

## **Regular Meeting Minutes of the**

### **Plankinton City Council**

June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2025 Meeting Minutes of the Plankinton City Council

The Plankinton City Council met on June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2025, for a regular meeting.

Members present included Mayor Carl Bode and council members Jim Nielsen, DeEtte Bohr, Nathan DeGeest, and Amber Green.

Members Absent were Magdalena Popek-Hurst and Terry Schuldt. Both notified council they would not be attending.

Finance Officer Cindy Geiman, Electrical Superintendent Chance Boyd, and Maintenance Superintendent Darin Cranny were among the city employees present.

Also in attendance were Gayle Van Genderen, representing the South Dakota Mail, Pam Vissia and Curt Nelson. County Emergency Manager Skyler Kehn arrived around 6:45 p.m.

Mayor Bode called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

#### **AGENDA APPROVAL**

Councilperson Nielsen informed the council that he would like to table the Walleyes Unlimited Grant to the July 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting. Nielsen made a motion to approve the agenda with the deferment of Walleyes Unlimited. Bohr seconding. All voted aye, motion carried.

#### **BILLS TO PAY**

Green made a motion to approve the bills to pay, with DeGeest seconding the motion. All voted Aye. The motion passed.

A&B WATER- WATER PURCHASE-\$9644.50; AMG OCCUPATIONAL MEDICINE-DARIN DRUG TEST-\$36.60; AURORA COUNTY CLERKS OFFICE- SMALLS CLAIMS #1-\$29.41; AURORA COUNTY CLERKS OFFICE- SMALL CLAIMS #2- 41.41; AVERA HEALTH PLANS-HEALTH INSURANCE-\$4481.12; BARNES AND NOBLE-BOOKS PURCHASED- \$276.60; BELL BANK-MINI EXCAVATOR-\$919.42; BORDER STATES- ELECTRICAL SUPPLIES-\$457.66; CORE AND MAIN- CURB BOX AND SUPPLIES-\$282.20; DAKOTA SUPPLY GROUND- WIRE AND SHRINK WRAP- \$169.93; DELTA DENTAL-DENTAL INSURANCE-\$268.30; FARMERS AND MERCHANTS- PAYROLL FEES-\$7.55; HAWKINS, POOL MAINTENANCE- \$2091.54; HEARTLAND ELECTRICAL LOAN #1-\$1241.68; HEARTLAND- ELECTRICAL LOAN # 2-\$1241.68; HOMETOWN FAMILY HEALTH- 4 DRUG TEST- \$80.00; J&D CONTRACTING-

MOWING #3- \$1500.00; OVERWEG AUTO- TIRE REPAIR-\$31.80; PLANKINTON LUMBER-SUPPLIES-\$940.70; RAYMOND DELUDE- SEWER REIMBURSTMENT- \$1683.35; SCOTT CONSTRUCTION- FINAL LIFT STATION PAYMENT-\$13471.04; SD DANR-DRINKING/CLEAN WATER H2O FEES-\$310.00; SD DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH- WATER TESTING-\$15.00; SD MAIL- PUBLISHING- \$1868.88; SPN- FINAL LIFT STATION PAYMENT-\$2400.00; SPN-WASTEWATER CONSTRUCTION AND ENGINEERING FEE- \$4092.80; TITAN MACHINERY-ISOLATORS-\$369.00, TOSHIBA- COPIER CONTRACT-\$221.91; VESTIS-RUG CONTRACT-\$37.41; VISA- SUPPLIES-\$5041.36.

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS

Pam Vissia asked if it would be okay to block off the street for the car show that they are doing during alumni weekend. She is also requesting permission to hold a parade on the same day, but will not require the main street to be blocked off. So far, there are no float entries. And finally, Pam would like to volunteer her time to take pictures of cemetery stones and possibly download them into the computer program we have for the cemetery. The council didn't have a problem with the car show or the parade and thanked her for volunteering her time.

#### DELINQUENT

#### BILL ORDINANCE

DeGeest made a motion to pass the second reading and adoption of Ordinance No. 2025-05-05-2 , with Nielsen seconding the motion. All voted aye, motion passed.

