



OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

www.cityofyankton.org

VOL. 57 NUMBER 5

Commission Information Memorandum

The Yankton City Commission meeting on Monday, March 14, 2022 will begin at 7:00 pm.

Non-Agenda Items of Interest

1) Community & Economic Department Update

A few budgeted capital improvements were recently completed at The Center. In December, the billiard room received new carpeting with the help of city staff who moved and reset the billiard tables. In February, installation of a fully functional and monitored fire alarm system was completed that will notify building management and the fire department of any fire or smoke event 24/7. It will also more effectively alert building occupants about any such event. This system is expandable and can accommodate any future additions that may occur at the facility. February also saw the complete replacement of weathered siding on one of the accessory storage buildings. This will help ensure the building can continue to serve its purpose for years to come.

2) Police Department Update

On March 4, 2022, we held a Pinning Ceremony for promotions or duty changes within the department that had happened in the last 6 months. This ceremony had been put on hold due to Covid-19 and weather. We recognized Officer Jeremy Olson and Skyler Russenberger for taking on the duty of School Resource Officer. This job is very important in building relationships with students and keeping them safe. We recognized Officer Jericho Osborne who was promoted to Detective. Jericho has been at the job for a couple of months now and is doing very well. Jericho also helps patrol out when they are short-handed. We recognized School Resource Officer Preston Crissey who was promoted to Sergeant. Sergeant Crissey has been in his position for a couple of months now and is doing well, he is one of the day shift Sergeants. And our final recognition was for Sergeant Rothenberger who was promoted to Commander. Commander Rothenberger has been in his position since December and has worked out well learning his new role. All Officers had family at the ceremony to help celebrate and show their support.

Officer Jenn Keitel celebrated finishing her Masters degree in Science and Sports Administration with an emphasis on Coaching and Leadership. Congratulations to Officer Keitel.

On March 2, 2022, Sergeant Schindler and Commissioner/Chaplin Weber attended peer support training in Sioux City. This training will help us better support and listen to our officers when they are needing us most. Thank you to Chaplin Weber and Sergeant Schindler for attending this training.

Recruit Officers Jon Todd, Marcus Urban, and Dillion Bollinger have returned from Pierre and are finishing up their training with the police department. We anticipate them completing training on April 15th.

We are in the process of conducting background checks on 5 new hires. One is a certified officer and the other 4 are starting their career in law enforcement.

3) Parks and Recreation Department Update

Enclosed in your packet is an update on the various activities in the Parks and Recreation Department.

4) Public Works Department Update

Street department staff continue to perform winter maintenance projects on equipment and the streets. As the weather allows crews have been clearing trees from the recently acquired creek frontage property near the corner of 23rd and Green Street.

Engineering staff continues to prepare plan documents for the 2022 budgeted reconstruction projects. The Whiting Drive Reconstruction project is currently being advertised to receive bids. The 5th Street Reconstruction plans are in final preparations for review. Once the review is complete, the project will be advertised to receive bids. Plans for Summit Street 15th to 21st, West City Limits Road 8th to 9th, and 21st Street Douglas to Mulberry are also ready for review and close to being ready for advertisement.

The annual Yankton Citywide Cleanup is scheduled to begin on Saturday, March 19, 2022 through Saturday, April 16, 2022. City of Yankton residents, on solid waste collection routes, may dispose of eligible items free of charge at the Transfer Station (1200 W. 23rd Street) during normal operating hours: Monday-Friday 8:00AM-3:45PM and Saturday 8:00AM-11:45 AM.

Curbside collection is scheduled to begin on April 4, 2022. No items may be placed curbside prior to March 26, 2022. Please note that drop off and curbside collection is available only to residential customers on regular city garbage collection routes. As a reminder, items not eligible for disposal include tires, grass clippings, leaves, recyclables, refrigerator, air conditioners, dehumidifiers, paint, chemicals or household hazardous waste, oils, and batteries.

Motor oil may be taken to the transfer station and disposed of free of charge year around. Please place solid waste and recycle roll carts for regular collection at your normal collection point and away from piles. For more information, please visit our website www.cityofyankton.org or call 605-668-5211.

5) Fire Department Update

Calls for service have slowed. We are back to number that is typical for this time of year.

The volunteers are taking advantage of the opportunity to continue increasing their knowledge in the fire service. There are 5 that are headed to Sioux City the weekend of March 12 and 13. They are taking classes that will discuss pump operation, vehicle extrication and the characteristics of smoke. All of these are important aspects of the job.

The generator at Station #2 needs to be replaced. We will be working with the supplier to get one ordered and installed. Its replacement ensures that we are operational, even in the event of severe weather.

6) Finance Department Update

The six candidates running for the three open commission seats in the April 12th municipal election will be on the ballot in the following order: Jerry L. Webber, Stacey Nickels, Mason Schramm, Amy Miner, Miles Warren, Curt Bernard. The Yankton School District will also be conducting an election with the city this year for two open school board positions. Amanda Johnson, Sarah Carda, Erick Messler, Terry Crandall, Lisa Hagemann will be on the ballot in that order. Monday, March 28, 2022 is the deadline

