

**Grant City Commission Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**Monday, February 21, 2011**

The special meeting of the Grant City Commission was held on Monday, February 21, 2011, at the City of Grant Offices.

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

PRESENT: Mayor Terry Fett, Commissioner Julie Hallman, Commissioner Anne Pickard, Commissioner Cheryl Weeks, Commissioner Terri Yeomans, and Commissioner Kevin Smith  
Others Present: Doug La Fave-City Manager, Sherry Powell – Assistant City Manager/Clerk, Dan VanBelzen – Chief of Police, Andy Lofgren – NCEDO, Kasey Jernberg, and Dan Graham  
ABSENT: Commissioner Cheryl Weeks and Commissioner Matt Bouwkamp  
EXCUSED: None
4. **Approval of the Agenda:** Added Finance Report under New Business  
**Motion:** Motion made by Yeomans second by Hallman to approve the agenda.  
Motion carried unanimously.
5. **Public Comment:**

Andy Lofgren thanked the City for on-going support so they can continue to provide services in the county. He commented on some positive points in 2010, including a drop in the unemployment rate and some job growth. Also, the median household income has increased steadily and some industries have been expanding. He also mentioned Industry In Training to bring higher education and training opportunities in this county. NCEDO wants to ensure that agriculture remains strong in Newaygo County. Tourism is also an important part of our community. The SCORE program and Fast Track were also mentioned.
6. **Consent Agenda**

a-f. Approval of the Consent Agenda  
**Motion:** Motion made by Hallman, second by Smith to approve the consent agenda.  
Motion carried unanimously.
7. **Unfinished Business:**

a. Planning Commission vacancy (1): If anyone knows of an interested candidate, please contact Mayor Fett.
8. **New Business**

a. Motion Item 1: Invoices for USDA Sewer project, \$2,297.79 for Engineering Services.  
**Motion:** Motion made by Hallman, second by Pickard to approve the final invoice for the USDA Sewer Project.  
Motion carried unanimously.

b. Resolution 11-04: Resolution to establish a request for funding, designate an agent, attest to the existence of funds to carry out various infrastructure projects and commit to implementing a maintenance program for infrastructure funded by the Safe Routes to School Program.  
**Motion:** Motion made by Yeomans, second by Smith to approve Resolution 11-04.  
Motion carried unanimously.

c. Resolution 11-05: Resolution providing for the confirmation of the Mayor's appointments to City Boards: DDA Board Dan Wheat from ChoiceOne Bank.  
**Motion:** Motion made by Hallman, second by Pickard to approve Resolution 11-05.  
Motion carried unanimously.

d. Resolution 11-06: Resolution to sell City property.  
**Motion:** Motion made by Smith, second by Pickard to approve Resolution 11-06.  
Motion carried unanimously.

e. Resolution 11-07: Resolution approving materials purchase for police storage building.  
**Motion:** Motion made by Hallman, second by Yeomans to approve the Resolution 11-07.  
Motion carried unanimously.

- f. Resolution 11-08: Resolution amending the City of Grant Personnel Policy-Health Insurance.  
**Motion:** Motion made by Yeomans, second by Smith to approve Resolution 11-08.  
Pickard asked if any employees are currently contributing anything toward health insurance premiums.  
La Fave responded that currently only employees with family coverage are contributing each pay period.  
 Motion carried unanimously.
- g. Ordinance #21-1: Consideration for repealing Ordinance #43 and Ordinance #21-1 Dog Ordinance.  
**Motion:** Motion made by Yeomans, second by Smith to accept consideration to draft Ordinance #21-1 and then Repeal Ordinance #43.  
Pickard asked if a new draft would eliminate dogs on a chain in someone's backyard.  
La Fave replied that this is one of the changes, along with the others previously discussed.  
Pickard asked if we could also require a minimum size of a kennel so that each dogs has enough room to move around.  
Consensus was that we have no way of policing such a requirement, and we would be overstepping our bounds.  
Pickard also asked about the Dog License Tag requirement, stating a tag should be required at all times, regardless if the animal is in a kennel or outside. If the dog were to get loose without a tag on, it would become a problem.  
 Motion carried unanimously.

9. **Other Business**

None

10. **Information Items / Updates**

- a. 2011-2012 FY Budget: Doug distributed a draft budget after the State of Michigan's proposed budget cuts were released, which will cut all Statutory Revenue Sharing to Cities. We may end up with more Revenue Sharing because of tough choices we have already made that the Governor wanted to see, but we have a balanced budget right now. We have also already taken down about 27 streetlights and made tough choices.
- b. Historical Marker-Wood Water Tower: The historical marker has finally been approved!
- c. Verizon cell tower: They have cleared the site and are taking soil samples for environmental purposes right now.

11. **Public Comments:**

Dan Pierce Jr. is a resident on Arthur Street. He commented that the high school has kids looking for community service, and they could shovel the sidewalks for community service. He said he would be willing to volunteer time to run the City's snow blower to clear sidewalks.  
Dan Pierce Jr. commented about receiving a ticket for having his dogs outside his house, and he stated he has electronic dog fences for his dogs. He would like electronic fencing to be considered in any new dog ordinance.  
Mayor Fett commented that electronic barriers are not a visible reminder to the public that the dog is contained, and \ that can create a problem. He then pointed out that the public comment period at the end of the meeting is not an appropriate place to have back and forth discussion, and comments will be received.

12. **Adjournment** without objection at 7:40 p.m.

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Mayor Terry Fett

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Sherry Powell, Grant City Clerk