



OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

www.cityofyankton.org

VOL. 57 NUMBER 7

Commission Information Memorandum

The Yankton City Commission meeting on Monday, April 11, 2022 will begin at 7:00 pm.

Non-Agenda Items of Interest

1) Community & Economic Development Department Update

Over the past week, staff has been cleaning and repairing landscaping located in the City's parking lots. Staff attends to the (8) public parking lots near the following locations: 2nd and Douglas (3 parking lots along 2nd Street), 4th and Cedar, 3rd and Broadway (west of the Yankton County Office Building), the Yankton Area Senior Citizens Center, the lot to the west of the Old Post Office and the lot located behind City Hall.

April is National Safe Digging Month. Warmer weather brings the start of yard and garden projects. It's a good time to remember that no matter how small the home digging project is, call 811 first. The service is free and important to keeping everyone safe and utilities functioning. Staff works with those planning a building project to be aware of the importance of calling 811 first, but even small projects that don't require a building permit must call for locates before digging. Keep yourself and your community safe by contacting 811 to have the approximate location of buried utilities marked with paint or flags before breaking ground.

2) Police Department Update

We are currently taking applications to fill open police officer positions. We have looked at our past hiring practice and we are changing our process up to make it smoother and faster in hopes we don't lose good candidates to other agencies.

On March 29th Chief Foote kicked off a new radio program with Bill Holst at WNAX called Service Before Self. Bill will host first responders from the community once a week talking about the happenings in their departments and the community.

DARE is wrapping up and we will have our first spring graduation on April 8th at Lincoln School. Commander Rothenberger has been teaching this class at Lincoln School. In total, we will have 106 students graduating from the DARE program this Spring from 3 different schools. DARE has been taught in the Yankton Schools since 1989.

On April 1st Lewis and Clark Ford drew the Yankton Police Department out of a hat and provided lunch from Willa B's. All staff on duty that day was provided a meal of their choosing. Thanks Lewis and Clark Ford.

Commander Rothenberger is working on an application for a Highway Safety Grant for DUI enforcement this will allow us to purchase 5 new Preliminary Breath Tester's in 2023 replacing some older equipment. We will know around August or September if we will receive the award.

3) Parks and Recreation Department Update

Enclosed in your packet is an update on the various activities in the Parks and Recreation Department.

4) Finance Department Update

Absentee voting ends on April 11th at 5 p.m. There will be two municipal vote centers for Election Day on April 12th at City Hall and the North Fire Station. Voters will be able to cast their ballot at either one of the designated vote centers between 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Canvassing of the election results is schedule to take place Friday April 15th at noon in City Hall.

Finance personnel have completed the annual sewer rate adjustments for residential utility customers. Adjustments based on the customer's average winter consumption from December, January, and February will be reflected in the utility bill being mailed out on April 19. Please refer any questions you may receive from customers to the City Finance Office.

Application letters were mailed out on April 1, 2022 for the renewal of Malt Beverage licenses. Applications are to be filed in the office of the City Finance Officer on or before April 15, 2022 with the public hearing date of May 9th.

5) Environmental Services Department Update

Staff continue to work with the South Dakota Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources on our environmental funding package that includes 30% grant through American Rescue Plan Funds. The South Dakota Board of Water and Natural Resources is scheduled to consider 103 applications at its April 12th meeting. A large number of SRF applications are being amended due to recent inflation. SD DANR staff is encouraging applicants to join the meeting remotely due to the large number of applicants. Staff will attend remotely. HDR and District III will have representatives at the meeting. At this time SD DANR is recommending the Board of Water and Natural Resources to approve the \$57 million-dollar funding package.

Staff would also remind owners that regular maintenance and cleaning of the sewer service lines can prevent costly backups into homes. If a homeowner is experiencing slow draining sewer drains or laundry drains it may be a good time to call a plumber before a backup causes expensive damage. Staff is experiencing a large number of plugged sewer lines because of roots. The dry conditions have caused increased number of roots issues with sewer lines. Most of the sewer issues we have experienced have been related to the service lines or the service line connection.

