

Grant City Commission Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday, February 16, 2009

The regular meeting of the Grant City Commission was held on Monday, February 16, 2009, at the City of Grant Offices.

1. **Call to Order:** Mayor Terry Fett called the meeting to order at p.m.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**
3. **Roll Call:**

PRESENT: Mayor Terry Fett, Commissioner Julie Hallman, Commissioner Anne Pickard, Commissioner Terri Yeomans, Commissioner Harry Robinson, and Commissioner Kevin Smith
Others Present: Doug La Fave-City Manager, Sherry Powell – Assistant City Manager/Clerk, Dan VanBelzen – Chief of Police, Lori Gardner – City Treasurer, Officer Joe Pulaski, Dan Graham, Rich Geers, Pat Gardner, and Sam Scholtens.
ABSENT: None
EXCUSED: Commissioner Cheryl Lake
4. **Approval of the Agenda:**

Motion: Motion made by Yeomans second by Robinson to approve the agenda.
Motion carried unanimously.
5. **Public Comment:**

Dan Graham expressed his appreciation of the police department efforts on cleaning up handicap parking problems.
Rich Geers expressed a problem he feels with his tax bill. He indicated he thought the 2007 tax bill had been paid in full, but he received correspondence indicating it was not.
Commissioner Hallman asked Rich if he honestly thought the bill was paid in full, and if individual receipts totaling the amount of the 2007 tax bill could be provided as proof of payment.
Rich Geers replied that he did not have two receipts, but he did have one (February 29, 2008 receipt showing cash payment of \$582.07.)
Mayor Fett explained that the Commission had been given the entire paper trail, and the records have been verified for accuracy before determining the balance on the tax bill which is still owed by Mr. Geers.
6. **Consent Agenda**

a-e. Approval of the Consent Agenda
Motion: Motion made by Yeomans, second by Smith to approve the consent agenda.
Motion carried unanimously.
7. **Unfinished Business:**
 - a. Planning Commission Vacancy: No action was taken since no candidates were provided.
8. **New Business**
 - a. Resolution 09-04: Resolution authorizing the purchase of an Orion 4-Star Benchtop DO/pH meter for the municipal water system.
Motion: Motion made by Yeomans, second by Hallman to approve Resolution 09-04.
Motion carried unanimously.
 - b. Resolution 09-05: Resolution authorizing continued financial support to NCEDO.
Motion: Motion made by Pickard, second by Yeomans to approve Resolution 09-05.
Motion carried unanimously.
 - c. Resolution 09-06: Resolution authorizing the purchase of Holder vehicle and snow-blower for DPW.
Motion: Motion made by Hallman, second by Pickard to approve Resolution 09-06.
Motion carried unanimously.
 - d. Resolution 09-07: Resolution authorizing fringe benefit for dental and vision for eligible City of Grant employees.
Motion: Motion made by Yeomans, second by Smith to approve Resolution 09-07.
Commissioner Pickard asked why we are doing this for our employees.

Doug La Fave responded that the flexible spending we used to have is no longer allowed by Priority Health for reimbursing employees for co-pays and prescription costs. This will be given to each eligible employee to offset their dental and vision expenses instead.

Motion carried unanimously.

- e. Resolution 09-08: Resolution for reclassifying Elder Avenue from a local street to a major street

Motion: Motion made by Robinson, second by Yeomans to approve Resolution 09-08.

Motion carried unanimously.

- f. Local Preference Purchasing Policy

Motion: Motion made by Yeomans, second by Hallman to approve the Local Preference Purchasing Policy.

Commissioner Yeomans commented that she struggled with this policy. While she definitely likes to support local business, she is concerned about saving taxpayer money in this economy.

Motion carried unanimously.

- g. Frozen Water Line/Meter Policy

Motion: Motion made by Robinson, second by Hallman to approve the Frozen Water Line/Meter Policy.

Motion carried unanimously.

9. **Other Business**

- a. Sidewalk/Snow Removal Policy: We are still working on this policy, and are currently gathering information from various communities about how they handle it.

- b. City Manager – March Meeting Absence: Doug will be in Rhode Island for the March meeting and will be gone for two weeks.

10. **Information Items / Updates**

- a. Water Tower Park Update: The file with the Fremont Area Community Foundation was closed today, and the City spent a total of \$132.00 on the Water Tower Park project.

- b. Alltel: Doug is hearing conflicting information from Alltel, but he thinks the construction will likely begin later this spring or early summer.

- c. City Master Plan: We will be scheduling an early March meeting to begin the process of adopting the plan.

- d. Streetscape Update: A few changes with trees in different locations are being finalized right now, and two more easements are needed. Questions pertaining to approximate start date were addressed, and we anticipate sometime in June the project will be underway.

- e. Community Center: Five architects have gone through the building, and their proposals were taken to the Fremont Area Community Foundation for selection. They chose Architect Jeffrey Parker for the project, and they would like to see us maintain the historic appearance of the building. Doug is getting estimates for replacing the entire roof, and hopes to have the work done as soon as possible.

11. **Public Comments:**

None

12. **Adjournment** without objection at 7:32p.m.

Mayor Terry Fett

Sherry Powell, Grant City Clerk