#### **ORDINANCE NO. 2025-05-05-2**

#### **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 50: GENERAL PROVISIONS OF TITLE V:PUBLIC WORKS OF THE CITY CODE OF**

#### **PLANKINTON, SOUTH DAKOTA, REGARDING COLLECTION OF DELINQUENT UTILITY BILLS**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Plankinton previously adopted Title V:Public Works and the subsequent sections thereof of the City Code of the City of Plankinton regarding collection of delinquent utility bills; and

**WHEREAS,** the City of Plankinton now finds it necessary and expedient to amend the provisions of Title V:Public Works relating to collection of delinquent utility bills; and

**WHEREAS,** the City of Plankinton now finds it necessary and expedient to repeal the provisions of Title V:Public Works, particularly §50.15, §50.16, §52.34, and §53.35, thereof, and adopt new provisions thereof relating to collection of delinquent utility bills;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED** by the City Council of the City of Plankinton, Aurora County, South Dakota, that the aforesaid §50.15, §50.16, §52.34, and §53.35 are hereby repealed and the following are adopted in place thereof;

#### **§50.15 DELINQUENT UTILITY BILLS.**

If a customer fails to pay his or her utility bill by the twentieth (20<sup>th</sup>) day of the month in which the bill is due a late fee will be added on the twenty first (21<sup>st</sup>) day of the month or next regular business day. The city will mail a disconnect notice to the customer that same day. The disconnect notice will inform the customer that the electric service may, at the City's sole discretion, be disconnected if full payment is not received by 9:00 a.m. on the seventh (7<sup>th</sup>) day of the following month. In the event that the seventh (7<sup>th</sup>) day of the month falls on a Friday, a holiday, or weekend day, the electric may, at the City's sole discretion, be disconnected if full payment is not received by 9:00 a.m. on the next regular business day.

#### **§50.16 FEES REGARDING DISCONNECTION AND RECONNECTION.**

(A) Whenever electrical service has been disconnected pursuant to this policy, the customer must pay a \$25 disconnect fee, in addition to the amount owed to the city. Said disconnection fee shall be paid prior to reconnection of service.

(B) Whenever electrical service has been disconnected pursuant to this policy, the customer must pay a \$25 reconnection fee, in addition to the initial amount owed to the city. Said reconnection fee shall be paid prior to reconnection of service.

(C) In the event that electrical service is reconnected after regular business hours, the reconnection fee will be in the amount of \$100, which amount is in addition to the

disconnect fee and the initial amount owed to the city. Said after hours reconnection fee must be paid prior to reconnection of service.

(D) Payment for delinquent bills, including any disconnect fees or reconnection fees must be made at the City Hall or online. In the event that such payment is mailed to the city, service shall not be reconnected until the payment is received by mail at the City Hall. Reconnection of electrical service will not be made until payment in full is received.

#### §52.34 NON-PAYMENT OF BILLINGS.

(A) All water bills must be paid at the office of the Finance Officer, and if not paid on or before the twentieth (20<sup>th</sup>) day of the month or next regular business day. The city will

mail a disconnect notice to the customer that same day. The disconnect notice will inform the customer that the water service may, at the sole discretion of the City, be disconnected if full payment is not received by 9:00 a.m. on the seventh (7<sup>th</sup>) day of the following month. In the event that the seventh (7<sup>th</sup>) day of the month falls on a Friday, a holiday, or weekend day, the water may, at the City's sole discretion, be disconnected, if full payment is not received by 9:00 a.m. on the next regular business day.

(B) Whenever water service has been disconnected pursuant to this policy, the customer must pay a \$25 disconnect fee, in addition to the amount owed to the city. Said disconnection fee must be paid prior to reconnection of service.

(C)

Whenever water service has been disconnected pursuant to this policy, the customer must pay a \$25 reconnection fee, in addition to the initial amount owed to the city. Said reconnection fee must be paid prior to reconnection of service.

(D) In the event that water service is reconnected after regular business hours, the reconnection fee will be in the amount of \$100, which amount will be in addition to the

disconnect fee and the initial amount owed to the city. Said after hours reconnection fee must be paid prior to reconnection of service.

(E) Payment for delinquent bills, including any disconnect fees or reconnection fees must be made at the City Hall or online. In the event that such payment is mailed to the

city, service will not be reconnected until the payment is received by mail at the City Hall. Reconnection of water service will not be made until payment in full is received.

