

CITY OF GRAYLING
CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Monday, March 10, 2025

I. Meeting called to order by Mayor Forbes at 6:30 pm

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. ROLL CALL

Members Present: Pettyjohn, Nelson, Forbes, Moshier

Members Absent: Sloan

Vacant Seats: None

Also in Attendance: Lori McGeorge (City Clerk), Jenny French (City Treasurer), Ben Yoder (Zoning Administrator), Rodney VanDeCastele (Fire Chief), Michelle Phillips, Heidi Phaneuf, Aaron Wendzel and other members of the public

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

V. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

25-011

Moved by Pettyjohn, seconded by Nelson to approve the agenda as presented.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: 4 Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: 1, Vacant: 0

Motion Carried

VI. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

A. Meeting Minutes for February 10, 2025

B. Revenue/Expenditure Report

25-012

Moved by Nelson, seconded by Moshier to approve the meeting minutes for February 10, 2025 as presented.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: 4 Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: 1, Vacant: 0

Motion Carried

VII. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Podjaske elaborated on his report including questions from Pettyjohn regarding water meter issues and a land issue with Knight & Krist. The city owns a section of land that Krist would like to include in their purchase from Krist.

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. M-72 East Trail Support Resolution

Heidi Phaneuf explained the 2 resolutions that are needed. These are a resolution in support of Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) and Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF) project implementation pedestrian and bicycle safety improvements along M-72 East.

25-013

Moved by Nelson, seconded by Moshier to waive the reading of the MNRTF resolution.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: 4 Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: 1, Vacant: 0

Motion Carried

25-014

Moved by Nelson, seconded by Pettyjohn to waive the reading of the TAP resolution.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: 4 Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: 1, Vacant: 0

Motion Carried

25-015

Moved by Pettyjohn, seconded by Nelson to approve the MNRTF M-72 East Trail Support Resolution as presented.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: 4 Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: 1, Vacant: 0

Motion Carried

25-016

Moved by Moshier, seconded by Nelson to approve the TAP M-72 East Trail Support Resolution as presented.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: 4 Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: 1, Vacant: 0

Motion Carried

B. Chicken Ordinance Discussion

Yoder elaborated on the proposed chicken ordinance. Everyone liked it and thought it was well thought out and written. City Council wants to change the number of

chickens per household to 5 and to make it clearer regarding not selling eggs or advertising eggs on property.

C. CWSRF Grant, Aerator Discussion

25-017

Podjaske explained that the aeration in the sewer ponds need to be changed to a floating system. Aaron Wendzel from ROWE further elaborated on the floating lateral system vs. the current system in place. There are different options for replacement that range from one to all four cells. Council members agreed with Podjaske for support if we could stay within \$20,000 of the city contribution and could push it off billing until next year's budget.

Moved by Pettyjohn, seconded by Nelson to support the replacement of all cells in the new floating lateral system if we could stay within \$20,000 of the city contribution and could push it off billing until next year's budget.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: 4 Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: 1, Vacant: 0

Motion Carried

IX. NEW BUSINESS

A. Budget Amendment Request from the Fire Chief

25-018

Chief VanDeCastele explained the brush truck needs to have the bed removed and replaced along with new springs. The total will be approximately \$9,300 with approval needed for a budget amendment.

Moved by Nelson, seconded by Pettyjohn to approve the Budget Amendment Request from the Fire Chief as presented.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: 4 Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: 1, Vacant: 0

Motion Carried

B. 25/26 Fire Department Budget

25-019

The upcoming Fire Department Budget is being presented early due to Grayling Township needing it for their upcoming budget. Discussion was had by council members regarding the large increase for the line item for water/sewer. It was to make an amendment to the budget to keep the Water/Sewer rates at \$1,500/year.

Moved by Pettyjohn, seconded by Moshier to approve amending the 25/26 Fire Department Budget to keep water/sewer rates for the Fire Department at \$1,500.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: 4 Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: 1, Vacant: 0
Motion Carried

C. Consumers Energy Easement Request

25-020

Podjaske explained about the easement request. The paperwork was reviewed and a 12' easement is needed by the water tower for power to be run to the old Great Lakes Roofing (it will now be a racing equipment business).

Moved by Pettyjohn, seconded by Nelson to approve the Consumers Energy Easement Request as presented.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: 4 Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: 1, Vacant: 0

Motion Carried

D. Poverty Exemption Standards Resolution

25-021

There was only a small change to the prior one in which the guidelines were slightly increased.

Moved by Moshier, seconded by Nelson to approve the Poverty Exemption Standards Resolution as presented.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: 4 Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: 1, Vacant: 0

Motion Carried

X. REPORTS

A. DDA

No comments or questions.

B. Planning Commission

No comments or questions.

C. Fire

No comments or questions.

XI. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

XII. COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

Pettyjohn indicated that he would like to discuss the upcoming discussion of the request to rename the city park at the next work session. Discussion was made by all council

members regarding the easements in the city. Some felt that they needed attention and are beginning to look blighted. Forbes inquired about the township's water issues and Podjaske explained that Grayling Township will be working with the Beaver Creek Township/Grayling Charter Utility Authority for their water needs. There is also a new opening on the Planning Commission.

XIII. CORRESPONDENCE

None

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

25-022

Moved by Nelson, seconded by Pettyjohn, that meeting is adjourned.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: 4 Nays: 0, Abstain 0, Absent: 1, Vacant: 0

Motion Carried

Adjourned at 7:47 PM