

## JANUARY 2025 MINUTES

The George City Council met in regular session on Thursday, January 9, 2025, in the Community Room, 115 S Main Street, with Mayor Billy Sprock presiding. Mayor Sprock called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The roll was called by Mayor Sprock. Present were BJ Gerken, Bob Gruis, Derek Storm and Carola Vivian. Absent: Kris Hamilton.

Gruis made a motion to adopt the agenda. Vivian seconded the motion. All present cast aye votes, motion carried.

OPEN FORUM: None.

REPORTS: Jolynn Hindt, Williams & Company, P.C. reviewed the annual exam report for FY2024 with the council. There were no significant finds noted.

BJ Gerken, recapped the NW IA Solid Waste Agency annual meeting on January 8 the board of directors approved a \$3.00 increase to \$45 per ton at the agency gate fees, effective July 1, 2025.

Bill Sprock, Chief, presented the annual report from the George Fire Department. They continue to maintain a squad of 27 members. Elections were held on January 1 with the following results: Chief – Bill Sprock, 1<sup>st</sup> Assistant – Josh Eben, 2<sup>nd</sup> Assistant – Paul Denekas, Secretary/Treasurer – Emily Denekas, Fire Marshal – Caleb DeKam, Training Officers – Cole Riemersma, Matt Grave, John Vivian, David Grave, Safety Officers – Jared Kannegieter and Derek Storm. The GFD responded to 31 calls in 2024. George Fire Department continues to host their annual Duck Race Fundraiser and fireworks show during the 4<sup>th</sup> of July.

The City Council wants to thank both the GEMS and GFD for their continued dedication to the City of George. These volunteers go above and beyond the call of duty when needed.

Kayla Gerloff, Librarian, presented the annual report from the library. Library staff continue to do an excellent job offering many program opportunities for youth and adults. The library checked out 22,681 books and movies during 2024. The library remodel took place April 8-May 6. Gerloff would like to have the facilities committee evaluate the bathrooms. The City Council would like to thank the librarians for all their work in the library and providing a variety of programs for our community.

Vivian made a motion to approve the consent items. Gruis seconded the motion. All present cast aye votes, motion carried.

VENDOR, REFERENCE .....	AMOUNT
A&B, COPIER LEASE.....	\$194.77
AFLAC DENTAL & VISION, GROUP INSURANCE.....	\$172.59
AFLAC PRE-TAX, GROUP INSURANCE .....	\$277.80
ALLIANT UTILITIES, ELEC/GAS .....	\$5,655.86
BAKER & TAYLOR, BOOKS .....	\$403.57
BILL SPROCK, FIRE CHIEF STIPEND .....	\$250.00
CARDMEMBER SERVICE, REPAIRS/SUPPLIES.....	\$343.11
CASEY'S, SUPPLIES .....	\$122.85
CENTURY BUSINESS PRODUCTS, COPIER LEASE.....	\$204.20
COMPUTER CLINIC, OFFICE SUPPLIES .....	\$486.59
COOPERATIVE ENERGY CO, FUEL/REPAIRS/PARTS .....	\$3,939.32
CORE & MAIN, PARTS .....	\$2,402.94
DENNY'S SANITATION, DEC'24 GARBAGE/RECYCLE/DUMPSTERS .....	\$8,895.23
DGR, STREET & SEWER REPAIR PLANNING .....	\$7,993.50