(F) No person is allowed to turn on the water to any premises from which the water has

been turned off as herein provided without written authority from the Water Department.

(G) If it is necessary to dig up a curb stop or corporation stop to shut off water for non-payment of water billing, the cost of work will be added to the water bill in addition to all other charges.

#### **§53.35 NON-PAYMENT OF BILLINGS**

All electrical bills must be paid at the office of the Finance Officer or online. As also set forth in §50.15 and §50.16, supra, if not paid on or before the twentieth (20<sup>th</sup>) of the month they become due, they will become delinquent, a delinquent notice will be mailed,

and the electricity may be disconnected. The electricity will not be turned on again until all back billings, current billing and other charges have been paid, together with a \$25 disconnect fee and a \$25 reconnect fee, or a \$100 fee for services provided outside of normal business hours as applicable. No person is allowed to turn on the electricity to any premises from which the electricity has been turned off as herein provided without written authority from the electrical department.

Subject to the provisions of the referendum, this Ordinance will be in force effective twenty one (21) days following publication.

All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances, whether standing alone or codified to the Plankinton City Code, which are in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Adopted this day, June 2<sup>nd</sup> 2025

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Carl Bode

Mayor

ATTEST:

Cindy Geiman

City Finance Officer

1st Reading: May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025

2nd Reading: June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2025

Date Adopted: June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2025

Date Published: June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025

Effective Date: July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2025

DEPUTY FINANCE OFFICER

Mayor Bode proposed establishing a hiring committee consisting of himself, Cindy, and one other councilperson to conduct the interviews, make a provisional offer, initiate training, and at the next city council meeting, approve the person to whom the offer was extended. Everything would be contingent upon the council's approval. Councilperson Bohr said she doesn't see a problem with the committee doing the interviews and hiring. Councilperson DeGeest said he would be available to be on the committee. Interviews will be held later this week or early next week. Nielsen thought it would be good if he abstained, as he had been approached by two of the applicants. Mayor Bode asked for a motion to approve having the hiring committee and giving them the authority to extend an interim offer. Nielsen made the motion, with Bohr seconding. All voted aye, motion carried.

#### ASSISTANT LIBRARIAN

Mayor Bode asked Cindy where we are standing with the assistant librarian? President of the Library board, Beth Sampson, picked up the only application we received. Mayor Bode will reach out to Beth Sampson. In the meantime, he is requesting that the council allow the library board to handle the interview and hiring process, then present their recommendation at the council meeting.

#### FIRE/AMBULANCE COMMERCIAL LEASE

Clint Bultsma has been in contact with Mr. Taylor, the City Attorney, regarding the insurance portion of the lease. It sounds like they have everything in order and have entered into the new lease. Mayor Bode asked if anyone on the board had any questions regarding the lease. If not, he is open to a motion to approve the commercial lease between the fire and ambulance and the City. Councilperson DeGeest made a motion to approve the lease. Amber seconding the motion. All voted aye, and the motion passed.

#### ANNUAL REPORT

Mayor Bode wanted the board to review it even though Finance Officer Cindy had to turn it in by May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025, to the Legislative Audit Department. Popek-Hurst had sent questions and comments in an email. We will address her concerns. Nielsen made a motion to approve the annual report. Bohr seconded it. All vote aye, motion carried.

#### PAST DUE BILLS

Finance officer Cindy reported to the council that there are four people on the delinquent utilities list, and out of those 4, two have contacted her. One said they would pay, and the other one said that they might try to pay. They do have until the 7<sup>th</sup> to pay, and since that is on a Saturday, we will wait until Monday, the 9<sup>th</sup>.

#### NEW BUSINESS

## WATERSHED PROJECT

Aurora County Emergency Manager Skyler Kehn addressed the council, stating that Aurora County is one of the sponsors of the Watershed Project. The goal of this project is to utilize the NRCS grant to examine the entire watershed of Firesteel Creek, which flows from the southwest of Plankinton, through Stickney, and up to Springs, ending in Lake Mitchell. No monetary contribution is required from the city; a letter of support is sufficient to help prepare the grant application. This initiative will directly benefit the city. One area of study for the project focuses on flood prevention, exploring two to three alternative flooding options and creating or enhancing ten to fifty wetlands. The flood prevention area extends down to Horseshoe Lake, Pleasant Lake, and Crystal Lake. Skyler requested that NRCS list the City of Plankinton as a stakeholder, ensuring that we have a seat at the table. This will benefit not only the city but also landowners, providing NRCS, DANR, FDA, and USDA with various options for their land. They are also considering establishing a grass buffer along all the creeks. DeGeest made a motion to support the watershed project and have Cindy draft a letter. Nielsen seconded the motion. All voted aye; the motion carried.

