

**CITY OF VERGAS
REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday, June 9, 2020 6:30 P.M.**

The City Council of Vergas met in regular session at 6:30 p.m., on Tuesday, June 9, 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, Tom Anderson, Scott Kolbinger, Steve Peloquin and Barbie Porter of the Frazee-Vergas Forum.

Mayor Dean Haarstick called the meeting to order.

No citizens' concerns were discussed.

Motion by Bruhn, seconded by Dahlgren to accept agenda with following additions: 2 construction permits and outdoor seating and to remove Billy's from agenda. Voting yes: Bruhn, Dahlgren and Fischer. Voting no: none. Motion carried.

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

- a. Council Minutes of the May 12, 2020
- b. Bills paid between Council meetings and Council bills totaling \$39,029.18.
- c. Liquor Store bills for May 2020 totaling \$70,361.49.
- d. Late water/sewer bills
 - i. COVID19 applications-no one has applied.

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

Lammers reviewed the current budget for the City of Vergas.

Paul Pinke joined the meeting.

Motion by Dahlgren, seconded by Fischer to approve the following construction permits: 210 W Hill Street-additional 16x16 deck, 1106 E Frazee - siding and windows, 830 Scharf Ave-6x8 shed and 251 1st Ave N-8x12 addition to current garage. Voting yes: Pinke, Bruhn, Dahlgren and Fischer. Voting no: none. Motion carried.

Sherri Hanson, President of the Vergas Community Club requested permission to hold Looney Daze August 7-9, 2020 with the governor's regulations. Requested permission to use City Property. Lammers provided information from the League of MN Cities with recommendations. Motion by Dahlgren, seconded by Bruhn to enter into an agreement with Looney Daze committee to hold Looney Daze on city property which our Attorney Steve Peloquin writes with recommendations from the League of MN Cities. Voting yes: Pinke, Bruhn, Dahlgren and Fischer. Voting no: none. Motion carried.

Motion by Bruhn, seconded by Dahlgren to hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, July 14 regarding proposed property tax abatements at 6:15 pm. Voting yes: Pinke, Bruhn, Dahlgren and Fischer. Voting No: none. Motion carried.

Lammers reviewed last month's motion to give 3 months' worth of liquor licenses back to businesses owners: \$750 to Skal and Billy's and \$75.00 to Otter Coffee. Council stated they were the correct amounts.

Goodman's decided to not allow public parking on their property. Lammers proposed renting spots from owner and has offered the suggestion to Theresa Harthun, the Goodman Estate representative. Harthun has not responded. Sign ordinance has been violated on this property with a sign stating a fire has been in building. The City paid for paving of parking lot, the City plows the parking lot, Vergas Community Club paid for flowers for area and the Lions weed and water the flowers. Peloquin informed Council he is legal representative for both parties and will need to relieve himself of all legal activities. Motion by Bruhn, seconded by Pinke to form a committee of the municipal building committee; members Julie Bruhn and Natalie Fischer, one member of the EDA and Julie Lammers to discuss what direction to take with the issue. Voting yes: Pinke, Bruhn, Dahlgren and Fischer. Voting no: none. Motion carried.

Lammers reviewed the conditional use permit for Skal and ordinance 93.03 MATERIALS ON STREET OR SIDEWALK. Skal would like to enlarge their outside dining area and Loon's Nest would like picnic tables on the sidewalk in front of their building while the Executive order 20-70 is in order. Motion by Bruhn, seconded by Fischer to allow permit for special use of sidewalks

and parking lots until executive order is removed or December 31, 2020. Voting yes: Pinke, Bruhn, Dahlgren and Fischer. Voting no: none. Motion carried.

Scott Kolbinger, Engineer of KLJ Engineering reviewed the coring of Scharf Ave. The cost of coring Scharf Project Spec was written to achieve 92% compaction. 6 density tests were taken on Scharf. Each test had a compaction of 92%, which is MN DOT minimum need to achieve. They did meet requirements. Kolbinger believes cracking is reflective and the City needs to sand seal to prevent further damage. Discussed curb cracking on Hill St as it is a warranty item that may need to be redone. We have until November to proceed with warranty work. Council asked Kolbinger to line up the curb replacement before winter. Discussed the grass seed not growing and all streets need to be reseeded. Kolbinger will check into the warranty work of grass. DuFrane provided a quote for seal coating in the City. Motion by Bruhn, seconded by Fischer to have E Scharf Avenue crack sealed by Morris Sealcoat and Trucking, Inc. to prevent further damage and leave all other crack sealing until next year. Voting yes: Pinke, Bruhn, Dahlgren and Fischer. Voting no: none. Motion carried.

Planning Commission report was reviewed.

