



OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

www.cityofyankton.org

VOL. 54, NUMBER 12

Commission Information Memorandum

The Yankton City Commission meeting on Monday, June 24, 2019, will begin at 7:00 pm.

Non-Agenda Items of Interest

1) Community & Economic Development Department Update

The community is experiencing the impacts of the wet spring on our normal property maintenance routines. The extraordinarily wet weather has made it difficult for large and small property owners, and the city, to mow because of rapid vegetation growth and instances of standing water. Areas of our community have saturated soils or ponding that makes mowing impossible because it is inaccessible to equipment. Staff has responded to numerous calls about vegetation over the 8-inch community standard, reached out to dozens of property owners in person or by phone, issued 30 notices of violation and abated 13 properties that remained out of compliance after notice. However, on the whole property owners are doing a good job of mowing when the weather and site conditions permit and many property managers and lawn care services are working long hours to catch up on a backlog of vegetation maintenance.

2) Police Department Update

We kicked off the "You Can Too" program on Tuesday at the Boys and Girls Club. This is a pilot to prepare us to teach in the school district this fall.

Our new officers finished their classroom training and are now doing 14 weeks of Patrol Training. After successful completion of Patrol Training, they will attend the Law Enforcement Training Academy for 13 weeks.

The Police Department had an exit meeting with Ken Cole, the administrator for HSC. We will meet with the next HSC Director, once he or she has been named.

3) Human Resources Department Update

The Safety Committee has started reviewing and making revisions to the Employee Safety Manual. The last printing date for the manual was July 14, 2014. Sections of the handbook are identified for review during the committee's monthly meeting and the members bring their suggested revisions to the next meeting. Once the manual is updated, it will be brought to the Commission for review and adoption.

4) Library Update

Summer Reading is off to a good start! As of June 18, we have 276 readers registered for the program and working on reading challenges. We allow participants to sign up at any time throughout the summer, so our numbers will continue to grow. We have had great attendance for our programs so far.

Participants for programs do not have to be registered for summer reading or even have a library card to attend events. All are welcome! Our first family-friendly performer of the season, The Rope Warrior, brought in about 150 participants to watch this World Record holder and his awesome jump rope tricks. We were also very happy to have 52 individuals here for author, Kent Nerburn, on June 15.

We are moving ahead to replace the bathroom partitions in the Women's and Men's restrooms. This item was budgeted for 2019 and are a much-needed update the restrooms.

5) Public Works Department Update

Street Department crews are patching streets when the weather permits. Parking lot and street striping are in process as the weather allows.

The Street Department has received mosquito-trapping equipment from the South Dakota Department of Health-State Health Lab. Once the traps are up and running, staff will begin to monitor the variety and number of mosquitos caught and report the collected data to the State Health Lab.

Walnut Street from 2nd to 4th

The "Yankton" lanterns are currently being installed. Other than some minor punch list items, this is the final remaining task to complete the project. Once the punch list items are complete, staff will prepare final acceptance documents to bring forward to the Commission.

26th Street from Douglas Avenue to Mulberry Street

This project is complete. The acceptance documents are included in this packet.

21st Street from Broadway Avenue to Douglas Avenue

The contractor has completed approximately 50% of the pavement removals.

New water main has been installed from Broadway Avenue to Walnut Street. The required testing passed, so the contractor has started making the tie-ins on side streets.

Conflicts with other utilities has slowed the installation of storm sewer. We will continue to push ahead as those utilities are relocated.

A temporary access to the south side of Hy-Vee has been maintained, as much as possible, to help alleviate traffic congestion on Broadway Avenue.

Auld-Brokaw Trail – West City Limits Road and 31st Street

Work continues on this project. Crews have started on the Highway 50 portion, preparing the grade for the trail installation.

6) Environmental Services Department Update

John T Jones continues to move forward with the Water Plant Project. The project is scheduled to be substantially completed by October 1st. Final completion is scheduled for May, 2020. The project is scheduled to start treating water in mid-September.

S.J. Louis staff has demobilized from the gravity sewer project. City staff will be meeting with the contractor to address the dewatering options. The current releases from the dam have raised the ground water levels preventing the dewatering operation to continue as planned.

Staff has received the initial results from the trihalomethane (THM) quarterly testing. THM results are higher than normal for the second quarter in a row. The high levels will result in a THM violation. Staff is working with the South Dakota Department of environment and Natural Resources (DENR) on addressing the issue. The SD DENR will send the City an official notice of violation and the

requirements for public notice. City staff believes the high levels are a result of increased organics in the river due to high runoff and treatment basins being out of service during phases of construction.

7) Information Services Department Update

The week of June 17th through the 20th, the Yankton Communications Center hosted a 32-hour Tactical Dispatch Training Course, with 19 students attending the course from across the state, including five Yankton dispatchers. This training prepares the students to dispatch during a critical or high-stress incident which involves the use of SWAT or Special Response Teams. They were trained to work out of the mobile command center at the direction of the incident commander. The cost of the course was covered by a grant from South Dakota Law Enforcement Training. Agencies represented at the training are as follows: Brookings Police Department, Pennington County Emergency Services Communication Center, Oglala Sioux Tribal Police, Brown County Communications, Union County Sheriff's Office, Metro Communications Sioux Falls, Huron Police Department, Lincoln County Communications, and City of Yankton Communications.

8) Finance Department Update

The Deputy Finance Officer attended the annual SD Governmental Finance Officers' School held in Pierre on June 12 – 14, 2019. Conference topics included Legislative Updates; Special Assessments; Department of Legislative Audit and GASB Updates; DENR Water & Solid Waste Funding; Safety Issues in Cities; Liquor Licensing Review; Engaging Your Community Through Effective Social Media; Tax Levy and Valuations for TIFs; and Municipal Sales and Excise Tax Refresher.

Please see the enclosed Monthly Finance Report for May.

9) Parks and Recreation Department Update

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

10) Monthly reports

Joint Powers Solid Waste monthly reports are included for your review. Minutes from the Airport Board are also included.

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