**Minutes**

**City of Gridley**

**Council Meeting**

**Wednesday**

**February 7, 2024**

**6:00 pm.**

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Mayor Steve Fuqua called the meeting to order at 6:00pm. City Council Members in attendance were Les Stone, Stella Eccles, RJ Snovelle, Dee Ann Goertzen and Greg Yotz attended by telephone conference. Also in attendance were City Water and Sewer Maintenance Operator Brian Isch, City Clerk Teresa Budd, City Treasurer and Holiday event coordinator Alexandria Kraft, Gridley residents Fred Goertzen, Denny Birk Linda Birk, GCA members Jan Kraft, Teresa Maddox and Titan Recreation Director Laurie Goracke.

Stella Eccles made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 3,2024 City Council meeting. RJ Snovelle seconded, and all were in favor.

Les Stone made a motion to approve the January / February 2024 bills, RJ Snovelle seconded, and all were in favor.

There were no additions to the agenda. Greg Yotz made a motion to approve the agenda as written. Les Stone seconded, and all were in favor.

Voices of the community had no comments

Gridley Community Association member Jan Kraft reported that the Shane Lamb building (aka the former Gridley Middle school) has started renovating the inside of the building. The inside of the building will have vacation and outage apartments. Shane Lamb has plans to build residential homes on the property in back of the building. The Gym will be available for use in the community. Shane Lamb would like to have the inside of the building ready for use by the end of summer 2024. The GCA has applied for a Grant to have a mural in Gridley. Angels Construction has agreed to the placement of the mural on their building. (The former Gridley Lumber and hardware store.) The GCA is asking for a $1000.00 donation from the City of Gridley to help with the Grant cost. Stella Eccles made a motion to approve the $1000.00 donation to the GCA for grant approval of the mural. Les Stone seconded, and all were in favor.

The Gridley Lake is full from the last weather event. The bathrooms have been winterized and are closed for the off season. City Water & Sewer Maintenance Operator Brian Isch is seeding and fertilizing the grounds.

The Community Building is open for events. The City Park playground is in need of more gravel. City Water & Sewer Maintenance Operator Brian Isch has ordered the gravel to be delivered when the ground is dry.

Holiday event coordinator Alexandria Kraft reported that Easter in the Park is scheduled for Saturday March 30,2024. The 2024 Independence Celebration will be July 5, & 6, 2024. The Cameo Women are working on the theme. Several venders have reserved and confirmed. The Car Show will be sponsored by RC Trucking and Beyer Motors. The Gravel Grind and wellness circuit flyers and advertisement will begin this month. Titan Rec has volunteered to help with events.

Titan Recreation Director Laurie Goracke introduced herself to the City Council. Basketball has started and has added two 3 on 3 teams to the season. Laurie would like to add track and field to the April 2024 Titan Rec schedule. Baseball will start in May. Titan Recreation will have a fundraiser lunch on St. Patrick’s Day Sunday March 17,2024. Laurie would like to build up the Titan Rec account by doing fundraisers and business sponsorships. Laurie’s goal is to have any child who would like to participate in sports play for free or minimal cost. The Mayor and City Council unanimously supported her goals.

**Old Business**

1. The City of Gridley along with the Coffey County Housing Authority is ready to break ground on a new home in Gridley as soon as the weather permits.

2. The Led and Copper Surveys have started. GCA member Fred Goertzen explained the survey and handed out forms at their January GCA meeting. Mayor Steve Fuqua met with the senior citizens group at their February meeting to explain the survey and help fill out the form. City Clerk Teresa Budd and City Treasurer Alexandria Kraft attended a class on the State Led & Copper project. Mayor Steve Fuqua and City Water & Maintenance Operator Brian Isch are signed up to take the online class. The surveys will be mailed this month to City of Gridley homeowners and businesses with water utility accounts. The project must be completed by October 16,2024

3. Fred Goertzen presented the City Council with three proposals on a sign for the Community Center. The sign will say Gridley Community Center. Suggestions were a sign with painted letters or individual letters made of two different types of material. The City Council took no action and will revisit at the next meeting.

**New Business**

1**.** The City of Gridley has contracted Attorney Thomas Robrahn as the city’s interim Special Attorney. The City of Gridley is currently searching for a new City Attorney. City Clerk Teresa Budd reported that Attorney Philip Wright would consider the position if the City Council could change the meeting time of our currently scheduled meeting day. He is at the Burlington City Council meeting during that time. If the City Council meeting day changed there would be an additional monthly trip fee added to his monthly retainer. No action was taken. The City Council would like to be informed of other options by Mayor Steve Fuqua or City Clerk Teresa Budd.

2. The City’s Emergency Water Conservation order due to a winter weather event has ended. Due to the winter weather event January water meter reads were estimated. The City has a Water Debt Forgiveness Policy for residents that have high usage due to an  unforeseen water Leak. There has been one applicant thus far and we expect there will be others.

3. The 2023 Treasurers Report published in The Coffey County Republican on January 25,2024

4. RJ Snovelle made a motion to approve the Fireworks display on July 5,2024 at Gridley lake. Dee Ann Goertzen seconded, and all were in favor. The Event will display signs stating FOR YOUR SAFETY STAY OUT OF LAKE DURRING FIREWORKS DISPLAY.

5. Mayor Steve Fuqua would like the City Council to consider updating City Hall. The

suggested ideas were new paint, book shelves, historic photos and a Mayors desk. The City Council agreed to think about an update. The City Council thought a Mayors desk was unnecessary. No action taken.

6. Mayor Steve Fuqua would like the City of Gridley to have a City Logo. The City Council agreed to think about a City logo. No action taken.

7. The Mayors report was given by Mayor Steve Fuqua. The Mayor reported he will oversee the day-to-day operations of City Water & Sewer Maintenance Operator Brian Isch, City Clerk Teresa Budd, and event directors referencing the City of Gridley codebook. The City Council expressed their confidence in fulltime City employees Brian Isch, Teresa Budd and the current event directors. The Mayor, all City Employees, and event staff are directed under the guidance of the City Council. The City Council would like the Mayor to focus on signing the monthly income and expenditures, meeting with members of the community, business owners, and ways to grow Gridley. The Mayor has been in contact with a company in Emporia to update the City website. The Mayor spoke with current website administrator Judy Reece and stated she is onboard with updating the website and will be retiring her position as administrator. The City Council will thank Judy Reece for her years of service. The City Council had concerns of unknown people administrating the website. The City Council suggested the Mayor have access to updating and maintaining of the site as a secondary source of information. The City currently uses Face Book as its main source of City information and events. Mayor Steve Fuqua would like to set five goals for the City to focus on in 2024.The City Council would like to see a written guide of the goals at the March 6,2024 City Council meeting.

8. The City Clerks report was given by City Clerk Teresa Budd. Sales and Use Tax recorded on January 30, 2024 for December 2023 was $7258.86. The total 2023 recorded amount is $88,457.44. All 2023 reports are completed. Nancys Groceries will open on Sunday February 11,2024 Super Bowl Sunday from 2:00 – 4:30pm for to go food orders, beer and grocery sales. City Hall is closed Monday February 12 & 13. The City Audit is scheduled for March 21,2024. Future City Clerk reports will be given by Mayor Steve Fuqua in the Mayors report. The next City Council meeting is March 6,2024 at 6:00pm.

RJ Snovelle made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Les Stone seconded, and all were in favor. The Meeting adjourned at 7:40pm

Teresa Budd,

City Clerk.