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City Council Hears Complaint; Citizens Submit Petition To Change Animal Ordinances

by Elizabeth Meighen

The Kadoka City Council conducted its monthly meeting on June 16 at the Kadoka City Finance Office. Storms passing through Kadoka on June 13 disrupted electric service throughout town causing the meeting delay. Council members attending the meeting included Paula Holley, Tim Huffman, Rusty Olney, Eileen Stolley and Harry Weller. Council members not attending the meeting included Chris Grillo and Ryan Willert.

Mayor Weller promptly called the meeting to order, and Huffman moved to modify the meeting agenda to include CHS Midwest Cooperative in matters relating to solid waste and move Vern Grotzke to matters relating to sewer and water. The June meeting agenda included Grant Patterson in matters of new business and the Council modified the agenda, requesting Patterson address the council during citizen's input. Next, the Council approved meeting minutes from the regular meeting on May 9 and a special meeting on May 19. The Council reviewed and approved bills submitted for payment. The Council also reviewed, then approved the financial reports as of May 31, 2022, which included a "report listing the breakdown of revenue, expenses, and bank balances." The reports provide a breakdown of revenue and expenditures by department. The bank account balances included checking, money market and automated teller machine accounts.

During each meeting, the agenda allows citizens to address the Council but "no action will be taken." Grant Patterson appeared before the Council on behalf of one of his employees, Shanna Bettelyoun. Patterson submitted a letter from Bettelyoun, along with a screen shot of a message from a cellular phone as support documentation. In it, she alleges harassment by Robert Book, public safety director for the Kadoka Police Department, at her place of employment and her residence. Brett Bettelyoun told the Council that he felt Book has been "over-

stepping on how he has been treating Shanna." The Council requested that the Bettelyouns and Patterson meet with the Public Safety Committee to address their concerns. Book was not present at the Council meeting. The committee meeting has not taken place as of press release.

In matters of new business, the Council received a plat submitted by Olney for a new development, North Prairie View subdivision. The property, owned by Mark Carlson and Council Member Olney, provides lots for residential and commercial development. The plat submitted by Olney contained "two areas platted for residential housing." After reviewing the plat, the Council requested a change to the plat correcting a street name. The Council approved the plat after changes were made to it with Olney abstaining from the vote.

The Council received applications for special events liquor licenses to serve alcohol during the Kadoka All Class Reunion Celebration. The Council approved the request from the Kadoka Ambulance and Kadoka Volunteer Fire Department for a license to serve alcohol on Main Street June 24-25. They also approved a request from the Kadoka Buffalo Stampede Arena for a license to serve alcohol at Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association sanctioned events at the rodeo grounds June 20-26.

In the last matter of new business, the Council noted receipt of a petition regarding Title Nine-Animals of the city ordinances. The Council noted that LaTasha Buchholz, finance officer, plans to discuss the petition with Stephanie Trask, city attorney. In recent months, pet owners addressed the Council with varying concerns about ordinances affecting their companion or service animals. The Petitioners request the matter, "be submitted to the voters for their approval or rejection pursuant to law." The request calls for changing the language of the ordinances regarding "cruelty" and "vicious animals," reducing the cost of the city ani-

mal licenses and prohibiting the trapping of animals within the city limits. The Petition also proposes that the city will not place limits on the number of animals owned by a resident regardless of species.

The Council received departmental reports, beginning with code enforcement. The Council received and approved two requests to raze uninhabitable structures. The property owners plan to retain the property and pay for the razing of the building and removal of the rubble to the landfill. Nathan Riggins, public works superintendent, reported completion of the Cedar Street sewer line project. In conjunction with the other public works projects, Maguire Iron, Inc. plans to inspect the city water towers and paint them in a shade consistent with the original colors. Riggins informed the Council of extensive damage to the well pump houses. The Council moved on the matter, authorizing Riggins to place the City on contractor listing to help expedite the project. Patrick Solon, public work employee, provided the Council with an update on the summer paving project. Huffman commended the public work department employees who went "above and beyond helping with clean-up after the recent storms."

In matters relating to solid waste, the Council received a request from Jay Baxter, CHS River Plains, regarding the removal of debris from the grain elevators and structures destroyed or damaged in recent storms. The Council determined the landfill lacks the space for the rubble and requested Baxter seek out other options for disposal of the rubble.

