**CHAMBERLAIN CITY COMMISSION**

**​March 7, 2022**

The Chamberlain City Commission held their first regular meeting on March 7, at 6:00 PM.

Present: Chairman in Mayors Absence Tim Thomas, Commissioners Claussen, Soulek, and Ruhlman, City Administrator Mike Lauritsen and Finance Officer Nicky Gaulke and Police Chief Jason Handel.

Absent: Mayor Mutziger.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Adopt Agenda**

Motion by Ruhlman second by Soulek, all ayes and approved the agenda.

**Conflict of Interest**

No conflict of interest was noted.

​**Minutes**

Motion by Claussen second by Soulek, all ayes and approved the minutes from the last regular meeting.

**Public Comments**

The floor was opened for public comments with none being received.

**Bills**

Motion by Soulek second by Claussen, all ayes and approved to pay the following bills: Adams Agency, Inc $13,142.44 Insurance; American Family Life Assur Co $240.60 Salaries; Central Electric Cooperative $8,334 Principal; Chamberlain Chamber Of Commerce $4,050 Chamber; Chamberlain Youth-Speed The Light $456 Concessions; Civic Plus $373.13 Prof Serv; City Of Chamberlain $117.84 Supplies; Department Of Revenue $234.05 Supplies; First Dakota $2.50 Prof Serv; Glaus, Teil $196.76 Travel; Handel,Jason $1,515.88 Supplies; Hrabe Flying Service $900 Prof Serv; Health Equity Inc $6,255.30 Insurance; Lake Francis Case Development $5,050 LFCDC; Lamie, Kimberly $600 Prof Serv; Olesen,Kevin $45 Phone; Payroll Tax Payments $22,728.01 Salaries; Ruhlman, Hannah $75 Prof Serv; Simonsen, Scott $45 Phone; SDRS – SRP $430 Salaries; SD Retirement System $11,956.30 Retire; Standard Insurance Company $173.36 Insurance; Wellmark Blue Cross & Blue Shield $15,879.91 Insurance.

**Scott Lindquist – Street Repairs and Storm Sewer**

Lindqiust addressed the Board stating that he has been a civil engineer for twenty-five years and like he has stated in the past, he doesn’t believe the City should be chip-sealing streets. He added that chip-sealing should only be used to stop dust on gravel roads and that it does not seal the streets when used over asphalt, etc. Lindquist said that there are federal grants available to do concrete streets and the City could do 4-5 blocks at a time. He added that Greg Powell used to say that chip-sealing did do something but it doesn’t.

Commissioner Ruhlman stated that we have looked at the numbers to hard-surface all of our streets and the numbers are daunting.

Lauritsen stated that the streets are cost prohibitive.

Commissioner Soulek stated that it obviously works because we have been doing it for as long as he can remember.

Commissioner Thomas stated that chip-sealing is how all of our streets got started in Chamberlain.

Lindquist stated that he isn’t proposing we do every street as concrete but also using asphalt.   
Commissioner Claussen stated that the City is also looking into fog sealing after chip-sealing and that he would also like to see the City start doing more concrete and asphalt as the budget allows.

Lindquist asked what the City plans on doing for the new road in Smokey Groves and he was informed that they will hard surface it with either asphalt or concrete and also install curb and gutter.

Lindquist was asked to let us know what grants he is referring to for the streets.

**Jim and Leanne Duvall**

Jim Duvall addressed the Council stating that he would like to know what is going on with the City park next to his residence. Duvall stated that he saw City employees doing some surveying over there and he is concerned about the drainage to his lot.

Lauritsen stated that Duvall’s property is 3’1” above the inlet.

Duvall stated that since the City has filled in that gully, he has had water as close as four feet from his property and wants to know if the City is planning on raising the lot any further.

Commissioner Ruhlman stated that we do plan on putting about four inches of topsoil and planting new grass in that area.

Duvall stated that he wants a guarantee that he wont flood and was informed by Lauritsen that nobody has that guarantee.

Duvall went on to say that he has lived there for 23 years and has never had water in his basement and that when he bought the house there was a big gully there.

Lauritsen stated that right now they are just bringing in top soil to reseed. Commissioner Ruhlman stated that we don’t know yet how we are shaping the park.

