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(Neb.)-Chadron City Council Discusses Projects, Grant Funding, And More



By: Roxie Graham-Marski Posted at: 02/18/2014 12:23 PM

(CHADRON)-It was a long meeting for the Chadron city council on Monday evening. Items on the agenda included the approval of bids for a new half-ton 4x4 pickup truck for the parks/cemetery department and for the excavation and embankment project at the waste water treatment facility. The council approved the recommendation to accept the bid from Chadron Chrysler Dodge for \$27,700 for the pickup as well as the bid from Rhembrandt Construction for \$159,886 for the project at the wastewater facility, which were both the lowest bids submitted.

The council approved plans and specifications for a water main extension project for West Niobrara Avenue from North Mears Street to North Main Street then north to Belle Fourche Avenue and authorized notice to bidders. They also approved the final progress estimate for Buettner Construction on the Wood's Lift Station replacement from Linden Street to Stockade Road.

Also at the meeting, the council scheduled a special city council meeting with Scott Day and staff from Urban Development Services who have been working on Phase I of the Downtown Revitalization Plan. The group is scheduled to be in Chadron on Monday, March 10th, to hold a public meeting for the presentation of the plan and would like to present the plan to the council on Tuesday, March 11th, at 6:00 p.m. The input received at the public meeting and the special city council meeting will be considered when preparing the final draft for the grant application for Phase II, the implementation phase. Also as a component of the Downtown Revitalization Plan, a public hearing is required prior to its submittal to the Nebraska Department of Economic Development. The hearing has been scheduled for Monday, March 17th, during the city council meeting. Upon acceptance of the application, the grant funding available for Phase II is \$350,000, and of the ideas that have been suggested, primary focus areas will likely be building façade improvements, streetscape improvements, which include flag plaza and HUD walkability standards for sidewalks, upper story repurposing, public space and potential redevelopment.

The council authorized an application to the Nebraska Department of Economic Development for grant assistance from the civic and community center financing fund in connection with the proposed swimming pool

project. The city applied for up to \$250,000 of funding last year and was not accepted. City manager Wayne Anderson says this year the grant amount is more, with \$375,000 available. If the city's application is accepted, the grant money would help fund renovations at the city swimming pool. If the city would decide not to move forward with any renovations, Anderson says it would simply be a matter of sending the money back to the state with no penalty.

More news from city council will follow.

(Questions? Comments? E-mail news@chadrad.com.)

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