

**City Council Meeting**  
**April 14, 2025**  
**City Office at 7pm**  
BEING PUBLISHED SUBJECT TO THE GOVERNING BODY’S REVIEW AND REVISION  
Mayor Olson called the meeting to order at 7pm. Council members present were Larson, Grundstrom, Weimer, Halcrow and Nelson, with T. Van Camp via telephone. City employees present were DeGeldere, Mattice and Misialek. Others present were Taylor and Dylan on Moore Eng. Taylor and Dylan on Moore Eng. Presented the final cost, change order and pay application from the Meter Project. Motion to approve change order #2, reducing the project cost by \$37, 238.00 was made by Larson, seconded by Grundstrom, all in favor. Motion to approve contractor’s pay application #4 for \$11,455.45 was made by Halcrow, seconded by Weimer, all in favor. These final numbers brought the Meter Project in \$77,940.50 under budget. Taylor and Dylan gave an update on the Infrastructure Project and options for the sanitary sewer part. DeGeldere discussed some items that he would like to see replaced or added towards the beautification of Main Street. Over the past few years, several of the large concrete planters have fallen apart and been removed, he would like to purchase new black planters. In the past, there used to be benches and he would like to purchase some. Motion was made by Grundstrom, seconded by Weimer, all in favor, to purchase 3 planters at \$450 a piece and 4 benches at \$600 apiece, with the money coming from the tourism fund. Motion was made by Larson, seconded by Grundstrom, all in favor of replacing the city banners on Main Street, using the tourism fund. DeGeldere informed the council that Helm’s is willing to trade a 12-foot snow pusher for our 1991 International sludge truck that we no longer need. Motion to approve making this trade was made by Larson, seconded by T. Van Camp, all in favor. Officer Mattice gave his March update and informed the council that he would be going to train with Freeway the dog on April 21st & 22nd and bring him home. Motion was made by T. Van Camp, seconded by Halcrow, to pay for Ian’s time training with the dog on these two days. Roll call vote was taken with Halcrow, Nelson, Weimer and T. Van Camp voting yes, and Larson and Grundstrom voting no. Motion passed. Officer Mattice discussed the fact that the house located at 110 N. 3rd St., that is vacant, was vandalized. This home was purchased in November at the County by an out of state investor. It is listed for sale now. A Motion was made by T. Van Camp, seconded by Grundstrom, with all in favor to make the investor an offer of \$2500.00 to purchase the

property so that it can be torn down. Motion was made by Grundstrom, seconded by Weimer, to approve the site authorizations for the Drayton Curling Club Gaming to have gaming at The Zoo Too and at the Drayton Curling Club. The site authorization for Aggie Foundation to have gaming at Johnny Bravo’s is on hold until the May 12th meeting. Drayton golf course to investigate running it themselves as to keep more income in Drayton. Misialek brought up the matter of Mr. Scurlock wanting to build a home on one of our lots. His proposal is that of a container home. The council does not like the idea and would like Misialek to draft a letter to be sent to Mr. Scurlock on their behalf stating their concerns. Pet Clinic will be held on April 26, 2025, from 9am-11am at the Merrill Fire Hall. Vaccinations will be available by Dakota Animal Care along with Drayton City Pet Licenses available. Misialek presented the option of having BCBS Vision and/or Dental to the Council. The council was in favor of this if the employees so choose. The employees opted for the vision policy but decided against the dental policy at this time. Motion was made by Grundstrom, seconded by Halcrow, all in favor, to approve the vision policy for \$1036.80/year for all employees and dependents. This will be in effect May 1, 2025. Motion to approve March minutes made by Halcrow, seconded by Weimer, all in favor. Vendor Bills: 1878 Grocery \$95.17; ATCO \$382.30; Butler \$3,356.85, \$610.25; Countrywide \$3,302.04; Dakota Natural Gas \$2,345.84; Department of the Treasury \$1,786.17; Drayton Chamber of Commerce \$100.00; Ewing \$294.83, \$362.59; Ferguson \$1,091.64; Grand Forks Utility \$44.00; Halcrow’s \$562.03; Harold Rotunda \$6,800.00; Helm’s \$267.48; Kat & Co. \$750.00; Kilmer Const. \$2,340.00; Koda Ins. \$ 12.00; Lorie DeGeldere \$90.00; ND Dept. of Health \$367.04; ND One Call \$10.50; Northdale Oil \$6.60; Otter Tail \$19.67; \$4,045.63; Pembina County Treasurer \$51.50; Rock’s \$4,361.60; Valley Building \$426.53; Valley Landfill \$10,826.00; Valley News and Views \$94.23; Vestis \$96.00, \$101.07; Walsh Water \$32,109.07. Motion to approve bills made by Grundstrom, seconded by Halcrow, all in favor. Next Council meeting will be at 7pm on May 12, 2025, at City Office. Motion to adjourn made by Grundstrom, seconded by T. Van Camp, all in favor.

