

Council Meeting

The Graettinger City Council met in regular session on Monday, June 8, 2026, at 6:00 P.M. with Mayor Armstrong presiding. Present were council members T. Anderson, Faust, Alderson, J. Petersen, Dyhrkopp, and city employees Currans. Visitors: Megan Helmich.

Motion by Alderson, seconded by Dyhrkopp, to approve the consent agenda. 1. Motion to approve the agenda. 2. Motion to approve minutes. 3. Motion to approve the bills. 4. Motion to approve the financial statement. 5. Motion to approve liquor license for Graettinger Veterans Club. Pending paperwork 6. Motion to approve Liquor Licenses for Lodge on Main. Pending Paperwork.

Megan provided an update to the Council on the Visioning Committee. The committee did not apply for a grant this past year but plans to move forward with installing an arched metal sign at City View Park later this summer or fall. The second project will focus on improvements at Citizens Park, including reconfiguring the south driveway to improve traffic flow, reducing the size of the south ballfield to 225 feet, and connecting the walking trail to the existing trail system. The Council approved these proposed changes and requested that stop-control measures be added at the south trail entrance for pedestrian and bicycle safety. Helmich is working with an engineer to ensure drainage concerns are addressed.

City clerk Currans will be attending a IAMU Data Center Summit on July 22, 2026 in Ankeny Iowa. No other meetings scheduled for city staff at this time. Currans will be discussing money market high yield saving options with Bank Plus, tabled till next meeting.

Solar-powered speed signs will be installed along County Road B-14 within city limits. These signs are intended to help reduce speeding in this high-traffic corridor by increasing driver awareness and encouraging vehicles to maintain the posted speed limits. The signs aim to improve safety for motorists, pedestrians, and nearby neighborhoods as traffic continues to increase through this area. Alderson will work with Brad on placement of signs. Speed Humps will be installed this month in town. Barga Inc. has completed their street work within town; Blacktop services will begin this summer.

A motion to hire Myla Murphy and Faith Hoffman, effective June 1, 2026, to the Graettinger Pool was made by Dyhrkopp, seconded by Alderson, for the 2026 pool season. All Ayes. motion carried. Pool hours will be from 12-7pm.

The Council discussed ongoing storm-recovery efforts following the May 17 tornado, noting that while the community has made considerable progress, cleanup of fallen trees and remaining debris continues. Our utility crew have worked diligently to restore essential services and maintain safe conditions throughout town. Due to the vulnerabilities highlighted during the storm event, the Council reviewed the need to purchase a backup generator for the municipal wells to ensure uninterrupted water service during future outages, as well as a trash pump to support emergency response and flood-related cleanup operations. The equipment needs were identified as critical components of strengthening the City's preparedness and resilience. The city will be replacing back window of the 1998 Chevrolet pickup due to damage from cleanup of tree debris from storm.

J. Peterson reported a safety concern involving children removing the lid from the intake structure. To prevent unauthorized access and reduce the risk of injury, a request was made to install screws to secure the lid so it cannot be easily pulled open. The Council acknowledged the concern and supports responding appropriately to ensure the intake remains safely secured.

The Council reviewed the option presented by Union Pacific Railroad and the Iowa DOT to permanently close the Hoffman Street at-grade crossing. Following discussion, the Council determined that Hoffman Street is a highly utilized roadway and an important access point for residents and businesses. For this reason, the City will not pursue or collaborate on a closure agreement with UPRR or the Iowa DOT at this time.

Ahumada and Chavez requested an extension of their Community Catalyst grant. City Clerk Currans will submit the extension request through Iowa Grants. The City expressed its anticipation for the opening of their new business in Graettinger.

Nuisance abatement letters have been sent for city nuisance complaints. Residents will have to remove or clean up Nuisances or be assessed a penalty.

Alderson introduced resolution No. 20-2026, “A resolution authorizing a transfer of funds,” and moved that it be adopted. Seconded by Dyhrkopp. All ayes. Resolution adopted.

Dyhrkopp introduced resolution No. 22-2026, “A resolution authorizing a transfer of funds,” and moved that it be adopted. Seconded by T. Anderson. All ayes. Resolution adopted.

Dyhrkopp introduced resolution no. 21-2026, setting salaries for Graettinger’s appointed officers and employees for fiscal year 2025-26, with a 3.5% raise for city employees. Seconded by Alderson. 4- Ayes (Alderson, Anderson, Dyhrkopp, Petersen), 1- Abstain (Faust). Resolution adopted.

The GEDC requested a letter of Support for the Workforce Housing Tax Incentive Program, noting their plans to construct new homes within the community to help meet local housing needs.

T. Anderson introduced no. 23-2026, A resolution of support for the Workforce Housing Tax Credit application, Seconded by Faust. All ayes. Resolution adopted.

The City of Graettinger will hold another Hazardous Waste Collection Day on June 16, 2026. A collection trailer will be available at the City Shed from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. Residents are encouraged to stop by City Hall to pick up a list of accepted items before the event.

26-Jun					
Amazon	Library	\$1,064.48	Parallel	Supplies	\$11.80
IRS		\$4,315.40	Kara Currans	Cell	\$32.88
			Municipal		
Clayton	Reservation	\$3,503.66	Maintenance	Hydrants	\$1,356.25
			Griffin		
Currans PH LLC	Pool	\$218.60	Construction	Catalyst	\$3,550.00
Dakota Supply	Supplies	\$193.00	Heidi Heinrichs	Rebate	\$50.00
				1998	
Gr. Market	Supplies	\$12.98	Safelite Glass	Chevy	\$530.35
Gr Municipal	Lights	\$1,885.32	Payroll		\$17,976.60
Groebner & Assoc	Supplies	\$519.85	Total		\$85,912.59
Harris Sanitation	Contract	\$5,568.80	General		\$34,676.25
Hawkins	Pump	\$3,665.73	RUT		\$6,251.65
IPERS		\$3,040.67	Emp Ben		\$2,532.59
Johnston Auto	Supplies	\$64.59	Debt		\$8,101.85
PA Co Treasurer	Landfill	\$693.33	Catalyst		\$6,385.73
Pro-Coop	Gas	\$1,918.30	Water		\$6,268.64
RVTC	Phone	\$708.88	Sewer		\$5,296.83
US Postal Service	Library box	\$126.00	Gas		\$16,384.80
Treasurer St of IA	Tax	\$952.07	General		\$17,011.35
Wellmark	Insurance	\$8,353.77	RUT		\$11,081.17
PA Co Sheriff	Contract	\$5,287.58	Emp Ben		\$908.30
Book Systems	Library	\$834.00	LOST		\$9,790.85
Visa	Supplies	\$1,610.89	Water		\$8,379.12
Utility Equip	Supplies	\$313.29	Sewer		\$7,620.35
Gr. Times	Legals	\$141.65	Gas		\$25,689.48
Gr. Hardware	Supplies	\$3,346.18	Storm		\$976.85
No la Lumbar	Supplies	\$163.19			
Rec Supply	Pool	\$2,640.10			
	Natural				
Pefa	Gas	\$2,891.55			
RVTC	Loan	\$8,101.85			
City Laundering	Supplies	\$152.08			
MacQueen	Supplies	\$116.92			

Motion by Faust, seconded by Dyhrkopp, to adjourn at 7:10 P.M.