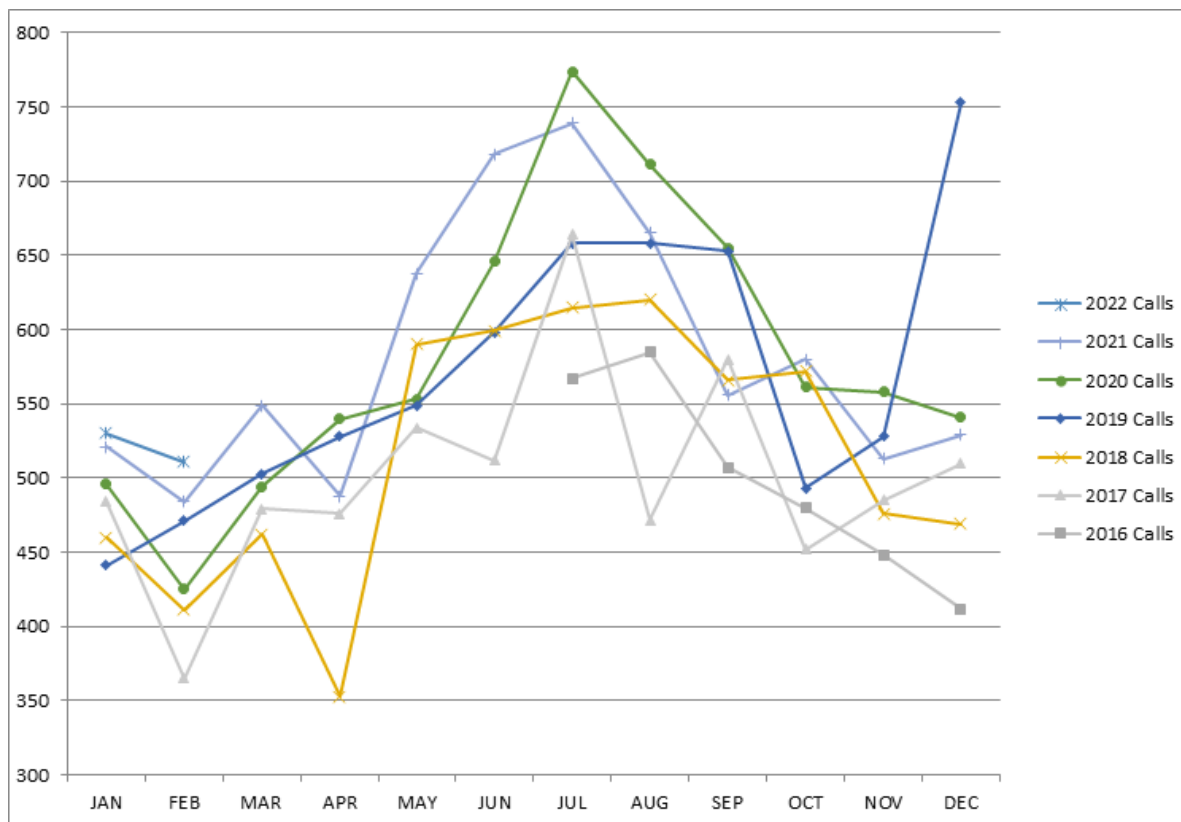
for voter registration in order to participate in this year’s municipal election. Absentee voting will be available Monday, March 28, 2022 through April 11, 2022 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM at the City Finance Office and the School Administration Building. The two Vote Centers for Election Day, Tuesday April 12, 2022, will be located at City Hall Gym and the North Fire Station #2. Polls will be open from 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM.

The Finance Office underwent its annual SDML Workers’ Compensation audit on Wednesday, March 2, 2022 with no issues.

7) Information Services Department Update

We welcome Nikole Knox to our 911 team. Nikole’s first day was March 8th. We have the final two dispatch positions filled and are completing pre-employment tasks and working to determine start dates. New dispatchers will complete a 12-week in-house training before working independently.

911 call volume year to date is up 3.6% over 2021.



Tentative go live date for the new website redesign is May 11th. During the transition period to the new site we will be maintaining both the new and the old site simultaneously. We also will be exploring utilizing a new method for online employee applications in addition to additional management training.

8) Environmental Services Department Update

The discharge pipes from the new water plant have become exposed during the low water levels. The discharge pipes are used to carry reject water from the reverse osmosis membranes back to the river. The pipes were installed during high water levels and need to be covered to prevent freezing and potential damage from ice. Staff has contracted with Feimer Construction to cover the pipes with gravel and rip rap. Feimer Construction will build a dirt ramp along the bank of the river east of the new

water plant to access the exposed pipes. The project is scheduled to be completed the week of March 14th.

Staff is also working with a contractor to begin monitoring flows in the wastewater collection system. Flow measuring devices will be installed in several manhole locations throughout the collection system to record flow data. The data will be used to develop a collection system model and measure infiltration. Infiltration increases during rain events so staff is hoping to have the flow meters installed for the spring season to capture as many rain events as possible. The more events that are captured the better the data will be. The data is used to calibrate the model.

9) Library Update

We will be resuming Seed Library classes at the library beginning on Thursday, March 17. The Seed Library is a partnership with the Missouri Valley Master Gardeners. The first class being led by Wayne Nelson-Stastny and is all about beans: how to shell, identify and grow them. We plan to give away seeds later in the season to those that attend the classes.

The Friends of the Library have their next used book sale coming up on March 31-April 3. Thursday, March 31 from 4-8pm will be open to members only. Memberships will be available to purchase at the door. The Friends have made great strides in making their books sales more efficient and visible and offering some incentives to Friends members. One of their most recent donations was for toys for our new *Imagination Station*. Our play kitchen continues to be a hit and with this new addition, children will also be able to play pretend in a post office, garden/floral shop, coffee shop and trying out some new tools! Pretend play is an important part of child development. According to brighthorizons.com some of the benefits to children of pretend play include: learning about themselves and the world; working out confusing, scary or new life issues; developing important complex social and higher order thinking skills, and cultivating social and emotional intelligence. Thank you to the Friends for this fun and interactive donation!

10) Monthly reports

Building, Salary, and Yankton Police Department monthly reports are included for your review.

Have an enjoyable weekend and do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions about these or other issues. If you will not be able to attend the Commission meeting on Monday, please inform my office.

Sincerely,

Amy Leon
City Manager