Lauritsen commented that this came up because the River City Friday Nights asked if this could possibly be a space that they could use.

Duvall stated that the City lot is like a bowl and the storm sewers can’t keep up with the water and it will come down from the road and along the Catholic Church into that area.

Duvall was reassured that we will keep the lines of communication open with them.

**Medical Cannabis Application**

A Medical Cannabis Dispensary application was received from Merrill Ellis, Prairie Grass. It was noted that this application was presented at the last regular meeting but with the absence of Ellis, the discussion was tabled.

Ellis was asked if he had any other owners, officers or board members because his application does not list any and he stated that no, it is just him.

In the last meeting there was also discussion on signage and Lauritsen stated that they are only allowed to put a sign on the building. Ellis stated that there are lot stricter state laws on signage for these businesses.

Ellis stating that before you can get onto the sales floor the customer will have to go through a screening and a guard. They are only allowed to have as many customers on the sales floor as there are sales employees working at that time. He added that there are separate doors for the entrance and exit and he has added a double door system with a hallway so that nobody can get onto the sales floor through the exit doors.

Chief Handel asked about windows and Ellis stated he will only have one and it will have bars on it. He added that he will have a security system in place that he is hoping he can have routed to dispatch.

Motion by Claussen second Soulek, all ayes and approved the medical cannabis dispensary application from Merrill Ellis, Prairie Grass on the John Forester property located at the W1059.73' OF WIECZOREK OL #1 AS MEAS ALG THE NORTHERN BDR THOF (APPROX 6A) CHAMBERLAIN.

**RLF Application**

Chad Pinkelman presented the Council with an RLF application for Scott and Beth Simonsen to purchase the State Theater from Jeff and Donna Buche. Pinkelman stated that Lake Francis Case Development recommends a $25,000 loan at 2.5% with a fifteen year amortization and five year balloon. Council reviewed the financials.

Motion by Soulek second by Ruhlman, all ayes and approved to give a $25,000 revolving loan fund to Scott and Beth Simonsen to purchase the State Theater with a 2.5% rate and a fifteen year amortization and five year balloon.

**Hire Part-Time Employees for Police Department**

Chief Handel informed the Council that because of lack of staff, Brule County has temporarily closed their jail. Because of this, we now have to transport our prisoners upon arrest to other area jails. Handel has asked the Council to consider allowing him to hire some part time staff that could help take these transports when needed. Motion by Soulek second by Ruhlman, all ayes and approved to hire Joe Hutmacher, John Koenig, Diana Landegent, Matt Bilben and Lester Plank as part time police department employees all at a rate of $20.00 per hour.

**Surplus Smokey Groves Lots**

Motion by Ruhlman second by Claussen, all ayes and approved to surplus and give to Lake Francis Case Development the following lots: Lot 2 of Block 2, Lots 5, 6, 7, 8 & 9 of Block 3, Lots 1 & 2 of Block 4, and Lots 9, 10 & 11 of Block 5, all in Smokey Groves Addition.

Motion by Ruhlman second by Claussen, all ayes and approved to surplus and offer for sealed bids the following lots: Lots 6 & 7 of Block 1, Lots 11, 12, 13, 14, and 15 of Block 6, all in Smokey Groves Addition.

**Airport – Request for Bids**

Motion by Claussen second by Ruhlman, all ayes and approved to advertise for bids for the Airport Runway rehab project with a bid deadline of 2:00 PM on March 30 with the bid opening to follow immediately after the bid deadline.

**404 Dredge Permit**

Lauritsen informed the Council that he met with Commissioner Claussen about the City possibly working with the National Guard to further dredge part of the American Creek. He added that they would use a long-reach on top of a barge constructed by the National Guard and could possibly dredge out more material under the bridge.

It was noted that if we apply for this 404 Permit that needs to be approved before the project can start, this is no obligation that we must proceed with the project.

Motion by Ruhlman second by Soulek, all ayes and approved to sign and submit a 404 permit to dredge under the American Creek bridge.

**Adjourn**

Motion by Claussen second by Ruhlman, all ayes and approved to adjourn at 7:13 PM.

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Tim Thomas, Chairman in Mayors Absence

​Attest:

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Nicky Gaulke, Finance Officer

Published once at the total approximate cost of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.