

SPRING GROVE CITY COUNCIL
Regular Meeting Minutes
August 17, 2021, 6:00 PM
Spring Grove Communications

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The regular meeting of the Spring Grove City Council was called to order by Mayor Solberg at 6:00 P.M. on Tuesday, August 17, 2021, at Spring Grove Communications Room 100.

Present: Mayor Scott Solberg, Council Members Karen Folstad, Chad Rohland, Trent Turner, and Travis Torgerson.

Also Present: City Clerk/Administrator Julie Amundson, Caledonia Argus Jordan Gerard, Fillmore County Journal Charlene Selbee, and Lyle Traylor.

ADOPT AGENDA

Council Member Rohland moved to adopt the agenda with the addition to add Lyle Traylor under New Business, seconded by Council Member Torgerson, all approved, motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

Council Member Rohland move to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Council Member Torgerson, all approved, motion carried.

OPEN FORUM

None

OLD BUSINESS

Placement of the EV Charging Station were discussed. Administrator Amundson explained the recommendations from the Utilities Directors. Two locations were suggested by the Fest Building. One would be by the utility bill and the second by the warming shed. Another site would be in the Alley, between the Ye Old Opera House and Keller Williams office building. No decision was made on the site.

The white lines will be buffed out in the NO PARKING zones by Kwik Trip, Fire Station mail boxes, Trinity Center and the school. Work is scheduled to be done on Wednesday August 18, 2021.

Update from Courtney Bergey Swanson and Alex Herr with CEDA concerning the RFP for the Quonset area development. No proposals have been submitted, from talking with developers,

they are wondering what incentives the City would offer them and if the deadline could be extended. After discussion, the deadline is left open ended, and the land would be offered at \$1.00.

NEW BUSINESS

Lyle Traylor presented a request to place a 45-foot container in front of the Giants of the Earth building. It will be there up to possible three weeks. There isn't enough room to place the container in the alley behind the building and have enough room to unload it. Parking in front of the Cinema would be blocked during the daily work hours and would be available to parking in the evenings. Mayor Solberg moved to allow the placing of the container in front of the Giants of the Earth, communications must be made with the Cinema so there is parking access for movie goers. Proper signage with flashing lights must be on the container to alert motorist. Seconded by Council member Rohland, all voted in favor motion carried.

Discussion on held issuing Covid Essential Workers Pay. Guidelines were update on August 10, 2021. Mayor Solberg expressed his appreciation to all essential workers for everything they have done in this past year, it hasn't been easy for anyone. No decision was made.

Council Member Rohland gave an update on Syttende Mai 2022. He stated Syttende Mai and Musikk Fest will be combined for 2022. There will be bands on Friday and Saturday with tents set up out side the Fest Building. Question was asked if the committee could use the Fest Building for the celebration. Discussion was held on beer sales and where the beer was purchased from. No decision was made.

Mayor Solberg moved to go with the recommendation from the City Engineers financial plan to increase the water rates 25% (or less than \$2.50 for the first 1000 gallons of water per month) and 15% for sewer rates (or less than \$2.00 per month for the first 1000 gallons) to keep up with the rising cost of repairs. Effective date will be October 1, 2021, seconded by Council Member Turner, all voted in favor, motion carried.

The issue of old vehicles stored and displayed on private property was discussed. Per the City Ordinance, there is no prevision to allow unlicensed vehicles to be parked on private property and used a lawn art. The administrator was given the directive to come up with a registration fee, a committee to decide what is art and what isn't, a requirement to have neighbors give approval of the art by signing a statement and a what a narrative should contain from the resident as to why it is important to have this junk vehicle displayed in their yard. This information is to be brought to the September meeting.

Council Member Turner moved to hire Bruce Michels as Water/Waste Water Operator. Seconded by Mayor Solberg, all approved, motion carried. Mr. Michels will start on September 20, 2021 at step 4 and advance to step 5 after 6 months' probation.

MAYOR/COUNCIL

September 8, 2021 Special meeting for budget workshop at 5:00 pm at City Hall

Next Council Meeting will be September 21, 2021 in the Spring Grove Communications Room 100 at 6:00 pm.

MEETING REPORTS

EDA – Recap of the SG2030 meeting in the Log Cabin. Good turn out with a lot of input from the community

PARK & REC – No meeting

PLANNING & ZONING – No Meeting

LIBRARY – They are still looking for part-time help.

FIRE DEPT – No meeting

ADJOURNMENT

Council Member Rohland moved to adjourn at 7:35 pm, seconded by Council Member Torgerson, all voted in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted

Attested: _____
Julie Amundson
Clerk/Administrator