DOLLAR GENERAL, SUPPLIES .....	\$54.95
ED M FELD EQUIPMENT, FIRE BOOTS.....	\$486.69
EFTPS, FED/FICA TAX.....	\$3,361.57
GALE, BOOKS .....	\$223.13
GEMS, 2024 EMS CALLS.....	\$3,750.00
GEORGE CHAMBER, 2025 DUES.....	\$95.00
GEORGE FIRE DEPT, 2024 FIRE CALLS .....	\$1,250.00
GEORGE OFFICE SUPPLY, PAPER TOWELS.....	\$204.58
GERALD GRAVE, REIMBURSE AUGER BLADES .....	\$30.16
GRAHAM TIRE, TIRES .....	\$2,054.84
HAWKINS, CHLORINE .....	\$1,667.06
HEARTLAND HARDWARE, SUPPLIES .....	\$99.70
IOWA INFORMATION, ADVERTISEMENT.....	\$192.00
IPERS, IPERS .....	\$2,807.77
JOHN M DONAKER, CEMETERY WAGES .....	\$92.89
LIBERTY MUTUAL INSURANCE, WORK COMP INSURANCE .....	\$4,035.83
LITTLE ROCK FREELANCE, PUBLICATIONS.....	\$249.98
LYON RURAL ELECTRIC COOP, ELEC/GAS .....	\$94.75
M & D ELECTRIC, REPAIRS .....	\$1,282.82
MELISSA GRAVE, REIMBURSE SUPPLIES .....	\$1,140.00
MICHAEL MULDER, EMS CHIEF STIPEND.....	\$250.00
MID-SIOUX OPPORTUNITY, DONATION .....	\$2,000.00
MIDWEST TAPE, DVD'S.....	\$72.12
NEW CENTURY PRESS, ADVERTISEMENT.....	\$140.00
NW IA COMMUNITY COLLEGE, FF1 BOOKS.....	\$1,200.00
NW IA LEAGUE OF CITIES, 2025 DUES .....	\$25.00
OUR IOWA MAGAZINE, SUBSCRIPTION .....	\$39.98
PENWORTHY, BOOKS .....	\$216.00
PIZZA RANCH, SUPPLIES .....	\$82.75
POST OFFICE, POSTAGE.....	\$297.92
PREMIER COMMUNICATIONS, PHONE/INTERNET .....	\$367.51
READER'S DIGEST, SUBSCRIPTION.....	\$27.80
SHANNON VAN MEETEREN, REIMBURSE EMS TRAINING.....	\$150.00
STATE HYGIENIC LABORATORY, SAMPLE TESTING .....	\$1,605.00
STURDEVANTS AUTO PARTS, PARTS.....	\$338.05
TOTAL STOP FOOD STORE, SUPPLIES.....	\$464.19
TREASURER, STATE OF IOWA, DEC'24 WATER EXCISE & SALES TAX...	\$2,242.11
TRUE NORTH COMPANY, FIRE DEPT/EMS INSURANCE.....	\$465.50
WELLMARK, HEALTH INSURANCE.....	\$1,758.64
WILLIAMS & COMPANY, PC, LEGAL FEES.....	\$5,200.00
TOTAL PAYROLL CHECKS.....	\$14,728.17
CLAIMS TOTAL.....	\$86,186.79
GENERAL FUND.....	\$31,319.76
CEMETERY FUND .....	\$154.40
ROAD USE TAX FUND .....	\$17,506.28
INSURANCE FUND .....	\$5,967.06
LIBRARY FUND .....	\$67.78
GEORGE FIRE DEPT CKGACCT FUND .....	\$647.45

GEORGE EMS CKGACCT FUND .....	\$1,659.40
FEMA FUND .....	\$343.77
WATER FUND.....	\$12,067.00
SEWER FUND .....	\$7,457.36
LANDFILL/GARBAGE FUND.....	\$8,996.53
TOTAL FUND JAN 9.....	\$86,186.79

GENERAL.....	\$29,993.65
CEMETERY .....	\$2,462.76
ROAD USE TAX.....	\$15,126.00
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS .....	\$1,660.87
INSURANCE .....	\$1,660.87
LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX.....	\$12,599.02
LIBRARY.....	\$1,099.58
GEORGE FIRE DEPT CKGACCT .....	\$420.00
GEORGE EMS CKGACCT .....	\$255.00
STORM SEWER PROJECT .....	\$4,151.10
PERPETUAL CARE.....	\$200.00
WATER.....	\$12,652.10
SEWER.....	\$16,140.13
LANDFILL/GARBAGE .....	\$10,179.78
REPORT TOTAL DEC 31 .....	\$108,600.86

The State of Iowa requires all gross wages to be published annually. Gross wages paid by the City of George for **2024** are as follows: ROYA AMIRHAMZEH \$6,345.72; HANNAH ANDERSON \$4,994.29; ZACHARY ANDERSON \$1,777.02; PATRICIA BRUINSMA \$2,361.27; GAVIN BRUNS \$3,273.69; ANDREW DENEKAS \$1,386.98; EMILY J DENEKAS \$15,404.34; MICHAEL DENEKAS \$7,105.13; AUSTIN EBEN \$5,565.53; BYRON J GERKEN \$1,290.00; KAMI GERKEN \$1,416.31; KAYLA M GERLOFF \$27,183.02; DAVID R GRAVE \$49,277.10; BOBBY L GRUIS \$1,235.00; MAX L GRUIS \$185.50; CHARLIE HAMILTON \$5,787.60; KRISTINE N HAMILTON \$960.00; MATTHEW HELKENN \$5,715.44; ISAIAH JOHNSON \$2,683.38; MICAH JUMBECK \$1,143.45; JAMES KANNEGIETER \$11,239.07; TODD F KLEIN \$14,127.70; CARLY KOERSELMAN \$1,440.74; CLIFF KRUGER \$12,114.53; WYATT KRULL \$714.98; ALEXIS LANDIS \$5,740.27; AUSTIN LANDIS \$1,848.07; MAVERICK MEDLIN \$1,028.02; SAVANNA NILLES \$4,665.66; COLE J RIEMERSMA \$46,575.67; COLE J RIEMERSMA (CEMETERY) \$5,703.66; SUSAN M ROSEBERRY \$262.50; JOHN SANDBECK \$1,807.82; CASH SANDBULTE \$1,773.87; RYAN SCHNEIDERMAN \$2,292.15; BILLY J SPROCK \$4,200.00; SPENCER SPROCK \$980.10; DEREK E STORM \$1,235.00; GRETCHEN STRATMAN \$2,569.76; GREGORY J STUEVEN \$200.56; REBECCA L STUEVEN \$2,470.29; CAROLA O VIVIAN \$1,235.00; BERNETTE WEIER \$303.75; BARBARA J WESSELS \$3,859.32; LORALYE C WIBBEN \$47,492.95

