



Wednesday, September 17, 2025

Council Awards Hancock Drive Expansion Project to Granger Firm

City council members awarded the contract for a major street project related to the construction of Daisy Brand's state-of-the-art dairy-processing facility adjacent to the Boone Municipal Airport.

City engineer Perry Gjersvik said 10 contractors submitted bids for the project. "Very good bids. They're all bunched together. They came in about \$1 million under the engineer's estimate, which is amazing," he said.

Gjersvik recommended – and the council approved – awarding the Hancock Drive Expansion RISE project construction contract to Absolute Concrete Construction, Inc. The Granger company's bid was \$2,056,664.55 for work that will include the construction of approximately 1,700 feet of Hancock Drive with turn lanes and traffic signals at the intersection of Corporal Roger Snedden Drive and Hancock Drive.

Council members also unanimously approved a resolution authorizing a Boone Downtown Incentive Fund Grant agreement with Kruck Plumbing and Heating, 615 Story St., to improve its exterior façade. The city will provide 40% of all approved and eligible expenses up to \$30,000. The agreement places a four-year mortgage on the project not to exceed the grant total. If the property is sold or transferred before Sept. 9, 2030, a prorated portion of these grants will be due to the City before the property can be transferred.

"The rear entrance of their building is a major renovation. If you notice, the parking is already done," said Councilman Terry Moorman, who chairs the Economic Development Committee. "The committee unanimously approved the recommendation for the BDIF grant."

"It looks wonderful," Mayor Elijah Stines said. "It's a great project."

Moorman agreed, "It is a great project for downtown."

Stines issued a proclamation celebrating the U.S. Post Office's 250th anniversary as a "wonderful national treasure." The USPO is the predecessor of today's U.S. Postal Service. In part, the resolution states, "The City of Boone goes on record in support of the public mission of the USPS contained in the 1970 Postal Reorganization Act which says, 'The United States Postal Service shall be operated as a basic and fundamental service provided to the people by the Government of the United States, authorized by the Constitution, created by Act of Congress and supported by the people.'"

Stines expressed his appreciation to Police Chief John Wiebold and his officers for their extra effort as the department works through short-staffing issues. "The chief has been out on patrol, helping all the officers, boots on the ground," Stines said, praising Wiebold for working closely with the school district in response to a Monday incident in which a student took to school an airsoft-style gun that had been painted to resemble a real firearm.

Stines also said that he had received a citizen's recommendation to address several public works issues around the city that he forwarded to public works director Waylon Andrews. "His team took care of them right away. The citizen was overjoyed with the response they got from the city and the public works department, so recognition to you, as well," he said to Andrews.

In other action, the council:

- Scheduled a 6:00 p.m., Oct. 6 public hearing concerning the lease and exchange of real estate owned by the City of Boone.
- approved an out-of-state travel request from Gjersvik for the water works operations staff, the SEH Engineering water design team and him to tour the Cold Spring, Minn., water treatment plant. "They have a new treatment system that we're looking at here for nitrate removal," he said.
- heard a report from parks director Mike Cornelis that the park commission has accepted a bid for stump removal in the street rights-of-way. "It is an excellent bid," he said. He indicated he will be seeking bids next to remove hazardous trees in the parks and cemetery.

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