## BUILDING INSPECTOR REPORT

### RODEWAY/SMART CHOICE INN MOTEL

Building Inspector Nielsen reported that Ashiq LLC hasn't done anything to address the ordinance they are violating at the Rodeway/Smart Choice Inn in Plankinton. He passed around pictures of the fire detectors that need replacement and provided us with a copy of the health inspection. Nielsen stated that they must replace all the defective fire detectors, but he received the runaround from them, claiming they needed to order replacements. However, Nielsen contacted several hotels in Mitchell, and all indicated they purchased their fire detectors from the local Menards. Nielsen checked Menards, which has plenty in stock for the hotel to buy and replace, yet they chose not to. The hotel owner has stated that he doesn't plan to spend a dime to remedy any of the violations. Mr. Taylor is putting together a letter that requires two letters to be sent, one via certified mail and one delivered in person. It provides them with a certain amount of time, and if remedies to the violations are not completed, legal procedures will be followed and the business could be subject to closure. Mr. Taylor sent a copy of a closing notice. If Ashiq LLC is closed, they will have the right to appeal before the Council. They can't reopen until the decision on the appeal is heard. Inspector Nielsen stated the committee consists of the mayor and three council members. Nielsen cannot be on the committee because he is serving as the building inspector for the city.



A property owner at 402 S. Main St. with the shed is now in compliance. We are waiting for the engineer to review his report and see what it reveals. After that, she will fill out the Floodplain Development Permit.

#### PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT III

The Finance Officer addressed the council about the letter we received from District III requesting that we extend our membership for 2026. And that the dues are due by December 2025. The current dues are \$1328.00. A motion was made by DeGeest, seconded by Bohr, to pay the dues by December 2025 and extend our membership into 2026. All voted aye, motion passed.

#### 4-H DONATION

The Aurora County Siders 4-H club has requested a monetary donation to support their Achievement Days on August 1-2, 2025. The premium fund is money collected by 4-H members and distributed to all 4-H members of Aurora County, and is used to support projects, show livestock, and other 4-H activities, according to their letter. After some discussion, a motion was made by DeGeest to give them \$100.00. Green seconded this, all voted aye, motion passed.

#### GUARDIAN RENEWAL

The city received a copy of the Guardian renewal, which includes our long-term and short-term disability and life insurance. Finance Officer Cindy also brought to the attention of another company, Bull Dog Financial, which is interested in providing quotes for these same services, located in Madison, SD. A discussion was held about whether the employees wanted to switch companies; Superintendent Cranny stated that it doesn't hurt to check prices. Since the policy renewed in July, the council directed Cindy to contact Clint Bultsma and Bull Dog Financial and compare rates. When speaking with Clint, also request a 10-day extension, as the council meeting is not until July 7th.

#### CREDIT CARD POLICY

When the auditors visited in October of last year, they recommended implementing a policy regarding credit card usage. The council had a few policies to reference. A discussion took place, and the consensus was to have Finance Officer Cindy extract elements from other policies related to our City spending. Cindy inquired whether they wanted a cap on how much we can spend per transaction without obtaining the council's approval. DeGeest suggested establishing a credit card policy with a cap of \$1000.00 per transaction before requiring approval. There were no objections to this. Cindy was directed to create this policy and have it ready for review on July 7th.

## JUNETEENTH HOLIDAY

Mayor Bode contacted Aurora County Auditor Susan Urban to compare holidays with the County. We were mainly aligned; however, in some cases, they have given a day off either before or after the actual holiday. For instance, for July 4th, if that falls on a Tuesday, they would make a motion to grant Monday off as well. If it falls on a Thursday, they would also make a motion to take Friday off. This does not apply if it falls on a Wednesday. The commissioners have also given employees the Friday after Thanksgiving instead of Juneteenth. Mayor Bode would like the council's permission to review Section 7.11 of the personnel handbook and revise it to ensure we are generally in line with the county's standards.

