

**Grant City Commission Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**Monday, July 16, 2018**

The regular meeting of the Grant City Commission was held on Monday, July 16, 2018, 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, Anne Pickard, Matt Bouwkamp, Kevin Smith, Gabe Sanchez, and Kate Block  
ABSENT:  
EXCUSED: Gerard Williams  
Others Present: Ryan Rudzis – Interim City Manager, Sherry Powell - Assistant City Manager/Clerk, Brad Wade - Chief of Police, Kasey Jernberg – City Manager Student Intern, Justin Salisbury – Grant DPW, Holly Moon – Newaygo County Treasurer, and Pam Schwallier on behalf of the River Country Chamber of Commerce.
4. **Approval of the Agenda**

Addition of Item & Item under New Business:  
**Motion** made by Bouwkamp, second by Sanchez to approve the agenda.  
Motion carried unanimously
5. **Public Comment**

Sheriff Mendham is asking for a half mil request on the August Primary ballot. He explained the Sheriff's Department is running four man crews at a time. We have eight hundred sixty-four square miles, and we are often running on two Deputies due to sick time, vacation time, and trainings. Sheriff Mendham provided statistics of the increasing number of calls over the last three years. About six percent of the calls are within the cities. Between July 16, 2017 and July 15, 2018, Michigan State Police took 5,076 calls for services. The Sheriff's Department took 11,807 calls through Dispatch.
6. **Consent Agenda Items**

**Motion** made by Bouwkamp, second by Pickard to approve the consent agenda.  
Motion carried unanimously
7. **Unfinished Business**

None
8. **New Business**
  - a. River Country Chamber of Commerce: Pam Schwallier stated a committee is starting to work on Harvest Moon Festival, which will take place on October 13<sup>th</sup>. They are planning lots of contests, a car show, expanding for more activities. December 8<sup>th</sup> is the Christmas in Grant event. The Decorating Contest will happen again this year. They are looking for volunteers. The quarterly meeting will be at Sally's Whatta Pizza for the membership meeting. They want to make the events better for the community and the businesses.
  - b. Holly Moon, Newaygo County Treasurer: Holly provided an update from the Treasurer's Office. The County self-funded for a third year in a row. This saved \$4 - \$5 million each year. They have eighty-nine foreclosures this year. Twenty-five were given up freely by their owners. They had fifty-five extensions, but zero foreclosures in the City of Grant. The delinquency rate is down again at 8.3%. Auction sales will take place this fall, and 2018 taxes must be paid up too. \$150,000 was used for the Step Forward program. Over \$1 million in mortgage payments were paid. We have a double A minus bond rating. Discussed Michigan Class earning 2.3% daily in this municipal pool. Sheriff Mendham received a \$40,000 gift for

animal control, which was put into it.

- c. Motion Item #1: Acceptance of City Manager resignation: Mayor Hallman stated Ryan Rudzis accepted a new position with the City of Marlette.  
Bouwkamp thanked Ryan for a job well done.  
**Motion** made by Bouwkamp, second by Pickard to accept Ryan's resignation.  
 Motion carried unanimously
- d. Motion Item #2: WIC Contract: Mayor Hallman explained that this comes up every year, and mentioned the cleaning done in the Community Center.  
Pickard asked if this is the same as we have now, and Hallman confirmed that it is.  
**Motion** made by Pickard, second by Bouwkamp to approve the contract with WIC.  
 Motion carried unanimously
- e. Discussion Item #1: City Manager search dates and criteria: Hallman led the discussion in posting on the MML versus offering the position to a great candidate we have here now.  
Bouwkamp commented that we could possibly have an extended period of evaluation.  
Rudzis recommended thirty days to receive resumes and cover letters, and form a committee consisting of two or three Commissioners and a couple staff members.  
Pickard asked how much is costs to do this.  
Jernberg commented that he likes an open and transparent process.  
Bouwkamp suggested we post for thirty days and see what happens.  
**Unanimous consent** to post for thirty days.
- f. Conduct Expected of Elected Officials: Hallman explained she was going to talk about attendance.  
Bouwkamp stated that we discussed at the last meeting that as a board we were satisfied with how the P.D. is handling ordinances.  
Hallman stated that we ask people to call the P.D., leave a message, and they will get back to them. Call the police when something happens. The staff have all their business to do, so call the P.D.  
Pickard stated we have had some pranks going on, and the garbage can cannot be left in the middle of the road. She did not hear back from anyone.  
Rudzis stated that not everything warrants a call to the P.D.  
Pickard thinks the P.D. should know what's happening in the middle of the night.

9. ***Other Business***

None

10. ***Information Items***

None

11. ***Public Comments***

Chief Wade is waiting on his MRI on the 26<sup>th</sup>. Both guys were bound over in court last week.

Salisbury stated they are shutting water down south of Commerce, and they will be under a Boil Water Notice. There are no shut-offs for Jones St.

Hallman thanked Justin and Kasey for all of their work on the electronic sign.

12. ***Adjournment***

**Motion** made by Pickard, second by Sanchez to adjourn the meeting at 7:37p.m.

Motion carried unanimously

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Mayor Julie Hallman

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Sherry Powell, Assistant City Manager/Clerk