board discussed getting a hand rail installed to go along the length of the hallway. During the Octoberfest celebration, fuses were going out in the Cardinal room when too many roasters were plugged in so he would like to get bids from an electrical to fix the issue but it isn't an urgent matter. The next meeting will be on December 4<sup>th</sup> at 6pm. The Clerk told the Council that a new renter will be moving in by November 1<sup>st</sup> so there is now only two one bedroom apartments to rent. A bid was obtained by Dave Martin to clean the water stains out of a hallway carpet for \$100.

**SHERIFF:** Officer Schutes reported that there were 47 calls during the month.

**CLERK:** The Clerk explained to the Council that she had called someone from Dakota Supply Group about coming out and talking to the Council regarding all of the issues and complaints from residents about their water meters. She also explained that the Maintenance Department is replacing several meters just to pacify these people. The gentleman from DSG is going to come out next week and meet with the Clerk, Gaarder and Councilmember Peterka about some of the complaints we are getting and look over our equipment and system and see if there are not options available to us in regards to getting a system in which we can detect leaks that are occurring with a particular meter. Councilmember Miller expressed that he did not feel we should be changing meters to pacify people and if we do we should be

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charging people to do this service; a charge of \$100 because it is work for our employees and when meters are sent in they are coming back with a result of reading good.

Bergstrom informed the Council that a representative from West Central Sanitation will be out at the next Council Meeting to address any assessment issues or questions about how they bill our customers. She asked the Council if they were going to keep the meeting dates on the second Monday of the month permanently and after some discussion it was decided to stay with the second Monday of the month. After contacting the County Auditor about the Getzkow houses, it was told to the Clerk that those houses have not yet been determined to be torn down. They want to wait to see if there is any interest at public auction for someone to purchase the houses.

The Clerk informed the Council once again of the dollar amounts brought in from renting the Community Center and South Grove in 2012 and 2013 and what is projected to come in for 2014. She told them that at least 50% of this money should get put back into the buildings. In 2012 the wax was removed and the floors buffed at the Community Center and at South Grove. In 2013 new tables and chairs were purchased for the Cardinal Room at South Grove. This year, she wanted the Council to approve purchasing two new banquet tables for the Community Center, having the carpets in the Library, the dining room at South Grove and the two rooms off of the gym professionally cleaned and having the wallpaper in the entrance of the Community Center replaced. She went on to say she is trying to find someone who does the wallpapering and get bids. Councilmember Peterka made a motion to approve purchasing two new banquet tables and having the carpets in the Library and at South Grove professionally cleaned. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Johanneck. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC WORKS:** Gaarder informed the Council that he scheduled his Class D exam. There is a three day class that goes along with this exam process and the cost is \$225. Councilmember Miller made a motion to approve sending Gaarder to the three day class for his Class D exam at a cost of \$225. The dates for the class are October 28-30. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Peterka. Motion carried. Gaarder also informed the Council that he finished his ground training on September 29<sup>th</sup>.

Gaarder asked the Council if they wanted the streets sweep this fall and to hire the same sweeper who did the streets in the spring. It was agreed to have the streets swept and to hire the same company because they did a good job and were quick in getting the job done.

The electrical outage that put the entire town without power for a few hours, a couple of weeks ago, was due to a squirrel that got into the substation and did damage to the re-closure. Brad is going to call someone to come in and repair the re-closure. There were three fuses on the 69 line that were blown and we have no back-ups so Brad will order three more.

**DRANGE:** Augustfest meeting on October 29<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm.

**PETERKA:** Peterka informed the Council that the renter of the farmland that we are going to be purchasing asked if he could farm the land next year. Peterka told him he could because the soonest that anything would be done with the land in regards to the new sewer ponds would be next fall.

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**MILLER:** Miller informed the Council that he had complaints about kids in and out of the Rescue vehicle at the games and he took care of the issue. He also said that Sherri Boderius was going to write up something about our school winning the Blue Ribbon Award so we can post it on our website as a good promotion about the town.

**ADJOURNMENT:** A motion was made by Councilmember Miller to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Councilmember Johanneck. Motion carried.

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**A REPRESENTATIVE FROM WEST CENTRAL SANITATION WILL BE AT THE NEXT COUNCIL MEETING. IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS OR ISSUES WITH YOUR GARBAGE SERVICE, THIS WOULD BE THE TIME TO DISCUSS THE ISSUES WITH THE REPRESENTATIVE AND THE COUNCIL.**