6) Public Works Department Update

Solid Waste, Transfer Station, and Street Department crews continue to accept materials at the Transfer Station and complete the curbside pickup of the 2022 Citywide Cleanup.

Engineering staff continue to prepare plan documents for the 2022 budgeted reconstruction projects. Bids are currently being received for the 5th Street Reconstruction Project, the West City Limits Road, Summit Street, & Douglas Avenue Street Reconstruction Projects, the Westside Park Improvements Project, and the Taxiway A Rehabilitation Project.

Enclosed in this packet is an information flyer for the Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event scheduled for Saturday, April 23rd.

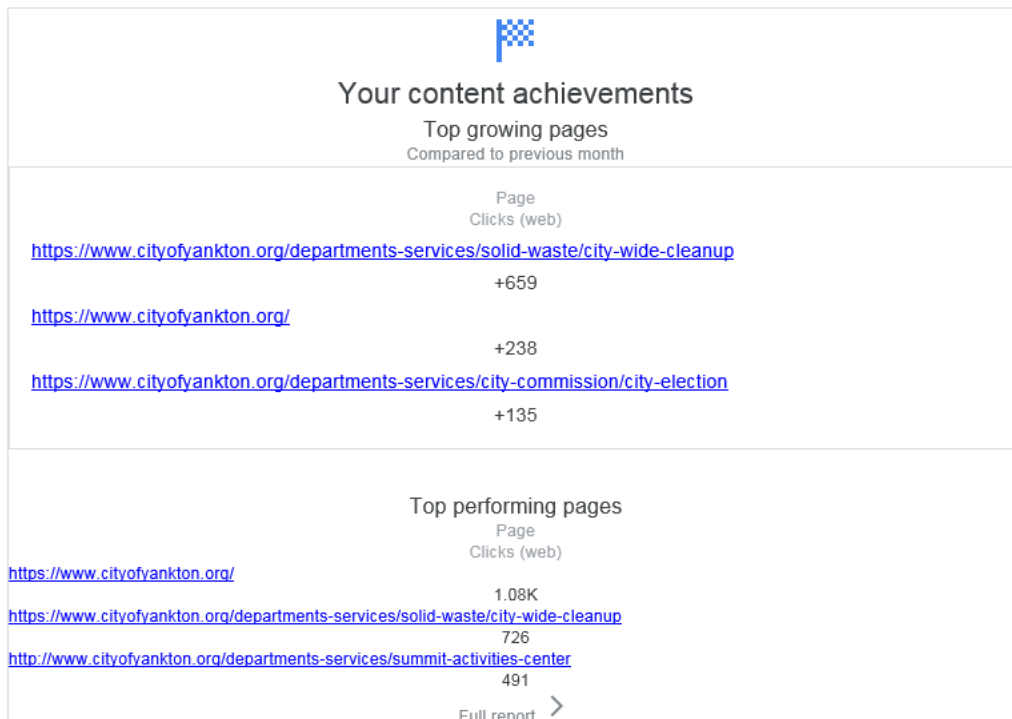
7) Library Update

We celebrated National Library Week April 3-April 9. The theme this year was “Connect with your Library.” Though we love books and strive to keep the community supplied with good reads, we truly believe that in today’s libraries, books are just the beginning! Our library offers fun and educational programs all year long to offer opportunities to be entertained, to engage with others in the community, and to grow in seeing and experiencing new things. We love hearing about families that are new to town and seeking out the library is one of the first things they do. It is a place for them to start building a sense of community in their new town. We have outreach programs to deliver books to homebound individuals and those residing in nursing homes or assisted living facilities, so we connect with others even beyond the walls of our building. The library hosts regular story times, kids’ activities, adult craft nights, family events and so much more to foster the love of reading, to give opportunities to express creativity and to provide an atmosphere that is welcoming to all. The library has computers and spaces available and friendly staff to help you find what you are looking for. There are so many ways to connect with your library. Thank you for supporting our library so we can continue to support the citizens of our community!