## WEBSITE

The City does not have a secure SSL certificate on our website. To obtain one, the cost is \$150.00 per year. Currently, Rochelle Fink charges us \$500.00 to maintain the website. Adding the SSL certificate brings the total annual cost for the website to \$650.00. Cindy has received complaints from website visitors who feel uncomfortable making online payments due to the site's lack of security. Green made a motion to spend \$150.00 per year for a secure website, and Bohr seconded the motion. All voted in favor, and the motion was approved.

## STREET GRANT RESOLUTION

We need to start applying for this grant and in order to do so we need a resolution. The grant consists of an 80% to 20% match, up to \$600,000.00. The Maintenance Superintendent Cranny, would like to use this grant to repair Main Street from Commerce to State Street. At the corner of Main and Commerce, it's really starting to get damaged due to all the truck traffic. Additionally, on the south side of the railroad tracks at the corner of Pennington and Main, it's also starting to break up. We probably don't have a chance of getting this grant because it is based on a point system, but we have to give it a try. Hopefully, after a couple of years of applying, we will receive it, and we must have hope that Main Street will hold up until we get the grant. Nielsen made a motion to authorize Mayor Bode to sign the application and approve Darin to file the application for the grant and accept the resolution. Green seconded. All voted aye, motion passed.

## **RESOLUTION NO. 6-2-2025**

### **RESOLUTION TO APPLY FOR SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION COMMUNITY ACCESS GRANT FUNDS**

**WHEREAS,** the City of Plankinton, Aurora County, South Dakota, hereafter “City,” desires to apply for a Community Access Grant, hereafter “CAG,” from the South Dakota Department of Transportation, hereafter “SDDOT”; and

**WHEREAS,** a SDDOT CAG will provide 80% of construction costs, not to exceed \$600,000.00, for the construction or reconstruction of major streets in communities of less than 5,000 population; and

**WHEREAS,** City has a population of less than 5,000; and

**WHEREAS,** City has identified the need to construct, or reconstruct, as the case may be, the following major streets and roads within City:

- On Main Street from Commerce Street south to State Street (2 blocks) ; and

**WHEREAS,** City desires to participate in SDDOT’s CAG program and understands, and agrees, that in order to do so it must provide and pay

- 20% of road construction costs;
- all engineering, utility, and administrative costs associated with the CAG funded project; and
- maintain the CAG funded road project at City’s own cost for the useful life of the road;

and

**WHEREAS,** City has available local matching funds to fulfill its share of obligations related to a SDDOT CAG should the grant funds be awarded; and

**WHEREAS,** City will provide adequate funding for on-going maintenance of the streets and roads constructed, or reconstructed, using SDDOT CAG funds should the grant funds be awarded;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PLANKINTON, AURORA COUNTY, SOUTH DAKOTA THAT**

- the City Council duly approves the submission of a South Dakota Department of Transportation Community Access Grant application requesting 80% of the eligible street construction costs for the project described above; and it is further resolved
- the Mayor of Plankinton be, and hereby is, authorized to execute and deliver the South Dakota Department of Transportation Community Access Grant application on behalf of the City; and it is further resolved

- the Mayor of Plankinton be, and hereby is, authorized as the certifying officer to execute all required pay requests, correspondence, and other documents for the proposed project on behalf of the City.

Adopted this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of June, 2025.

Carl Bode

Mayor

Attest:

Cindy Geiman

Finance Officer

#### BUDGET TRAINING/ VACATION DAYS

City Finance Officer Cindy asked the council's permission to go to a budget training meeting held on June 25 in Sioux Falls. The training is from 9:30 to 2:00 p.m. and encouraged at least one council member to go as well. The cost is \$40.00, and lunch is included. It is organized by Rod Fortin, Director of Local Government Assistance, Department of Legislative Audit. The deadline to register is June 10<sup>th</sup>. Please let me know so I can register and pay your fees. Cindy was directed to send the agenda to the council to see if anyone would like to go.