Jackie Stilwell, Kadoka City Bar manager, noted plans are in place for the Kadoka All Class Reunion Celebration beginning June 22. She reported damage to window screens at the Kadoka City Bar and plans to contact the insurance carrier.

Mayor Weller provided a report to the Council and commended the response from the community after recent storms passed through Kadoka. The next Council meeting is scheduled for July 11 at 7 p.m. at the City Finance Office. The public is invited and encouraged to attend the meetings.

Kadoka Local News Sydne Lenox



Courtesy Photo

Kadoka Alumni Class of 1972: Back row (l to r) - Dana (Dennis) DeVries, Mary (Frink) Kehrer, Tim Thomas, Keith Bonenberger, Janis Allen, Darla (Olney) Schuelth, Patty (Seidier) Morris. Middle row (l to r) - Marla (Riggins) Nelson, Susan (Sherburne) Thompson, Robyn (Smith) Bailey, Kathy (Brakke) Mansfield. Front row (l to r) - Darcy (Olney) Gill, Marcy (Olney) Ramsey, Kris Rock

These people attended the Kadoka Reunion, held June 24, 2022.

Carol Solon - Weta
Tom Zickrick - Long Valley
Emily Zickrick - Long Valley
Jennifer Zickrick
Thelma Handcock
Mike & Lib Thomas - Siken, SC
Patty Morris - Menifee, CA
Mary Frink Kehrer - Port Charlotte, FL
Kathy Gunnare - Piedmont, SD
Colleen Banham - Rapid City, SD

Lacey Enderby - Fayetteville, AR
Marsha Sumpter - Kadoka
JuAnn Johnson/Les Wintrode - Philip
Steven Wintrode - Corpus Christi, TX
Karen Byrd
Jan Holzkamp
Kenny & Kathy Ophus - Grass Range, MT
Keith & Cheryl Harry - Midland
Kathy Mansfield - Norris
Michelle Renning - Emerson, NE
Kris Rock - Rapid City, SD

Tom Riggins - Kadoka
Sheryl Kaphle - Kadoka
Stephen Riggins
Colleen O'Callaghan Fleek - Omaha, NE
Patty Brown
Kevin Rock - Rapid City, SD
Randi Oyan
Don Heck
Ron Barber - Black Hawk, SD
McCoy & Nikki Bonenberger
Mary & Dick Gropper
Kevin McNaught
Madison Brown - Kadoka
Bryan Buxcel - Kadoka

The Kougarr Column

Robert Lukens - MS/HS Principal

Dear Kadoka Area,
The summer is speeding by; it is with great excitement that I write to you today as a common task of teachers in the summer is increasing their knowledge and competency in the ever-changing world of education. I have been working on expanding my understanding of education, and I see others also have. How does this work for teachers?

There are typically three avenues that teachers can use to expand skills in the summer, and many times each route can take place in concert with each other. First is experiential jobs, such as summer school or online learning course instruction. Next, higher

education courses are available through our regional and state universities and departments—lastly, certificate and specialist certifications through national and regional professional organizations.

Teachers often prefer experiential jobs because they are one of the few summer avenues that can pay a stipend, salary, or hourly wage along with the ability to work with and expand their value as an employee of a district. Although you do not necessarily have to sign a summer job with your school district, often, like our summer program here in Kadoka, teachers stay and learn in their district. However, I have known teachers to take summer teaching and growth positions in other communities for various reasons. Working with large groups of children and students is a skill that can be sharpened and valuable to schools.

Higher education courses are constantly available to teachers in many states, such as our native South Dakota, where all educators must complete a certain amount of specific credits to maintain a li-

cense to teach. I am pursuing this option this summer. Classes I have personally taken over my career have allowed me to improve my skills, meet wonderful people who help me and form a core group that will enable us all to grow in our young careers.

The final piece of learning is certificate and specialist certifications that are available. While there is no replacing real work experiences in a topic, educators often need empathy for their students and co-workers to enhance their skills as a teacher. As an administrator, I have taken these courses to help myself better understand diverse cultures and specific educational challenges and build an understanding of upcoming challenges that may arise.

While summer learning is not required, many educators go the extra mile every year, improving staff and child outcomes in all aspects. We are excited to have a great Kadoka Area School District team that regularly engages in these functions. It is a privilege to work with them.

Sincerely,
Mr. Lukens

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Jeffrey.rieckman@k12.sd.us

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Special Meeting for Milesville Fire District

MONDAY, JULY 11TH

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Kadoka News

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