

**CITY OF GRAYLING**  
**CITY COUNCIL**  
**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**  
**Monday, June 27, 2022**

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

**II. Pledge of Allegiance**

**III. Roll Call**

Members Present: Forbes, Schreiner, Sloan, Pettyjohn

Members Absent: Moshier

Vacant Seats: None

Also, in Attendance: Doug Baum, City Manager, Chelsea Goodwin, City Clerk/Treasurer, Erich Podjaske, Zoning Administrator, and members of the public.

**IV. Public Comment**

Diane Randall, the supervisor for Roscommon Township introduced herself and announced she would be running as a candidate for State Representative. She gave a summary as to her background, experience, and qualifications for the position.

**V. Approval of Agenda**

Mayor Forbes asked for item #I. 606 Ogemaw Water/Sewer Bill and item #J. Knight Street Property to be added under New Business.

**22-045**

**Moved by Schreiner seconded by Sloan to approve the agenda with the additions.**

**Roll Call Vote**

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

**Motion Carried**

**VI. Approval of Consent Agenda**

**22-046**

**Moved by Schreiner seconded by Sloan to approve the consent agenda as presented.**

**Roll Call Vote**

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

**Motion Carried**

## VII. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Baum explained the city was in the final stages of the background for hiring the new full-time fire chief and everything should be completed by the end of the week.

He reported that as previously reported to Council all the problems with the ladder truck and since that time, the Fire Committee gave the Chief the authority to investigate looking at a used ladder truck. They were able to find a used platform truck in Alabama. Since then, they went down there and looked at it and went through everything. The company gave them a price but also gave us a price of \$75,000 as a trade-in for our ladder truck. We feel we should take and run. With that, the remainder of the cost of the platform truck, the Township has offered to pay for. City Manager Baum asked Grayling Township Supervisor Lacey Stephan in the audience if he had anything to add to that.

Stephan explained that the township was using their ARPA funds to cover the cost of the purchase of the ladder truck and that the firemen have also donated back their bonus money that the township had talked about giving them to put towards this truck also. There's going to be right around \$30,000 - \$40,000 maintenance on the truck. For example, the tires are mismatched. We feel it's a really good deal and should buy a 10-11-year window to save some money to purchase the next one.

Schreiner asked what the amount was that the township was paying.

Stephan said \$450,000. It's \$525,000 total but with the truck minus the \$75,000 trade-in. Then we still have to transport this truck down to them. Then we have to pay some sort of transportation fees to get the other truck up here. So, there's some other fees we aren't aware of yet and aren't sure how much the costs are.

Podjaske added that Chief Brown said the cost of a new ladder truck right now would be close to \$2 million for the same truck.

City Manager Baum said that on the next meeting agenda we will have for you to approve the disposal of the asset and keep moving in that direction.

## VIII. MAINSTREET MANAGER'S REPORT

Main Street manager Jillian Tremonti announced that Grayling Main Street had received 11 technology grants in the amount of \$2500 each. She explained that normally only a few grants are awarded per city and that we were very fortunate.

The new clock downtown had been installed and looks great.

She is working with Haley at the Chamber of Commerce for the downtown fireworks in Grayling.

White Pine & Petals flower shop recently bought the Brickery building where they are located. They were previously leasing. They have some ideas as to what to do with the rest of the building.

There is a new food truck downtown in front of Rolling Oak called '989 BBQ'.

The match on main grant checks were delivered last week to Three Fires for \$25,000 & Rolling Oak Brewing for \$18,807.

Grayling Main Street has one vacancy on their board and will soon be two vacant seats after Erich becomes the Interim City Manager. They've received a couple applications and will start the interview process for the vacancies soon.

## IX. PROJECT UPDATES

**A. 150<sup>TH</sup> Sesquicentennial of Grayling**

Pettyjohn stated they will be starting the planning for the fall. Right now, with the summer and Riverfest, there's a lot going on. The float is finished and will be in 4th of July parade.

City manager Baum mentioned that work was being done for the IBT. He mentioned he was still waiting on a reply from the military about moving the fence. He also mentioned that the city had received a grant to revamp the pavilion at the city park

**X. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**A. Spike's Purchase of City Parcel**

Jeremy Bowers, the owner of spikes, had rope professional services do a survey recently for the parcel split. He is proposing a purchase price of \$6,000. City manager Baum pointed out, maintaining the utilities and easement.