Cindy also asked the council for permission to take a couple of vacation days the 19<sup>th</sup> and the 20<sup>th</sup> of June.

DeGeest made a motion to authorize Cindy to go to the budget training on June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2025, and to allow to take June 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> off for vacation; Green seconded the motion, all vote aye, motion carried.

#### ELECTED OFFICIAL WORKSHOP

It is held July 16-17 in Pierre. Mayor Bode stated that it was very informative when he and Nielsen went. It is \$100.00 to register before July 1<sup>st</sup> and \$120.00 after July 1<sup>st</sup>. Cindy was directed to email the agenda to the council and find out if there is money in the budget for travel and conferences. Green made a motion approved spending for at least two council members attend the workshop. DeGeest seconded the motion. All voted aye motion passed.

## ENERGIZE! CONFERENCE REPORT

Mayor Bode attended the Energize! Exploring Innovative Rural Communities Conference held in Platte on May 6-7. This conference is designed to energize South Dakota's rural communities by inviting them to network with community leaders from across the state, share success stories, get new ideas, and take action to improve their own communities. There were around 150 attendees. There were breakout sessions held at various locations around town.

They had a workshop called Places we love to call home with Rebecca Udem. Here are some of the things they covered.

- Organizational development specialist working for several companies.
- Hosts a bi-weekly podcast and founder of a non-profit called Growing Small Towns that exists to help the communities they serve to be a place people love to call home.
- Advocates for putting love back into economic development – a strong love of the people and places is just as important as data. It's also more likely to result in long-term happiness.
- Discussed how she took an old 8,000 sq ft Ben Franklin store in Oakes, North Dakota that her grandparents had owned and operated. The building now hosts Udem's Growing Small Towns organization, as well as the Oakes Chamber of Commerce.
- The building offers training space, a conference meeting area, and a venue for various events. It also offers a co-working space for a monthly fee where subscribers can have access to start-up and business management coaching.

Closing Panel: Voices of the Next Generation: Young Entrepreneurs.

- Trinity Kimball, 16, Platte. Platte Creek Grooming
- Erica Ingerson, 21, Eureka, Red Fox CNC
- Samantha Ford, 21, Mt Vernon, Farm Accounting & Equestrian Services.

Mayor Bode take-aways from the conference include:

- I've been thinking about our unused space in city hall.
- Will reach out to Peggy Schlechter, SDSU Extension Community Vitality Program Director.
- See if SDSU extension can help us find grants to develop space for young entrepreneurs who want to start a business.

- How can we attract our young people after graduation to want to come back to Plankinton? Find ways to work with Ryan VanZee at Mitchell Tech.
- Work with Curt Nelson and Plankinton schools on how we can start a Spanish class for adults in our community so we can reach out more effectively with our Hispanic neighbors.
- Look into a dog park. People can be out and socialize with other dog owners while their pets have some time to rumpus.
- Plankinton Community Development meets the last Thursday of the month at Commerce. Try to get more involved there.
- Consider publishing an “Experience Plankinton” welcome guide. Put in rest stops along I-90.

#### 4-WHEELER

Maintenance Superintendent Darin Cranny informed the council that the current 4-Wheeler has broken down and they need a different one. Chance Boyd was spraying when he lost power. They managed to get it back to the shop and discovered that there is gas in the oil, meaning the motor is done for. They had installed a used motor about six years ago, but it never really ran right after that. We need a 4-Wheeler to spray for weeds. They attempted to mount the sprayer on one of the lawn mowers, but that is not safe and couldn't be used in bumpy areas like the lagoon or dump sites because it would flip. Darin had budgeted \$60,000 for the culverts east of Staller's residence; however, since FEMA funds are frozen and don't expect the freeze to end any time soon, we could use a portion of this fund for the 4-wheeler purchase. He was considering one at Iversons for \$9400.00, a Yamaha 700 from 2024, which is big enough to easily accommodate a sprayer on the back. If we go smaller, we wouldn't be able to haul things around effectively. DeGeest mentioned that at Roadside, they offered small box road graders and wondered if the City would be interested in purchasing one. Roadside sells them for \$1200 to \$1800. DeGeest thought it would be worth looking into. DeGeest made a motion to contact JR at Iverson about purchasing a 4-Wheeler up to \$12,000 and to check out the grader at Roadside. Nielsen seconded the motion. All voted aye; the motion carried.

