

CITY OF VERGAS  
PUBLIC HEARING  
Virtual Meeting-cityofvergas.com  
6:15 P.M. on Tuesday, August 18, 2020

The City Council of Vergas met for a public hearing at 6:15 p.m., on Tuesday, August 18, 2020 in a Zoom virtual meeting with the following members present: Mayor Dean Haarstick, Council Members: Logan Dahlgren, Julie Bruhn, Paul Pinke and Natalie Fischer. Absent: none. Also present: Clerk/Treasurer Julie Lammers, Utilities Superintendent Mike DuFrane and Barbie Porter of the Frazee-Vergas Forum.

Mayor Dean Haarstick called the hearing to order.

Julie Lammers reviewed the abatement program request by property owners of 88 Park View Drive.

Mayor Haarstick closed the hearing at 6:20 pm.

**CITY OF VERGAS  
REGULAR MEETING  
Tuesday, August 18, 2020 6:30 P.M.**

The City Council of Vergas met at 6:30 p.m., on Tuesday, August 18, 2020 in a Zoom virtual meeting with the following members present: Mayor Dean Haarstick, Council Members: Logan Dahlgren, Julie Bruhn, Paul Pinke and Natalie Fischer. Absent: none. Also present: Clerk/Treasurer Julie Lammers, Utilities Superintendent Mike DuFrane, Danielle Lesmann, Loren Menz, Keith Sandau, Jack Rosenthal, Steve Peloquin, Carol Albright, Bruce Albright, Rebecca Peterson, Peter Kastella and Barbie Porter of the Frazee-Vergas Forum.

Mayor Dean Haarstick called the meeting to order.

No citizens' concerns were discussed.

Motion by Dahlgren, seconded by Pinke to accept agenda with the following addition: Big Build property tax abatement and a construction permit at 339 E Frazee Avenue. Voting yes: Pinke, Bruhn, Dahlgren and Fischer. Voting no: none. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Dahlgren, seconded by Pinke to approve the following consent agenda:

- a. Council Minutes of the July 14, 2020
- b. Bills paid between Council meetings and Council bills totaling \$174,519.42
- c. Voided Check – 24354 MCFOA \$75.00 (lowered training to \$25.00 for zoom meeting)
- d. Liquor Store bills for July 2020 totaling \$127,895.17
- e. General Fund/Special Revenue Money Market Account Report
- f. COVID19 Spending Report
- g. 2020 Budget Comparison
  - i. General
  - ii. Water
  - iii. Sewer
- h. Late water/sewer bills
  - i. COVID19 applications-no one has applied

Voting yes: Bruhn, Pinke, Dahlgren and Fischer. Voting no: none. Motion carried.

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Rebecca Peterson of West Central Initiative reviewed their activities and encouraged people to watch the West Central Initiative video.

Motion by Bruhn, seconded by Dahlgren to accept Resolution 2020-004, (a complete text of the resolution is part of permanent public record in the City Clerk's office.) The City proposes to approve tax abatements in connection with the construction of a 64 X 28 house (the "Project"). The City proposes to use the abatement for the Project provided for in Minnesota Statutes, Sections 469.1812 through 469.1815 (the "Abatement Law"), from the property taxes to be levied by the City on Parcel Identification Number 82000990224000 (the "Tax Abatement Property"). Voting yes: Bruhn, Pinke, Dahlgren and Fischer. Voting no: none. Motion carried.

Jack Rosenthal of Compass Consultants Inc. reviewed survey area on Pelican Ave. Loren Menz reviewed his property as he purchased it and what happened when the water was installed in Vergas with his property lines in 1993. The City needs to decide what to do about the road right of way of Glen Street as it is currently a 66-foot road right of way. Peloquin stated our legal options are to maintain 66 foot right of way by saying no, shrink road or require property elsewhere in this case Parcel 82000990136000. Peter Kastella representative of parcel 82000990136000 stated they are against the taking of his property as he has known about this issue since 1999. Dahlgren asked Mike Dufrane Utilities Superintendent and Scott Kolbinger City Engineer for their opinion where they both stated they need to investigate it further before they could make a recommendation. Council asked street committee to meet with Engineer and review what the City would like to recommend.