**22-047**

**Moved by Schreiner seconded by Pettyjohn to approve the sale of the city parcel pending final documents to Spike's Keg O' Nails for \$6,000.**

**Roll Call Vote**

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

**Motion Carried**

**XI. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. City Manager position**

Schreiner stated he believed that continuity was important and that he feels appointing Erich Podjaske as the interim city manager position for eight months would give him enough time to see if it was what he wanted to do and get him through budgeting cycle. During those eight months he would be able to take classes on budgeting and management. Council will need to discuss a salary, but he feels it should be somewhere between Erich's current salary and City Manager Baum's salary. Sloan stated that he agreed with Schreiner. Pettyjohn also agreed. City Manager Baum explained three years ago he sat Erich, Amanda, and Chelsea down and let them know they were his and Lisa's succession plan for retirement. Obviously, things have changed since then, but he has no doubt they are more than capable.

**22-048**

**Moved by Schreiner seconded by Pettyjohn to approve as of August 1, 2022, Erich Podjaske as the Interim City Manager for 8 months with training.**

**Roll Call Vote**

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

**Motion Carried**

**B. POAM Contract**

**22-049**

**Moved by Sloan seconded by Pettyjohn to approve the POAM contract for 7/1/2022-6/30/2024.**

**Roll Call Vote**

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

**Motion Carried**

**C. 2021 FY Completed Audit**

Finally completed and received from Anderson & Tackman.

**22-050**

**Moved by Schreiner seconded by Pettyjohn to approve the 2020/2021 FY Completed Audit.**

**Roll Call Vote**

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

**Motion Carried**

**D. Approve 21/22 FY Budget Amendments**

**22-051**

**Moved by Schreiner seconded by Pettyjohn to approve the 21/22 FY Budget Amendments.**

**Roll Call Vote**

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

**Motion Carried**

**E. Approve 21/22 FY Reappropriation of Funds to FY 22/23**

**22-052**

**Moved by Sloan seconded by Schreiner to approve the 21/22 FY Reappropriation of Funds to FY 22/23.**

**Roll Call Vote**

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

**Motion Carried**

**F. Tree Removal Sealed Bids from May 26, 2022**

Sloan asked if the quote was for the DPW doing the clean-up. Clerk/Treasurer Goodwin replied no. The quote includes clean-up for an additional \$2,000 for the cemetery and \$2,000 for the right-of-way. Sloan and Schreiner replied that it was a good deal.

**22-053**

**Moved by Sloan seconded by Forbes to approve the Cemetery tree removal bid for \$41,465.**

**Roll Call Vote**

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

**Motion Carried**

**22-054**

**Moved by Sloan seconded by Schreiner to approve the Right-of-Way tree removal bid for \$28,000.01.**

**Roll Call Vote**

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

**Motion Carried**

### **G. Resolution for CWSRF Project Plan**

**22-055**

**Moved by Schreiner seconded by Sloan to waive the reading of the resolution.**

**Roll Call Vote**

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

**Motion Carried**

Schreiner pointed out that the form had the City Manager title and Doug Baum's name in the opposite places.

**22-056**

**Moved by Schreiner seconded by Forbes to approve the Resolution for the CWSRF Project Plan with the switching of the name & title.**

**Roll Call Vote**

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

**Motion Carried**

### **H. Title Search on Vacant Parcel – Unknown Owner**

City Manager Baum explained that there was a small triangular piece of property that the city did not know who owned it. A resident was interested in purchasing it so a title search would need to be performed. The city assessor believes that many years ago when the road was rerouted, that small piece of property was forgotten about. A title search had been started but it could be a bit lengthy and end up costing the city. Since it wasn't a budgeted expense, Council would need to approve the costs.

**22-057**

**Moved by Schreiner seconded by Sloan to approve the City Manager to do what was needed to do a title search and fix it.**

**Roll Call Vote**

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

**Motion Carried**

### **I. 606 Ogemaw water/sewer bill**

Mr. Singh, the owner of 606 Ogemaw, is asking for forgiveness for a \$700+ water/sewer bill. The property is a rental, and the previous renter did not pay the bill for months and has since vacated the property.