Gary Kurth, DGR Engineer, reviewed with the council plans for the Virginia Street project and the Task Order Agreement. Kurth shared that the county will fund 67% of the center 24-26' portion of the roadway within the city limits. Gruis made a motion to approve the Task Order Agreement between DGR Engineering and the City of George. Gerken seconded the motion. All present cast aye votes, motion carried.

A special council meeting was set for next week, January 15 at 5pm, to further discuss and finalize street and utility plans.

Emily Denekas, Deputy Clerk continues to work with FEMA to report the city losses due to the June 2024 flood.

Council addressed the question that was received about hunting in the City Refuse Site (tree/grass dump) south of town. Council agreed that there is to be NO HUNTING in the tree/grass dump because it is within city limits.

Council discussed the issues of cats & dogs running at large within the city limits and will continue to review options for pet owners to become more responsible and liable for the pets.

Gruis introduced the following **Resolution 2025-01-453** entitled “RESOLUTION NAMING THE CITY CLERK/TREASURER AND ALLOW CITY CLERK TO PAY CERTAIN CLAIMS PRIOR TO COUNCIL APPROVAL, AUTHORIZING DEPUTY CLERK TO SIGN, CITY DEPOSITORY AND DEPOSITORY LIMIT, CITY ATTORNEY, PUBLICATION NEWSPAPER, AND AUTHORIZE SURETY BONDS” and moved that the same be adopted. Vivian seconded the motion to adopt. Roll call vote –ayes: Gerken, Gruis, Storm and Vivian, –nays: none –absent: Hamilton. WHEREUPON, the Mayor declared the following Resolution duly adopted. Motion carried.

Storm made a motion to approve the Mayor recommendations to the committees. Gerken seconded the motion. All present cast aye votes, motion carried. The mayor’s recommendations for council committees are as follows:

- Trees/Parks – Carola Vivian, Kris Hamilton
- Streets/Alleys – Bob Gruis, Carola Vivian
- Pool/Recreation – Bob Gruis, BJ Gerken
- Water/Sewer – Bob Gruis, Derek Storm
- Bldgs/Beautify – Carola Vivian, Kris Hamilton
- Personnel Committee – Bob Gruis, Derek Storm
- Finance Committee – Billy Sprock, Loralye Wibben, Emily Denekas
- Mayor Pro-Tem – Bob Gruis
- Daycare Committee/Library – Billy Sprock, Bob Gruis
- NW IA Area Solid Waste Rep – BJ Gerken, alt. – Derek Storm
- NW IA Regional Housing Authority Rep – Kris Hamilton, alt. – Derek Storm
- George Chamber of Commerce Rep – Loralye Wibben, Emily Denekas

Vivian introduced the following **Resolution 2025-01-454** entitled “RESOLUTION TRANSFERRING MONEY FROM THE WATER CASH ACCOUNT AND SEWER CASH ACCOUNT TO THE WATER/SEWER RESERVE CASH ACCOUNT FOR FUTURE EXPENSES” and moved that the same be adopted. Gruis seconded the motion to adopt. Roll call vote –ayes: Gerken, Gruis, Storm and Vivian, –nays: none –absent: Hamilton. WHEREUPON, the Mayor declared the following Resolution duly adopted. Motion carried.

Council discussed storm drainage at Hamilton/Michigan intersection.

Gruis made a motion to install a manhole at the intersection of Indiana/Lincoln utilizing ARPA funds. Vivian seconded the motion. All present cast aye votes, motion carried.

Next monthly council meeting will be held February 12, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

Vivian made a motion to adjourn at 9:06 pm. Storm seconded the motion. All present cast aye votes, motion carried.

All decisions made by the Council become effective upon publication.

Loralye Wibben, City Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_ Little Rock Free Lance \_\_\_\_\_ Date

\_\_\_\_\_ Loralye Wibben, City Clerk