



OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

www.cityofyankton.org

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Commission Information Memorandum

The Yankton City Commission meeting on Monday, August 23, 2021, will begin at 7:00 pm.

Non-Agenda Items of Interest

1) Public Works Department Update

Street Department crews have been busy with their annual street maintenance projects. The chip seal list has been completed. Crews will continue to sweep chip-sealed areas to pick up loose rock as needed. Crews are also preparing the streets that were milled for asphalt overlay paving.

23rd Street Construction and Utility Installation

There is no new information on this project. Anticipated start date is September 13th.

Spruce Street Reconstruction

All of the concrete paving has been placed. Joint sawing and sealing is ongoing.

The sub-contractor is placing black dirt and doing final grading behind the curb and will seed when the weather conditions are conducive for this work.

5th Street to 6th Street has been opened to local traffic.

Water Distribution & Sanitary Sewer Collection System – Master Plan

City engineering staff is completing material and size research to assure that HDR has accurate information to complete their analysis.

Active Transportation

All contract documents have been processed. Staff will be meeting with Masonry Components to discuss a start date and possible phasing of the project.

2022 Projects

Staff in the Engineering Department have started the survey work needed to design next years proposed projects.

2) Finance Department Update

Regarding the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds, the SD COVID Stimulus Portal is still not available to request funding.

Medical Cannabis Dispensary Business License Applications are now available at the City of Yankton Finance Office as well as online at <https://www.cityofyankton.org/departments-services/finance-office/licensing/medical-cannabis-dispensary-business-license>. This past summer we have been

recording names and contact information of interested parties. All of these contacts have been notified. So far, no one has submitted an application.

Enclosed in your packet is the Monthly Finance Report for July.

3) Community & Economic Department Update

The August Oshkosh AirVenture event in Wisconsin is typically a busy time at Chan Gurney Municipal Airport. Prior to last year when it was cancelled, Oshkosh usually generated a significant amount of visitor traffic at the airport in Yankton. Yankton is the perfect last stop distance from Oshkosh for refueling. 2021 saw a high level of attendance at the event in Oshkosh but Yankton did not see the usual activity at the airport. Heavy smoke from the Canadian wildfires forced pilots to take more southern routes to Wisconsin. We sold about half the normal amount of fuel during the event that we normally would. We did have people use our courtesy vans to get groceries and other supplies. There were also some hotel stays generated from people stopping through Yankton.

Mike and Lori Roinstad, and the Yankton Regional Aviation Association provided complimentary food for the pilots and passengers that stopped at the airport. There were over 135 hours of volunteer service provided to help the pilots feel welcome. We are proud that we still hear reports from pilots that Yankton is mentioned as a great place to stop during discussions at the AirVenture.

4) Information Services Department Update

New dispatcher Toni Bornitz will start her duties Monday, August 23rd. We are pleased to welcome Toni to the team. We have a conditional offer that has been accepted for a 2nd position and we are proceeding with pre-employment background and screening process. We hope to have those tasks finished very soon.

City Hall improvements are progressing slowly. We have contractors hired for installation of a new air conditioner in the server / wiring room – AC contractor, electrical and roofing. However, the availability of the actual AC unit may be delayed. We are working with two contractors on quotes for data wiring in City Hall and have scheduled the data wiring to start in August for the library.

UKG implementation of the scheduling module is progressing. We are completing the discovery phase of the setup and will be transitioning to a build out in the near future. Generally 4-6 months is the timeline for full setup.

5) Parks and Recreation Department Update

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

6) Police Department Update

On August 16, Jonathan Todd and Marcus Urban started their career at the Yankton Police Department. Jonathan is from the DeSmet area and graduated from the University of Sioux Falls with a degree in criminal justice. Marcus Urban is from the Plankinton area and graduated from Dakota Wesleyan University with a degree in Criminal Justice.

Officer Brandon Frey will attend firearms instructor training in Pierre on August 16 and will be state certified to train our new recruits and certify our officers yearly in firearms handling.

Officer Wilson was selected as Yankton's next K9 handler. Officer Wilson took over the handling of our newest Police K9 Corona on August 16. Officer Wilson and Corona will bond for the next 2 weeks before they begin their 8 weeks of narcotics training with the South Dakota Highway Patrol.

Officer Preston Crissey and Jeremy Olson are ready for the school year starting their duties as School Resource Officer on August 23. Officer Crissey and Olson are enthusiastic for the first day and to see the kids. This will be Officer Olson's first year as a School Resource Officer.

Sgt. Schindler assisted a mother and her kids with getting shelter for the night. Sgt. Schindler also provided a meal for this family after working with the Contact center to get them shelter.

7) Library Update

The library is gearing up for Library Card Sign-up Month in September. We want to continue spreading the word about the benefits of a library card. Not only do you have access to over 75,000 physical items but you are able to check out e-books and e-audiobooks with a library card! The library also offers access to several online databases through the South Dakota State Library. Though the library is open to everyone for computers, programs and browsing whether you have a card or not, having a card and being able to check out expands the possibilities of what you can do, learn and read! We will have posters up around town and on social media to promote the library and encourage people to sign up for a new card. I would love to see all of our commissioners have a library card and stop in to check out all the great things happening at the library!

The Library Foundation Board met at the beginning of August. The group has not had the need to be very active up to this point. With an enthusiastic board, they are interested in taking some small steps to start educating the community about the Library Foundation.

8) Environmental Services Department Update

Staff is currently accepting applications for a wastewater plant operations specialist. Currently the position is open until filled.

Staff has been busy maintaining landscaping around the new water plant before Riverboat days. The landscape contractor was onsite to replace some trees and plantings as warranty work. The irrigation system west of the walking bridge has been repaired. Staff sprayed the area for weeds and will be looking at options to reseed the area now that the irrigation is working.

Staff continues to monitor chemical availability and pricing. Chlorine prices continue to rise. The price has increased from \$1.609 per gallon to \$2.50 per gallon. Chemical suppliers are very hesitant to bid chemicals for any long-term contracts due to the volatility in the market. Staff will continue to work with chemical suppliers to determine the best options moving forward.

9) Monthly reports / Minutes

Joint Powers Solid Waste and Yankton Police Department monthly reports are included for your review. Minutes from the Airport Advisory Board are 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