**22-058**

**Moved by Sloan seconded by Forbes to waive \$400 from the delinquent water/sewer bill at 606 Ogemaw.**

**Roll Call Vote**

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

**Motion Carried**

### **J. Knight Street Property**

Mr. Singh is asking that the vacant property at the end of Knight Street to be rezoned to allow him to build three rental homes. Each home will be 3 bed/2 bath homes. Pettyjohn asked Mr. Singh if he had other rental properties. Mr. Singh replied yes. Sloan asked what the homes would look like and what would be used for the exterior. Mr. Singh replied they would be nice new constructions with vinyl siding. Mayor Forbes asked Mr. Singh how many rentals he currently had. Mr. Singh replied about 15-20. Pettyjohn explained that in his opinion Mr. Singh's rental properties don't look to be in the greatest condition and would be concerned about adding more. Mr. Singh and his son both stated they would be new rentals and new construction. His other rentals are close to 20 years old. Mr. Singh asked which rentals he was referring to. Pettyjohn replied he noticed them on Peninsula Ave. Mr. Singh stated he has done a lot to his current rentals since he purchased them and are in much better shape than when he first bought them. Mr. Singh and his son expressed that they felt Pettyjohn held a grudge over a mask-wearing incident that happened at Mr. Singh's store 2 years ago. Pettyjohn stated that he had no hard feelings and had nothing to do with the current item on the agenda. Pettyjohn explained that he would like to see something in writing as far as his plans for the new construction before approving it.

**22-059**

**Moved by Sloan to approve the parcel change on Knight Street. No second.**

**Motion Failed**

## **XII. REPORTS**

Police chief Amanda Clough explained she was currently working on a safety plan for Riverfest. The police department is currently seeking applications and has received three applications. Travis recently completed evidence tech training class. Military background checks have been completed.

## **XIII. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Singh asked Council what he needed to do for the approval on the lots. City Manager Baum replied that he would have Erich Podjaske get with him about it.

Grayling charter Township Supervisor Lacey Stephan asked to be added to the agenda. Mayor Forbes stated the agenda was already approved but he was welcome to speak under public comment. Stephan explained that as they previously discussed, his Township board really enjoyed the joint board meeting they had with City Council. The board looked at the schedule for the 2022 City Council's meetings and would like to have joint City-Township work sessions on August 22nd and October 24th to be held at the fire department. City Manager Baum asked Stephan if he was expecting any decisions to be made. Stephan replied no. They just wanted to have work sessions to talk and get to know each other like last time. No agenda would be needed. Schreiner mentioned that if something comes up in the meantime, the City Manager could always create one if there was enough notice.

City Council agreed to have their August 22<sup>nd</sup> and October 24<sup>th</sup> work sessions at the fire department with the Grayling Charter Township board.

## **XIV. COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS**

Sloan asked what ever happened with the urban chickens.

City Manager Baum said he would check but wasn't aware that there were any chickens found in the city.

Schreiner said that it was nice to see the improvement with the old Hospitality House finally coming down.

Pettyjohn wasn't sure who to talk to but was concerned with the Fish Hatchery and said he notice that 2 pillars had fallen and was concerned. It is historic and he hates to see it falling apart. City Manager Baum replied that the county actually owned it. He had previously talked about the city partnering to help but currently the city doesn't have the time or resources. He agrees that the Fish Hatchery is historic for not just Grayling but for Michigan and it's unfortunate to see it in disarray. Pettyjohn asked who he should talk to about it. City Manager Baum replied to start with Paul Compo at the County building.

Mayor Forbes thanked GMS Manager Jillian and Hailey for working so hard on the fireworks.

**XV. CORRESPONDENCE**

**XVI. ADJOURNMENT**

**22-060**

**Moved by Schreiner seconded by Sloan to adjourn the meeting.**

**Roll Call Vote**

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

Mayor Forbes adjourned the meeting at 7:33 pm.

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Chelsea Goodwin

City Clerk/Treasurer

Approved Minutes can be found on our website: [www.cityofgrayling.org](http://www.cityofgrayling.org)