

Council Meeting

The Graettinger City Council met in a regular session on Monday, September 14, 2026, at 6:00 P.M. at City Hall with Mayor Armstrong presiding. Present were council members T. Anderson, Alderson J. Petersen, Faust, Dyhrkopp and employees Currans, Petersen, and B. Anderson. Visitors: Kaleb Borchers, Hunter Manwarren, Deb Harris, Tiffany Harris, Blair & Karen Chinn, Addisen Hanson, Taryn Duus, Andrew Westfall, and Alex Helmich.

Motion by Alderson, seconded by T. Anderson to approve the consent agenda. 1. Motion to approve agenda. 2. Motion to approve minutes. 3. Motion to approve bills. 4. Motion to approve financial statement. 5. Motion to approve Graettinger Market Alcohol License, pending paperwork. 6. Correction to August 10, 2026, meeting minutes- Ipers training for Clerk was August 28, 2026. Ayes- 5. Carried.

City Clerk Currans reported to the council that she will be attending the IMFOA Conference in Des Moines on October 21-23 and TIF administration training October 30. Brad and Bryon will be attending water conference in Oct, and Bryon also has an IMU conference Sept. Currans also reported that, due to a recent resignation, the City currently has an open Public Works position. A help-wanted notice will be posted and will remain open until the position is filled. Motion by Dyhrkopp, seconded by Faust to approve an addition to the Graettinger Handbook 4.5, regarding resignations by employees.

Alex Helmich would like to address council regarding gutters on library, he would like commercial gutters to be installed to help keep water away from his building. The council did receive bid for larger gutters and will be moving forward with replacing current gutters at Library.

Karen and Blaire Chinn request an exception to keep up to six chickens within city limits. She acknowledged Ordinance restrictions and assured no roosters would be present. The council requested written consent from neighbors, and Chinn has a plan for managing chicken manure. A motion by Dyhrkopp, seconded by T. Anderson, approving poultry within city limits, pending neighbors' approval. All Ayes. Motion carried.

The Library proposed remodeling its bathroom. The Friends of the Library will complete the work, including installing a baby-changing table and a new sink. The Council will also replace the Library's existing gutters with larger commercial gutters. Motion by Alderson, seconded by J. Petersen, to approve the Library renovations. The council reviewed the Library report.

Bryon Petersen reported that Well 8 may have been struck by lightning, requiring replacement of the circuit board and transmitter. Automatic Systems were contacted to troubleshoot the issue and restore the well to operation. Additional maintenance may be required to return the well to service. Tabled till next meeting.

The DOT is requesting updated roadway speed-limit information for our district. The roadway speed-limit data will also provide updates associated with railroad- crossing speed limit data. City Clerk Currans will work with Utility employees to provide state with updated speed-limit for Iowa DOT report.

The Council discussed residential sump pump connections to reduce inflow and infiltration into the sanitary sewer system, which was overloaded by recent rainfall. The Council also reviewed drainage concerns involving culverts and stormwater intakes. The City will consider flushing the intakes and replacing some covers to improve drainage and prevent debris buildup. B. Anderson will obtain pricing for a custom intake cover on Cedar. The City will also consider deepening the ditch near the pool to improve drainage.

City Clerk Currans presented the year-end totals for Graettinger Pool. The pool would like a few upgrades for restrooms, including new toilet paper holders and hand dryers. The pool will also need to have heaters and drain covers replaced before next season; Brad will get ordered and installed for next season. The Friends of the Pool were able to donate new chairs, slides, refrigerator, new paint, and flooring for office in 2026. Deb and Tiffany Harris, Friends of the Pool, addresses the council; they would like council permission to erect signage at the pool entrance. The sign will follow the look of our park signage and be free standing. They will look into cost and get bids and bring them to council for final approval at next meeting. Council approved, tabled till next meeting.

Labor Day 2026 was successful overall, with strong attendance and positive community participation. Sunday's heavy rains did force the cancellation of most scheduled events, and the flooding at Citizens Park highlighted a few maintenance needs. The faucet at Citizens will need to be replaced, and Utility crew will be evaluating options for deepening the ditch to improve water capacity and reduce future flooding concerns.