Darin also informed the council that they got a new skid loader and it's only going to cost around \$90.00 in interest more a month.

#### BUILDING PERMITS

Nielsen stated that there are 4 new building permits.

One is for Rodney Weber at 407 E 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, which is LOTS 1 & 2, BLK 4, WALLINGS FIRST ADDITION, requesting a 14x27 vehicle storage shed.

Lawrence Geib at 204 W 5<sup>th</sup> Street, which is located on LOT 19-21, BLK 4, MIRACLE & CLARKS FIRST ADDITION, is requesting a backyard fence.

For the last two, Zach Scott is requesting a storage shed and to build a deck around their pool. Located at 604 N Kimball, S1/2 OF LOT 1, 2, 3 & E1/2 OF S1/2 OF LOT 4 BLK 13 SOUTH ADDITION TO THE CITY OF PLANKINTON.

All building permits were approved by the Building Inspector Jim Nielsen, Mayor Carl Bode and Maintenance Superintendent Darin Cranny.

## MAINTENANCE SUPERINTENDENTS

### REPORT

I had a lot of time at the pool again this last month. It officially opened on Thursday at 3pm. It is running as good as a pool can run.

We spent a significant amount of time preparing the roads for chip seal. We returned several roads to gravel that have been in poor condition for years. They will receive a primer coat and chip seal, similar to how 1st Street to the ballfield was done last year. We have more road work planned and will complete it this week. I believe they are coming in about a week or so.

I have spent some time with the road crew this month on the sewer project roads. I understand that people are getting anxious about completing them, and I don't blame them. The plan is to finish a lot of them by the end of this week, weather permitting. We had to make a slight modification to the original drainage plan at the corner of 2nd and Pearl. I met with the road guy there, and we decided to install a curb and gutter on both sides of the intersection for better water flow. It costs a bit more now, but we will end up with a better product in the end.

I may have to modify my original plan on the chip seal, depending on if the new roads get asphalt before the chip seal guys come. It would only be a change of a few blocks. I have an alternative plan ready if I need to use it. We will have all the roads ready for whichever plan we go with.

We spent some time at the cemetery filling holes. The other guys got more done than I did, but I eventually caught up to help.

We had to move 1 curb stop off the road for the road crew and replace one curb stop riser that we found was damaged during last year's construction.

## ELECTRICAL SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

We didn't have any outages this month. We did have an electrician pull a meter around 830/9PM one day last week without telling me. We receive power fail alerts when a meter loses power. So, we went to the home and sure enough he pulled it. Told him about our ordinance of \$75/hour and we always take 2 guys to do anything electrical related for safety measures. We get paid 2hours OT for any call out. He said to send him the bill, and he now has my number for the future.

I had Barry help me last Friday work on putting in a new service on South Kimball Street. The line there has been hit a couple of different times, and the meter is currently on the pole. Meter is getting moved to the house and we also buried a couple of streetlights while we were there.

We had a 140 gallon water tank out at the tree shed so we put that on the green pickup, and I wired/plumbed a couple of pumps we had laying around to it. We are able to use this for watering trees and has cut the time down by quite a bit. Can have the trees all watered and back filling it up in 20/30 minutes now.

We had talked about replacing the water heater in the basement around 7-8 months ago, but it finally quit working. I had Kurt Fink come and replace the faulty one in the kitchen, and then I discussed the bathroom hot water situation with him. He managed to get a small 2.5-gallon water heater and install it under the cabinet. He had to do a bit of work to ensure it functioned properly, but it's all set now. We have hot water in the kitchen and bathrooms. Barry helped me run a wire from the electrical room to the bathroom for the new water heater.

I have been spraying off and on; our four-wheeler kept overheating, so Darin and I tore it apart to investigate. We found a hose that had come unhooked, and the connection point had broken plastic. We tried to fix it, but it only lasted about an hour before it began overheating again. I ordered the parts to repair it, which took about a week to arrive, and it did resolve the overheating issue. I used it for most of the day before it lost most of its power and now has gasoline in the oil and oil in the carburetors. So the four-wheeler is down. I did manage to get most of everything sprayed in town beforehand, including the West dump site. The lagoon, East dump site, and cemetery are left to do.

