

**Grant City Commission Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**Monday, June 20, 2016**

The regular meeting of the Grant City Commission was held on Monday, June 20, 2016, at the City of Grant Offices.

1. **Call to Order** Mayor Pro-Tem Harold Portell called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**
3. **Roll Call**

PRESENT Commissioner Tim Atwood, Commissioner Anne Pickard, Commissioner, Cheryl Weeks, Commissioner Kevin Smith, Commissioner Matt Bouwkamp, and Mayor Pro-Tem Harold Portell  
Others Present Ryan Rudzis – City Manager, Sherry Powell – Assistant City Manager/Clerk, Janet Botsford - Interim DPW Supervisor, Matt Biolette, Deb Bose, Dan Murray, Sharon Triplett, and James Triplett

ABSENT None  
EXCUSED Mayor Julie Hallman
4. **Approval of the Agenda**

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

Sharon Triplett stated she has had chickens for several years, since March of 2012. She had checked with the City Office a couple years ago, and was told she could have them. a rooster caused a complaint about the rooster caused a complaint, and she found a home for the rooster. The City passed an ordinance against chickens. She was told by Lori she was grandfathered in and could keep them. She inquired about rights for chickens, and an Officer had told her the complaining neighbor moved away. Stated her neighbors love her birds. They only make noise when they feel threatened. A few weeks ago a neighbor was fined for tall grass. She spoke with Ryan, who said we don't follow grandfather rule. She stated Holland and Grand Rapids allow grandfathered chickens. Portell stated we will follow the ordinance.
6. **Consent Agenda**

*a-e. Approval of the Consent Agenda*  
**Motion:** Motion made by Weeks, second by Atwood to approve the consent agenda.  
Motion carried unanimously.
7. **Unfinished Business**
  - a. N/A
8. **New Business**
  - a. Discussion Item #1 Republic Waste Services: Matt Biolette introduced himself and stated he joined Republic Waste Services back in September. He works with municipalities and is looking forward to bidding.  
Portell asked if they have similar containers.  
Biolette stated they are instituting a \$30 "tipping fee" more than curbside.  
Pickard asked if he had any costs on container sizes.  
Weeks asked if they bid before.  
Atwood asked why Allied did some, and A-Waste did all of the residential. Biolette explained that commercial accounts are hard to change. Businesses typically don't like restrictions.
  - b. Discussion Item #2 Community Service Award: Rudzis stated we had two years of legal negotiations. Tim Stoepker is one of the primary reasons we won, and Rudzis presented an award to Tim Stoepker.  
Stoepker stated that in over 30 years of practice, he has never received an award for these services. He also stated that he had just delivered the new contracts for the finalizing of the

CIPP project. He stated it has been a joy to work with staff over this time.

Portell thanked Stoepker.

c. Motion Item #1 Chickens at 221 West Pine

**Motion:** Motion made by Pickard to allow her to keep her chickens.

Motion failed for the lack of a second.

Sharon Triplett stated they are also a health benefit for her. She can determine what they forage for. She has three separate auto-immune illnesses, and they allow her to care for her health.

Weeks asked about advertising during (ordinance) revision, and Rudzis stated there was an advertisement in the newspaper.

Portell explained he likes farm animals, and homes in town are not meant to have farm animals.

Sharon Triplett stated she was grandfathered in.

Pickard remembers March or April telling her husband that she was grandfathered.

Atwood asked about the issue with pigs, and Portell stated it's an ordinance about livestock.

Sharon Triplett sees all sorts of tractors, a falling down elevator, and wild cats.

**Motion:** Motion made by Weeks, second by Smith that Ms. Triplett has to find someplace else for the chickens.

Motion carried, with Pickard voting No.

Sharon Triplett stated she is willing to sign an application and allow for inspection.

Pickard asked why we didn't do this four years ago.

Larry Eaton stated he want the City to notify residents better, and (the City) s should require owners to be included in the Ordinance.

Laura Xerri stated the first thing she noticed was tall grass. Not the chickens.

Smith stated we don't have any proof of it. We should have proof.

Portell reiterated we will follow the Ordinance.

d. Motion Item #2 Act 51 Performance Resolution

**Motion:** Motion made by Weeks, second by Bouwkamp to approve the motion.

Smith asked if it just has to be updated, and Rudzis confirmed that is correct.

Motion carried unanimously.

9. **Other Business**

a. N/A

10. **Information Items / Updates**

a. N/A

11. **Public Comments**

Deb Bose and the Grant Area District Library President Dan Murray explained the Library Board decided to put a ballot on the August Primary Election. This would go for five years.

Portell asked what would the extra funding be used for?

Bose explained the staff has been cut. They are relying on The Fremont Area Community Foundation for new books.

Murray stated the City of Grant designates two board members, so they are visiting all of the municipalities.

Atwood asked how busy the library is, and Bose replied the summer reading club keeps the numbers up to a few thousand per month.

12. **Adjournment** without objection at 7:37 p.m.

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Mayor Pro-Tem Harold Portell

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Sherry Powell, Assistant City Manager/Clerk