

Grant City Commission Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday, April 18, 2016

The regular meeting of the Grant City Commission was held on Monday, April 18, 2016, at the City of Grant Offices.

1. **Call to Order:** Mayor Julie Hallman called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**
3. **Roll Call:**

PRESENT: Mayor Julie Hallman, Commissioner Tim Atwood, Commissioner Anne Pickard, Commissioner, Cheryl Weeks, Commissioner Matt Bouwkamp, and Commissioner Harold Portell
Others Present: Ryan Rudzis – City Manager, Sherry Powell – Assistant City Manager/Clerk, Janet Botsford - DPW, Shawn Botsford - DPW Supervisor, Bob Mendham - Chief of Police
ABSENT: None
EXCUSED: Commissioner Kevin Smith
4. **Approval of the Agenda:** Added Item Resolution 16-02 Flint Water Crisis under New Business Item e.

Motion: Motion made by Bouwkamp, second by Weeks to approve the agenda.
Motion carried unanimously.
5. **Public Comment on Agenda Items:**

None
6. **Consent Agenda**

a-e. Approval of the Consent Agenda

Motion: Motion made by Weeks, second by Portell to approve the consent agenda.
Motion carried unanimously.
7. **Unfinished Business:**
 - a. None
8. **New Business**
 - a. Motion Item #1: Addition of Social Media Policy to current Personnel Policy.

Motion: Motion made by Portell, second by Pickard to add this section to the Personnel Policy.
Hallman stated that after a minor incident last month, it's good to have a policy in place.
Weeks asked if this is for paid employees only. Asked who determines if something is offensive, because that would be objective.
Rudzis stated it is objective, and we just want staff to use common sense. This also covers outside of work hours.
Weeks expressed concern over friends posting things that you cannot control.
Hallman stated we all have to remain ourselves. It's not automatic, but could start a conversation.
Rudzis stated we might then discuss something privately.
Weeks doesn't want to muddy up personal versus private.
Atwood stated we hold certain individuals to a higher standard.
Rudzis stated we can always change it. Would like to have something in place to prevent problems.
Weeks stated we all have freedom of speech. Clarified that this is for everyone or only certain ones.
Hallman said we have to be mindful of posts and use common sense.
Weeks doesn't want anyone to accuse the City of infringing upon their beliefs.
Motion carried five Yes to one No.
 - b. Motion Item #2: City Hall Phone System Purchase.

Hallman informed the Commission that the last storm blew out the phone system, and the insurance is paying for replacement less our \$250 deductible.
Motion: Motion made by Bouwkamp, second by Atwood to approve the motion.
Motion carried unanimously.
 - c. Motion Item #3: CIPP Repair.

Motion: Motion made by Pickard, second by Portell to approve the motion based on the attorney's opinion.

Atwood asked if it was fixed already.

Rudzis explained we are now repairing the remaining sections that we originally passed in April 2014 when Inland Waters Pollution Control (Inland Pipe Rehabilitation) caused the massive failures throughout this last section of lining on the last day of the project. Our industry expert advised the blisters in these sections were more than cosmetic, and they should be re-lined. Reminded everyone that we are requesting contributions to purchase a gift card for Attorney Tim Stoepker. He has gone out of his way to help us out, and gave the City a huge discount on his rate for this case. Motion carried unanimously.

d. Discussion Item #1: Farmers Market

Hallman stated we decided in March to open the Market for free until the drainage issue is fixed. Asked for thoughts on getting a Market Master.

Pickard already has Jim Loe lined up to be our Market Master. Fremont and Newaygo Farmers Markets are both opening the end of June. After some discussions, she thinks 1pm-6pm on Tuesday would help people to don't have a lot of money. She thinks we should not allow use for nothing though. We have to advertise it. We need to have signage and a phone line if WIC customers use it.

Weeks stated we could see how it goes. Also stated concern about targeting a day where another business has a big day.

Atwood thinks our seniors might come back another day.

Hallman asked what it would cost for an ad in Hi-Lites.

Weeks asked what over there is City property.

Rudzis stated what the Commission sees as the City staff's involvement in the Farmer's Market in general.

Pickard explained the Market Master is experienced, and in exchange for his service he could use it free of charge.

Bouwkamp expressed concern about investing too much money while it's still in its infancy. Let people sell and see how it goes. Asked how big is the drainage issue.

S Botsford explained that one time we pumped 12,000 gallons out, and it dropped the water level by one inch. We have looked at all options, including tying it into the sanitary sewer system using a valve system after the water samples came back fine. We are looking into other viable options now.

Hallman asked what the anticipated costs are, and asked Botsford for his thoughts.

S Botsford shared that the 28th Street farmers market has a larger demographic, which is where he and Janet sell. They can sell over twenty-five times more in a day there versus the \$20 they might sell in a day here in Grant. He stated they tried to explain this to the previous manager by suggesting to leave it open and in a parking lot. Having only four or five market stalls means less diversity. Explained the Market Masters take care of everything. They typically receive the vendor payments and rent out tables.

Weeks asked if the drainage issue is separate from the Market, and about the purpose for the drain structure.

S Botsford explained the drain structure helps with the high water tables. We have fixed Old Iron's drainage issue with our structure.

Bouwkamp expressed he initially had some concern. He would like to see the Market run well and get a following.

We will have to get residents excited in using it.

J Botsford stated they had advised Doug to put the Farmers Market on Front Street, but that did not happen.

S Botsford explained the structure is bolted into the concrete, which makes it difficult to try and move.

Hallman asked for any consensus on what to do moving forward.

Rudzis stated we maintain the property itself, but cannot manage market activities also.

S Botsford suggested we give it a shot. Let people try it and see.

Bouwkamp suggested we advertise it on the City's website.

S Botsford explained the Market Master will open the gates and handles it all.

J Botsford stated the vendors choose what they will accept.

Rudzis expressed concern with having any phone line. It's Michigan, so a phone line would have to be paid for twelve months out of the year when it's only used for three or four months.

Hallman asked if we have some consensus. If Jim volunteers and we get some signage, Ryan can get some applications, and we work on the drainage issue. We can let the Market Master decide on day(s).

Bouwkamp thinks it would be good for us to get some seasonal support.

Consensus to move forward per discussion.

d. Resolution 16-02: Flint Water Crisis

Motion: Motion made by Weeks, second by Hallman to open it up for discussion.

Hallman stated she was asked to submit this to the Commission.

Portell stated he is not in favor of it.

S Botsford stated we have talked to DEQ. This whole issue goes back decades. We do the same thing, but when they switched back, their lead comes from their own lead pipes.

J Botsford explained there are no immediate health effects in Flint. Their higher level results start the planning process. Their whole problem stems from their own process change.

Weeks commented that this is to petition the Governor.

Hallman stated it just shows support for the 211.

Motion carried (to open it up for discussion) four Yes to two No.

Motion by Weeks to approve Resolution 16-02.

Motion fails for lack of a second.

9. ***Other Business***

None

10. ***Information Items / Updates***

None

11. ***Public Comments:***

None

12. ***Adjournment***

Motion made by Hallman, second by Weeks to adjourn the meeting at 8:04p.m.

Mayor Julie Hallman

Sherry Powell, Assistant City Manager/Clerk