

**Grant City Commission Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**Monday, February 20, 2012**

The regular meeting of the Grant City Commission was held on Monday, February 20, 2012, at the City of Grant Offices.

1. **Call to Order:** Mayor Terry Fett called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.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 Kevin Smith, and Commissioner Matt Bouwkamp  
Others Present: Doug La Fave – City Manager, Sherry Powell – Assistant City Manager/Clerk, Cpl Mitch Rood – Grant Police Department, County Commissioner Pat Gardner, Andy Lofgren – NCEDO, and Cheryl Campbell  
ABSENT: None  
EXCUSED: None
4. **Approval of the Agenda:** Added Item “h. Title VI Plan” under New Business  
**Motion:** Motion made by Weeks, second by Hallman to approve the agenda.  
Motion carried unanimously.
5. **Public Comment:**  
None  
**Out of Order by unanimous consent, 9. Other Business:** a. Mr. Andrew Lofgren-NCEDO Presentation:  
Lofgren thanked the City for on-going financial support, which is matched by The Framont Area Community Foundation. NCEDO also manages the Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB), which is primarily funded through room occupancy fees. The economy seems to be on the upswing, and the Newaygo County unemployment rate is at 8%, which is below the national unemployment rate. Job growth also continues to be up. Michigan has been leading the economy in many indicators. Agriculture continues to be very strong. Governor Snyder has pushed the formation of regions, and NCEDO is putting together an initiative for agriculture. They have formed sub-committees of existing board members, bringing in stakeholders, and prioritizing emphasis areas. NCEDO is also working on expanding post-secondary education in Newaygo County. A national ice fishing contest is new this year, and the Newaygo Nationals event was so successful, they will be back in 2013. NCEDO is looking to focus more on commercial development and ways to stimulate commercial activity. They also provide support services or start-ups, expansions, and retaining existing businesses.  
Pickard asked about the Stream and if the building is full.  
Lofgren responded by explaining how NCEDO only fills the top floor, and the bottom is handled by a developer. They continue to have lots of users who need alternate work spaces, and they have a lot of success stories.  
Campbell asked if there was a temp agency in the building.  
Lofgren replied that Michigan Works uses the building when needed along with other groups.  
**Out of Order by unanimous consent, 11. Public Comment:** County Commissioner Pat Gardner Update:  
Gardner commented that the Newaygo Nationals event went great, and everyone worked well together. Some County campground improvements include Sandy Beach with a new dock, and many other improvements for tourism. The ORV Ordinance is coming up on Wednesday, and includes some good input from all of our City Managers. The County is in the middle of their audit. Lots of good things are happening in Newaygo County.  
Powell thanked Commissioner Gardner for his assistance with delivering election materials every time it is needed, and stated this has been extremely helpful.
6. **Consent Agenda**  
a-e. *Approval of the Consent Agenda*  
**Motion:** Motion made by Bouwkamp, second by Weeks to approve the consent agenda.  
Motion carried unanimously.
7. **Unfinished Business:**
  - a. Planning Commission vacancies (2): We still have two vacancies to fill very soon.
  - b. DDA vacancies (2): We still have two vacancies on the DDA Board to fill also, and the only requirement is that they must be a business owner in Grant. Contact Mayor Fett with recommendations.

**8. New Business**

- a. Motion Item 1: Consideration: to approve the City of Grant Social Media Policy.  
**Motion:** Motion made by Pickard, second by Hallman to approve the Social Media Policy.  
Motion carried unanimously.
- b. Motion Item 2: Consideration: to approve the City of Grant Mailbox Replacement Policy.  
**Motion:** Motion made by Smith, second by Pickard to approve the City of Grant Mailbox Replacement Policy.  
Motion carried unanimously.
- c. Motion Item 3: Consideration: to appoint/fill Mayor Pro-Tem Vacancy.  
**Motion:** Motion made by Fett, second by Pickard to appoint Commissioner Julie Hallman as Mayor Pro-Tem.  
Motion carried unanimously.
- d. Motion Item 4: Consideration: to appoint/fill City Commission Vacancy. Mayor Fett commented that the City Commission previously approved a Resolution to extend filling the vacancy for sixty days. Once the Resolution expires, we will then have a brief meeting to fill the vacancy. He also asked City Commissioners if they had any questions for Cheryl Campbell, a candidate for the vacant City Commission seat. Commissioners were asked to contact her with any questions they have for her.
- e. Motion Item 5: Consideration: for employee compensation committee. Mayor Fett asked City Commissioners to contact him if they are interested in serving on this committee.
- f. Resolution 12-05: Consideration: to authorize purchase of police patrol vehicle in conjunction with USDA funds through MiDeal contract.  
**Motion:** Motion made by Weeks, second by Hallman to approve Resolution 12-05.  
Motion carried unanimously.
- g. Resolution 12-06: Consideration: to authorize the purchase of two (2) Bushmaster Carbine rifles with proceeds of Grant Police Department Fundraiser.  
**Motion:** Motion made by Hallman, second by Pickard to approve Resolution 12-06.  
La Fave commented that minimal City funds will be used for this purchase. All funds came from a police department fundraiser.  
Motion carried unanimously.
- h. Motion Item 6: Title VI Plan: Consideration: to approve the Title VI Anti-Discrimination Plan.  
**Motion:** Motion made by Hallman, second by Smith to approve the Title VI Anti-Discrimination Plan.  
Motion carried unanimously.

**9. Other Business**

- a. Mr. Andrew Lofgren-NCEDO Presentation: (Taken Out of Order under 5. Public Comment)
- b. Unison Site Management-Cell tower lease buyout offer: They want to buy us out cheap. There was unanimous consent to continue with the lease.

**10. Information Items / Updates**

- a. Safe Routes to School grant: The grade inspection was last Thursday, and everything is on track. We sent a letter to every property owner affected.
- b. 5 year parks and recreation plan update (DNR): The survey results were tallied, and some of the results and comments were surprising.
- c. Consumers Energy-Streetlights: We have been working on this for quite some time. Rate increases are occurring several times each year. Our streetlights audit resulted in a large credit, which helped the budget. We had the highest efficient 'free' bulbs switched out, and we will see a significant savings going forward.
- d. Newaygo County ORV Ordinance: Some language needed to be added to clarify that cities are not included, as most of our public may not know what an Act 51 agency is.
- e. MML Workers' Compensation Award: We had the lowest modification factor in the State before the unfortunate accident last fall involving the police cruiser.

11. **Public Comments:**

Gardner further commented on the ORV Ordinance, stating that the language now includes “It does not apply to City of Grant” and other cities specifically.

Fett thanked the City and everyone here for the support and help with Nancy’s service.

12. **Adjournment** without objection at 7:45 p.m.

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Mayor Terry Fett

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Sherry Powell, Grant City Clerk