Alderson introduced resolution No. 25-2026, "A resolution to certify the assessment against taxable property located at 504 E Kent St, Graettinger, IA," and moved that it be adopted. Seconded by Dyhrkopp. Ayes: 5. Resolution adopted.

The council reviewed pictures of nuisances of property owners. Additional nuisance abatement letters will be sent for city nuisance complaints. Residents will have to remove, clean up, or be assessed a penalty.

26-Sep					
Amazon	Supplies	\$345.79	EMC	Truck	\$616.00
Arnold Motor Supply	Supplies	\$60.00	T-Mobile	phones	\$120.10
Automatic Systems	Supplies	\$675.00	Myla Murphy	Certification	\$250.00
IRS	Tax	\$7,967.80	Roger Petersen	PACGDC	\$20,000.00
Blacktop Services	Street	\$109,482.11	Griffin Construction	Catalyst	\$3,600.00
Bomgaars	Supplies	\$172.97	Friends of the Pool	2 PACGDC	\$2,155.00
Clayton	Reservation	\$7,004.84	Gr. Senior Center	PACGDC	\$500.00
Cornwell & Co	Audit	\$5,050.00	Hoss Contracting	Catalyst	\$3,240.00
Dakota Supply	Supplies	\$884.00	Nancy Busse	refund	\$200.00
Energy Economics	Supplies	\$2,123.24	Josephine Saxton	Certification	\$107.50
GEDC	PACGDC	\$10,000.00	Brileigh Saxton	Certification	\$175.00
Gr. Market	Pool	\$242.80	Lydia Fredericksen	Certification	\$100.00
GMU	Utilities	\$4,000.10	Addaley Girres	Certification	\$105.00
Harris Sanitation	Contract	\$6,876.18	Shawn Smith	rebate	\$100.00
IPERS		\$4,676.73	Tom Weig	PACGDC	\$5,000.00
Northern Lights	Pool	\$51.09	Mary Enderton	refund	\$375.00
PA CO Treasurer	Landfill	\$693.33	Payroll		\$29,313.27
Pro-Coop	Gas	\$1,104.26	Claims total	\$260,137.91	
RVTC	Phone	\$583.02	General	\$48,609.23	
Treasurer St of IA	Sales Tax	\$169.83	Wild Rose	\$69,370.11	
Wellmark	Insurance	\$8,353.77	RUT	\$76,167.31	
PA Co Sheriff	Contract	\$5,393.33	Emp Ben	\$3,313.26	
Overdrive	Library	\$257.24	Library Memorial	\$257.24	
River Valley Equip	Scanner	\$285.00	Debt	\$8,101.85	
St. Hygienic Lab	Water	\$240.00	Catalyst	\$7,662.43	
Utility Safety & Design	Public Awareness	\$585.00	Water	\$10,052.92	
Airgas	Supplies	\$103.52	Sewer	\$4,038.04	
Visa	Supplies	\$446.44	Gas	\$26,613.52	
Culligan	Water	\$21.00	Deposit refund	\$5,952.00	
Gr. Times	Legals	\$166.15	General	\$10,585.95	
Gr. Hardware	Catalyst	\$1,267.94	Wild Rose	\$39,403.50	
Cengage	Library	\$56.10	Rut	\$12,207.00	
Treasurer St of IA	Excess	\$631.14	Lost	\$9,770.56	
Pefa	Natural gas	\$2,519.68	Debt	\$97,223.00	
RVTC	Loan	\$8,101.85	Water	\$13,722.91	
ltron	radio	\$103.76	Sewer	\$10,794.58	
City Laundering	Supplies	\$39.35	Gas	\$11,415.47	
Parallel Ag	Supplies	\$72.00	Customer Deposit	\$329.12	
Kara Currans	Cell	\$32.88	Storm	\$1,446.37	
Heartland Tire	Supplies	\$3,341.80	Total	\$206,899.46	

Motion by Dyhrkopp, seconded by T. Anderson to adjourn at 6:55 P.M. All ayes. Carried.

Brandon Armstrong, Mayor

Kara Currans, City Clerk