Kolbinger reviewed 2019 Street Project. Discussed curb around the 3<sup>rd</sup> St, Linden and W Main loop, Peloquin suggested they allow Anderson Brothers to fill cracks and place epoxy on curb. City needs to review how much they are willing to spend on attorney fees. Also discussed cracking in asphalt on Park View Avenue. Kolbinger stated he would proceed with epoxy of the curb and crack filling on Parkview. Discussed the infiltration system on Diane and Eva project.

Motion by Pinke, seconded by Bruhn to close Railway Avenue by Billy's on Friday, Aug. 28, 2020 from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. for the annual Ole's Ride. Voting yes: Bruhn, Pinke, Dahlgren and Fischer. Voting no: none. Motion carried.

Motion by Pinke, seconded by Bruhn to approve the following construction permits: – 250 1<sup>st</sup> Ave N (10x24 lean-to) and 339 E Frazee Ave (replace 11 windows). Voting yes: Pinke, Bruhn, Dahlgren and Fischer. Voting no: none. Motion carried.

Park and Trail Advisory Committee reports were reviewed. Discussed putting a curb along the parking lot by the beach. A berm (curb) will stop the beach from washing out after each rain. Council asked DuFrane to bring an estimate to next month's meeting.

Economic Development Authority/Housing Redevelopment Authority (EDA/HRA) report was reviewed. Motion by Bruhn, seconded by Dahlgren to approve Bruce Albright as a member of the EDA/HRA. Voting yes: Bruhn, Pinke, Dahlgren and Fischer. Voting no: none. Motion carried.

Event Center Advisory committee report was reviewed. Motion by Bruhn, seconded by Fischer to proceed with proposals for the Event Center remodel per BHH recommendation. Voting yes: Bruhn, Pinke, Dahlgren and Fischer. Voting no: none. Motion carried.

DuFrane discussed yard waste issue of tree stumps. We need to investigate getting an enforcement authority. Peloquin and Lammers will discuss and investigate options and respond to Council in a couple of months as it is going to take some time.

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Motion by Bruhn, seconded by Pinke to approve the updated Camera Policy. Voting yes: Bruhn, Pinke, Dahlgren and Fischer. Voting no: none. Motion carried.

Motion by Bruhn, seconded by Pinke to approve the updated Procurement Policy. Voting yes: Bruhn, Pinke, Dahlgren and Fischer. Voting no: none. Motion carried.

Lammers reviewed COVID19 procedures for the city. League is now recommending a new policy that if someone is not feeling well, they need to stay home 5 days and can return to work once they do not have an elevated temperature for 48 hours. Discussed getting Surface Pros or iPads for Council members with CARES money. Motion by Pinke, seconded by Bruhn to purchase 7 devices, cases and style pens from CARES money. The 7 include 5 Council members, Clerk-Treasurer and Utilities Superintendent. Voting yes: Bruhn, Pinke, Dahlgren and Fischer. Voting no: none. Motion carried.

#### Utilities Superintendent Report

Parks-No motorized vehicles signs have been installed. Mowing on the property's needing to be done will be mowed by the September 8 meeting.

Water and Sewer- having issues with the dehumidifier at the water plant. We need to look at good air for COVID and requested spending CARES money. Council asked DuFrane to bring an estimate.

Streets- signs were received and street department

Lammers reviewed Liquor Store activities. Liquor Store businesses is slowing down and there are many products we are having a difficult time getting due to COVID.

2021 Budget was discussed and Lammers will meet with DuFrane and the budget committee for recommendation at the September meeting.

Haarstick stated he has attended several meetings with Lakes Country Service Association.

The business for which the meeting was called having been completed, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Clerk-Treasurer Julie Lammers, CMC

