

Grant City Commission Regular Meeting
Monday, December 19, 2005 - 7:00pm

1. Call to Order:
2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag:
3. Roll Call:
4. Members of the Public may address the City Commission on items that do not appear on the printed agenda. Comments are limited to a maximum of three (3) minutes per citizen.
5. Consent Agenda Items:
Items listed under the Consent Agenda are considered routine and will be enacted by one motion and one vote. There is no discussion on these items. If discussion is desired, that item(s) will be removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered separately.
 - a. Approval of the minutes from the November 14, 2005 City Commission organizational meeting.
 - b. Approval of the minutes from the November 21, 2005 regular City Commission meeting.
 - c. Officers' Reports:
 - i. Police
 - ii. Treasurer
 - iii. Clerk
 - iv. Manager
 - d. Approval of Bills Paid Report
 - e. Literature
6. Unfinished Business:
 - a. Resolution 05-31: Planning Commission Appointments: Anita Jaimes and Patrick Gardner
7. New Business:
 - a. Resolution 05-32: Planning Commission Appointment: **Harry Robinson** (Council Representative) and Board of Review Appointment: **Joe Sorden**
 - b. Discussion of the Ashland-Grant Fire District Fire Protection and Merger Agreement
 - c. Adoption of City of Grant Records Retention Policy
 - d. Review of Bids for the New Municipal Offices
 - e. Resolution 05-33: Resolution for the addition of Lee Street to the City of Grant Local Street System
 - f. Settlement Request: Request by Norm and Brenna Alverson for reimbursement of damages caused by sewer backup. They are requesting that the city pay 25% of the total damage estimate of \$1,933.00 (\$483.25). The Alversons would be responsible for the remainder of the replacement costs.
8. Other Business:

None
9. Information Items / Updates:

City staff is reviewing possible health insurance coverage changes that are expected to save the City approximately \$7,500 during the next calendar year.
10. Members of the Public may address the City Commission. Comments are limited to a maximum of three (3) minutes per citizen.
11. Adjournment

**Grant City Commission Regular Meeting Minutes
December 19, 2005**

The regular meeting of the Grant City Commission was held on Monday, December 19, 2005, at the Grant Community Center.

1. *Call to Order:* Mayor Terry Fett called the meeting to order at 7:19 p.m. (Delayed due to lengthy ZBA meeting prior)
2. *Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.*
3. *Roll Call:*

PRESENT:

Mayor Terry Fett, Commissioner Mike Gesler, Commissioner Julie Hallman, Commissioner Dan Powell, and Mayor Pro-Tem Harry Robinson, and Commissioner Terri Yeomans.

EXCUSED:

Commissioner Anne Pickard

OTHERS PRESENT:

Frank Peterson – City Manager, Sherry Powell – City Clerk, Miguel Hernandez, Tom Williams, Brenna Alversen, Terry Harrison, Cheryl Lake, Edith Walton, Charlotte Campbell, and Dale Joley.

4. *Public Comments:*

Miguel Hernandez addressed the commission about his feelings pertaining to the sale of the former library building ten (10) months earlier, in which the Mayor was the unknown buyer.

5. *Consent Agenda:*

a-d. *Approval of the Consent Agenda*

Motion: Motion made by Terri Yeomans, second by Dan Powell to approve consent agenda.
Motion carried unanimously.

6. *Unfinished Business:*

a. Resolution 05-31 to appoint Anita Jaimes and Patrick Gardner to the Planning Commission

Motion: Motion made by Terri Yeomans, second by Dan Powell to approve Resolution 05-31.
Motion carried unanimously.

7. *New Business:*

a. Resolution 05-32 to appoint Harry Robinson to the Planning Commission and Joe Sorden to the Board of Review

Motion: Motion made by Terri Yeomans, second by Dan Powell to approve Resolution 05-32.
Motion carried 4 YES to 0 NO and 1 Abstain (Robinson) with prior consent of the Commission.

b. Discussion of Ashland-Grant Fire District Fire Protection Agreement

Mayor Fett suspended the rules without any objection of the Commission.

Commissioner Powell explained millages levied by each municipality per the L-4029 forms he obtained from the County Equalization Director, and further explained the impact of the required current and future payments if the contract is approved as currently worded. He further stated he had met with Terry Hiler, Fire Chief, to gain a better understanding of future monetary needs over the next ten years. Commissioner Powell stated he would like to see the City sign a one-year contract to provide adequate time for a strategic plan by the Fire District. He further elaborated that just because the City is only an 11% owner of the Fire District, our input does still matter.

Commissioner Gesler agreed with Commissioner Powell, and expressed his desire for the Fire Department to develop a more cohesive contract with all entities.

Mayor Fett explained that the Headlee Amendment was designed to protect taxpayers from excessive taxation. If the townships want to “make up” the difference, it is perfectly legal and they can do so. He stated a threat by a township official that would essentially kick out the City if we do not sign the agreement as written. He explained the Fire District’s general operating fund continues to swell, while there is no plan for future spending. Mayor Fett stated he would like to see a one (1) year contract and a strategic plan.

Administrative Fire Board Member Edith Walton (Grant Twp Rep) stated the townships were trying to save money by copying from the old contract, and that new township officials essentially did this. She further stated that we (municipalities) need to plan ahead.

Mayor Fett explained how the City levies taxes and has to account for every dime we spend.

Motion: Motion made by Mike Gesler, second by Terri Yeomans to enter into a fire protection contract for one (1) year and re-negotiate one year from now after a strategic plan is completed.
Motion passes unanimously.

c. Adoption of City of Grant Records Retention Policy

Motion: Motion made by Mike Gesler, second by Harry Robinson to adopt the Records Retention Policy.
Motion passes unanimously.

d. Review of bids for new municipal offices

The City Manager presented the engineer’s recommendations: (None included any basement)

To tear down and build from scratch: VanderKodde
To renovate the existing: Patron Construction

To tear down and build from scratch using local contractors: Tom Williams Builders

Motion: Motion made by Dan Powell, second by Julie Hallman to award the bid to Tom Williams Builders.

Discussion: Mike Gesler stated building was re-designed to utilize as a functional space
Motion passes unanimously.

- e. Resolution 05-33 to add Lee Street to the City of Grant Local Streets System

Motion: Motion made by Mike Gesler, second by Terri Yeomans to approve Resolution 05-33.
Motion carried unanimously.

- f. Sewer backup at 220 Exchange Street

Terry Fett suspended voting for discussion, and asked if the blockage was in the City’s sewer lateral.

Tom Williams explained that he built the duplex complete with backflow prevention devices, which obviously failed. He explained the damaged items were a collection of books from the last 30 years. Tom Williams proposed splitting the cost four ways, with the City’s portion to be \$483.25.

Motion: Motion made by Terry Fett, second by Harry Robinson to pay Brenna Alverson \$483.25 for property damaged in the sewer backup.
Motion carried unanimously.

- 8. *Other Business:*
NONE

- 9. *Information Items/Updates:*
The City Manager explained that staff is reviewing possible health insurance coverage changes that are expected to save the City approximately \$7,500 during the next calendar year.

- 10. *Public Comments:*
Mayor Fett took the opportunity to address a public comment made by Mr. Hernandez about his purchase of the former library building and stated that by remaining transparent was perfectly legal. He explained that he sought the advice of the County Clerk, and knew this was the only way to handle the matter.

- 11. *Adjournment* without objection at 8:32pm.

Mayor Terry Fett

Sherry Powell, City Clerk