We all went out to the cemetery before Memorial Day and filled in holes and settled graves.

The rest of this last month has been spent helping work on streets, putting mix down, hauling gravel, and spreading gravel with the skid loader. Also helped move a curb stop that was on the road where the road guys were going to be working.



The posthole digger is here.

The signs you requested for the Jail Pond are here also. We got 5 of them for now and will install them around this week. We have some treated wood posts that I'll put in line with the rocks, so we don't have to mow around them.

Nielsen stated that he had a community member complain about the house on 1<sup>st</sup> street not getting mowed. Discussion was held that if we didn't get a hold of the people on the mowing list, we should send a letter to them. The council also discussed the towing of vehicles.

#### FINANCE OFFICERS REPORT

The first part of the month was filled with regular duties, including assisting customers, making bank deposits, and performing daily tasks. I also went through the utilities again and wrote some checks to the people the council discussed.

I ran end of the month reports around the middle of the month. And did some reports for Chance and Darin.

The second part of the month had me on my toes. Magdalena and I had a scheduling meeting with the lifeguards on the 19<sup>th</sup>, then we had the special meeting. The lifeguards were supposed to have training on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. But due to the weather, we postponed it to the 29<sup>th</sup>. We did lose one lifeguard because she missed the opportunity to get certified. The pool was supposed to open on the 27<sup>th</sup>, but due to the outside temperature not being warm enough, we couldn't open it until the 29<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 pm. The lifeguards then had training that night. They were all there, except for the two who were out of state. We had a good turnout. When the pool opened, there were a few crinkles along the way, but we got them ironed out.

Next week, I will leave for Pierre after work on the 10<sup>th</sup> and won't return to work until the 16<sup>th</sup>. If you need anything, please don't hesitate to contact me via text or email. I have a program installed on the computer that allows me to log in to the other computer and generate reports. I might not respond to emails until after the classes are done for the day. I will have Chance or Darin put the drop box envelopes on my desk daily. Darin is excellent about helping me get the mail. And I can answer calls on my phone.

On the 25<sup>th</sup> of June, there is a budget meeting at the Best Western in Sioux Falls. Kylee went last year and found it very informative. Council members are encouraged to go as well. It costs 40.00, but lunch is provided. It is put on by Rod Fortin, Director of Local Government Assistance, Department of Legislative Audit. The deadline to register is June 10<sup>th</sup>. Please let me know if you would like to go.

## MAYORS REPORT

I attended the Energize! Conference held May 6-7 in Platte. A much longer report will be shared during the city council meeting.

I helped Lori Jones finish improvements on the Pickleball court. Lori has also posted some nice new signs that were donated. We're starting to see more users on the court.

Cindy asked me stop by to sign off on liquor license renewals.

I have had numerous discussions with Darin about street construction. I've also spent time addressing complaints regarding street construction. I appreciate everyone's patience. If the schedule holds, this will be completed in a couple of weeks, and we will enjoy significantly improved roads.

I followed up with the Beyond Idea Grant with Josh Rolling. Unfortunately, APA is a for-profit organization, so they would not qualify for this grant. I informed Josh that I would keep APA in mind as the city searches for other grants.

We had a complaint regarding the form letter written from Mr. Taylor's office that we sent to users who were underpaying on utilities. The letter was considered accusatory and somewhat mean by one recipient. I went back to read the letter again and that person had a point. That one is on me, and I sincerely apologize. My lesson learned is to have a more critical eye on correspondence sent out to the community, even form letters from our attorney.

## ROUND TABLE

DeGeest wanted to inform the council and the city crew that there is a tree on Commerce Street that needs to be removed because it is situated in the city right-of-way and is rotten. Darin mentioned he doesn't want to commit to a time this week to take it down, but there is a possibility he could do it next week. Additionally, DeGeest visited the pool as Popek-Hurst requested and informed the lifeguards and ticket takers to keep the bikes off the sidewalk due to a complaint he received.

Nielsen told the council that there are more fish in the pond thanks to Game Fish and Parsk. They added 55 Gill, 25 Sunfish, 25 Crappies, 3 largemouth Bass, 4 Catfish, and 1 pike. They were transferred from Mitchell Lake.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:56 p.m.