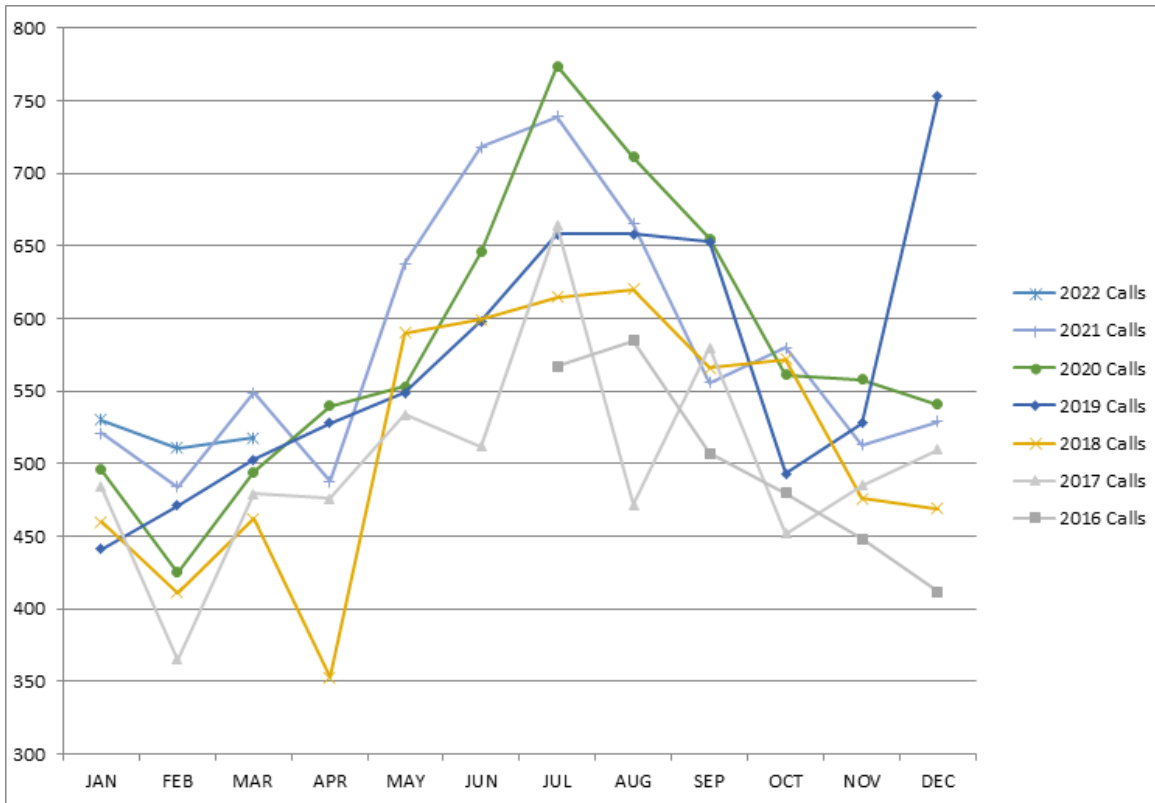
The Friends of the Library had another successful book sale at the beginning of April. The first day of the sale was open to members only, and they registered 30 new members with this sale! They will have their first outdoor sale of the year in June.

8) Information Services Department Update

The new website is scheduled to go live May 2nd. A number of City staff are participating in hands on training working with the content management system and are busy updating the site with needed changes. During this transition period, both site will need to be updated with any changes or new content. Some of the more active pages during the recent month are outlined below.



Dispatch is pleased to welcome our newest dispatcher Adam Doyle. Adam will be spending the next twelve weeks completing the in-house training prior to working at the console independently. 911 Calls thru March are up just slightly over 2021 (.3%).



9) Monthly reports

Building, Salary and Yankton Police Department monthly reports are included for your review.

Have an enjoyable weekend and do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions about these or other issues. If you will not be able to attend the Commission meeting on Monday, please inform my office.

Sincerely,

Amy Leon
City Manager