Charles Olson, Mayor

Sonia Misialek, City Auditor

## Public Notices

### ‘EARTH DAY’ CON’T FROM PAGE 1

Christenson said. “It seemed like they were really excited to get outside, move their bodies, and feel like they were making a difference in the world.”

Christenson said this annual event is measurable to the students because they can see their efforts come full circle in a two hour period.

She said the event was a three part collaboration which included the Drayton community, Drayton Public School, and the Bombers Parent-Teacher Organization (PTO). She said the Bombers PTO purchased the gloves used as well as drinks and snacks students enjoyed upon returning to the school and the City of Drayton purchased several garbage bags which were filled and placed in designated spots for garbage pick up.

“Everyone came together to make this possible,” Christenson said.

She said one of the teacher’s reminded her even though students weren’t able to pick up garbage on actual Earth Day, they were out on Arbor Day which according to Wikipedia is a secular day of observance in which individuals and groups are encouraged to plant trees, another global effort to care for Mother Earth.

It was a perfect day for students to walk around town, complete with blue skies, sunshine, and a slight breeze. Christenson said she is

### ‘FREEWAY’ CON’T FROM PAGE 1

he started riding with Ian when he was on duty. Ian said the community has been amazing in supporting his journey and his purpose.

“The kids just love him,” Ian said. “Every day we go to the school and greet the students and he has been doing great.”

Ian said when he made the turn from Highway 17 to Oakwood near their residence, Freeway’s ears went up and his tail started wagging.

“He was so excited,” Ian said. “Jamie was waiting outside and he ran right up to her. Clovis the cat was probably the only one who wasn’t excited to see him.”

Ian said he has received so many positive comments from people in the community and said Freeway hasn’t met one person he doesn’t like.

“He waits the whole time and soaks it all in,” Ian said. “The entire experience has been great.”

According to Ian, not only is Freeway trained in being an intrinsic part of the community, but he is also trained in tracking someone and can aide in a search if there is a lost person.

grateful to all the students, teachers, and the Drayton community for their continued support.

“So many times kids feel powerless in the world because they are children,” Christenson said. “The fact of the matter is, it is totally opposite, something as simple as picking up trash is huge in the big picture.”

Shari Bilden, interim Principle at Drayton Public School said the event is a great way to give the students a sense of satisfaction and relationship with their community.

“I think it gives kids ownership and pride in the community. When they are taking care of it, it shows,” Bilden said. “Simple things like picking up garbage and taking care of their community are so important.”

Drayton Public School’s fourth Grade teacher Katie Dahl said she felt it was extremely important for the students to know the impact they can have on their community.

“It is something that shows them how they can make a difference,” Dahl said. They love being outside and they can get some fresh air and help their community at the same time.”

Drayton Mayor Chip Olson was scheduled to speak to the students when they returned from cleaning up the community but was unable to make it Friday as he was working in the fields during the busy planting

season. Olson said the entire community appreciates the students efforts.

**“I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to the Drayton students for helping to clean up the city on Earth Day,”** Mayor Olson said. **“Your efforts have not gone unnoticed and you have helped make Drayton a better community to live in.”**

Liberty Bishop, a fourth grade student at Drayton Public School, who recently moved to the area with her family, said Earth Day and the students involvement is important for many reasons, one of which is taking pride in the community and its protection.

“We are helping the community stay clean so people will want to come visit or move here,” Bishop said. “The world is getting dirtier and we are helping this one spot stay clean.”

Bishop’s sentiment is a wise reference from a young soul to the importance of taking care of Mother Earth and our individual communities. There is one thing the entire world has in common, the earth we all call home. As environmentalist Winona LaDuke said, “Mother Earth needs us to keep our covenant...We will commit to our descendants to work hard to protect this land and water for them. Whether you have feet, wings, fins, or roots, we are all in it together.”

has a human spirit that is so kind and so gentle.”

Jamie said when Freeway arrived home she was on their deck waiting for him and he ran right to her which was such an incredible feeling.

“He has always been gentle. Now, after his training, he knows his purpose,” Jamie said.

She said they brought him shopping one day and people were coming up to him and he would just lay down and let them pet him.

“We’ve had nothing but absolute praise and positive feedback every single day,” Jamie said.

She said he is very well trained and when he is out in the public, he just knows his job. When Freeway comes home, Jamie said he can just be a dog and can decompress and relax.

She said whenever they ask him if he is ready to go to work, he runs to the front door and is ready to go. To watch Freeway’s journey forward, follow him on Facebook at “Following Freeway.”

“He is just committed to it all,” Jamie said. “We cannot thank the community enough for their overwhelming support. It’s the community that got him this far. So many people came together in a community effort and we had an overwhelming response and loyal support. We wanted to make him a community dog. The community fought for him and in my eyes, he is a meaningful member of the Drayton community.”

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