Park and Trail Advisory Committee reports were reviewed. Discussed opening our bathrooms or having porta potties. DuFrane stated his department would clean the bathrooms 7 days a week instead of the 5 days a week they have done in the past. On June 10, 2020 the docks can be put out and the bathrooms can be opened. Discussed the brick planter needing to be finished as DuFrane has worked on the planter in the past, DuFrane has received a bid of \$4,300.00 to finish the project. There is another bidder who may bid later this week. Motion by Bruhn, seconded by Fischer to allow park board to spend up to \$5,000 on finishing the trail planter. Voting yes: Pinke, Bruhn, Dahlgren and Fischer. Voting no: none. Motion carried. Motion by Dahlgren, seconded Fischer to move up to \$5,000 from money market account to the general fund to pay for this park expense. Voting yes: Pinke, Bruhn, Dahlgren and Fischer. Voting no: none. Motion carried. Lammers reviewed swimming lessons and recommended no swimming lessons in 2020 but allow Nancy Jacobson do swimming lessons privately. Motion by Bruhn, seconded by Pinke to cancel swimming lessons in 2020 and allow Jacobson to do private lessons on our beach if she supplies certificate of liability insurance. Voting yes: Pinke, Bruhn, Dahlgren and Fischer. Voting no: none. Motion carried.

Economic Development Authority report was reviewed. They are working on the Vergas Housing Study. Otter Tail County does have a small business grant available thru July 2, 2020.

Event Center Advisory committee report was reviewed.

Lammers reviewed COVID19 procedures for the city.

Utilities Superintendent Report

Water and Sewer- There are 70 water meters installed. Meters will be installed on Thursdays. Ponds are coming alive now. Primary is diverted into the secondary and the primary is coming a long way in a short time. The number 2 pump has been replaced in the main lift station.

Parks – DuFrane discussed planters. Glawe Park has been cleaned, dirt has been placed and they will plant grass after the rain. Barefoot Lawns sprayed for weeks on City properties.

Streets- grader has graded the gravel streets in the City.

Lammers reviewed Liquor Store activities.

Haarstick reported on activities in Vergas and asked Council to be understanding of people as we are in a high stress time. Complimented the Vergas EMS and Fire Departments will their activities. Ottertail Lakes Country has met.

Hazardous waste day will be July 10, 2020 from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Volunteers are still needed.

The business for which the meeting was called having been completed, the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Clerk-Treasurer Julie Lammers, CMC

**CITY OF VERGAS
REGULAR MEETING
Thursday, June 25, 2020 6:30 P.M.**

The City Council of Vergas met in special session at 5:30 p.m., on Thursday, June 25, 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, Steve Peloquin and Barbie Porter of the Frazee-Vergas Forum.

Mayor Dean Haarstick called the meeting to order.

Discussed the COVID-19 Preparedness Plan. Motion by Dahlgren, seconded by Pinke to approve the COVID-19 Preparedness Plan with changes discussed. Voting yes: Pinke, Bruhn, Dahlgren and Fischer. Voting no: none. Motion carried.

Discussed procurement policy. Motion by Dahlgren, seconded by Fischer to approve the procurement policy. Voting yes: Pinke, Bruhn, Dahlgren and Fischer. Voting no: none. Motion carried.

Lammers requested Council allow a 50-cent raise to the all five liquor store employees due to pandemic and added duties. Motion by Fischer, seconded by Bruhn to give all liquor store employees a 50-cent raise. Voting yes: Pinke, Bruhn, Dahlgren and Fischer. Voting no: none. Motion carried.

Lammers requested Council hire Jazmae Burkett as a liquor store employee at 10.10 an hour. Discussed raise others just received. Motion by Fischer, seconded by Bruhn to hire Jazmae Burkett at \$10.60 an hour. Voting yes: Pinke, Bruhn, Dahlgren and Fischer. Voting no: none. Motion carried.

Bruhn stated maintenance operator Matt Engebretson has successfully completed his 3-month review.

Vergas Community Club agreement for Looney Daze has been signed by both the Vergas Community Club President Sherri Hanson and Mayor Dean Haarstick and they have provided their insurance certificate.

Discussed allowing the Vergas Fire and Rescue and Lions to have a bar in the Lion's park for their Calcutta fundraiser due to the Event Center and Fire Department not being open at this time due to the pandemic. Motion by Pinke, seconded by Dahlgren to allow Vergas Fire and Rescue and Lion's to have a bar in the Lions park for their Calcutta fundraiser. Motion carried.

Lammers reviewed information from the building committee regarding Goodman's Supermarket. Motion by Dahlgren, seconded by Bruhn to hire Brian Tinjum to appraise 105 E Main St for \$2,800.00 with a 6-week time frame. Voting yes: Pinke, Bruhn, Dahlgren and Fischer. Voting no: none. Motion carried.

Lammers requested permission to make the \$15,000 liquor store transfer for 2020. Motion was made by Bruhn, seconded by Dahlgren to allow transfer from the liquor store to the general fund for \$15,000.00. Voting yes: Pinke, Bruhn, Dahlgren and Fischer. Voting no: none. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Bruhn, seconded by Fischer to approve the following Council bills totaling \$24,895.33. Voting yes: Pinke, Bruhn, Dahlgren and Fischer. Voting no: none. Motion carried.

The business for which the meeting was called having been completed, the meeting was adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

Clerk-Treasurer Julie Lammers, CMC