

CITY OF GRANT
MINUTES

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DATE : April 2, 2013
TIME STARTED : 7:10 p.m.
TIME ENDED : 8:37 p.m.
MEMBERS PRESENT : Councilmember Bohnen, Fogelson, Huber, Lobin and Mayor Carr
MEMBERS ABSENT : None

Staff members present: City Attorney, Nick Vivian; City Engineer, Phil Olson; and Administrator/Clerk, Kim Points

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Carr called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

SETTING THE AGENDA

Council Member Fogelson moved to approve the agenda, as presented. Council Member Lobin seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

March 5, 2013 City Council Meeting Minutes	Approved
Bill List, \$24,484.51	Approved
KEJ, Snow Removal, \$16,725.00	Approved
City of Mahtomedi, 1 st Quarter Fire Contract, \$29,601.75	Approved

Council Member Bohnen moved to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented. Council Member Lobin seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

STAFF REPORTS

City Engineer, Phil Olson

Emergency Siren Location Map – City Engineer Olson advised Barr Engineering has finalized the siren coverage map and memorandum. The map shows the coverage area of existing sirens, the

1 locations and coverage area for the 3-phase sirens proposed for installation in 2013, and locations and
2 coverage area for future siren installation.

3
4 The ultimate siren layout provides coverage to a majority of Grant with the exception of a few small
5 areas on the north side of the city. This layout allows for the option to install one additional 3-phase
6 siren in the future at Lansing Avenue and Hwy 96.

7
8 In March, Council approved the purchase of two 3-phase sirens to be installed in 2013. These sirens
9 are recommended to be installed at Manning Trail/110th Street and Hwy 12/Kimbrow Avenue based on
10 the availability of 3-phase power and population density.

11
12 The siren map and memo from Barr Engineering and the population density map were included in the
13 packet for review, questions and discussion. Staff is requesting authorization for the installation of
14 the two 3-phase sirens at Manning Trail/110th Street and Hwy 12/Kimbrow Avenue.

15
16 Council Member Lobin advised she would like both the sirens placed along Hwy 12 near Jamaca and
17 Hwy 17 as she believes that is the best area.

18
19 City Engineer Olson advised he would work with the County and Xcel to ensure they can be located
20 at those two locations.

21
22 Council Member Bohnen asked about the cost of a 3-phase siren service per month.

23
24 Council Member Lobin advised the only cost is a hook up charge. There is no maintenance fees for this
25 type of siren but she is not clear on a monthly electric fee.

26
27 Council Member Bohnen referred to the siren coverage map noting the potential sighting of one of the
28 sirens does miss a whole area. He suggested a 3-phase be installed on the southeast corner and a battery
29 siren installed on the south west corner. He noted state roads don't allow installation of the poles and
30 asked if the County does.

31
32 City Engineer Olson stated the County does have a permit process to allow for the poles.

33
34 Council Member Fogelson stated it does not make sense to put two 3-phase sirens on Hwy 12 as there
35 are too many missing areas. This type of siren does not provide for full coverage and battery operated
36 sirens should be budgeted for and installed in Grant.

37
38 Council Member Huber stated there is basically no maintenance on this type of siren. He referred to
39 the coverage map and pointed out an installation area slightly to the south noting the missed area is
40 very small. If the wind is pushing a certain way it is eliminated entirely. If it can't be moved slightly
41 to the south, the coverage area is still at the most dense areas which doubles the City's coverage.

42
43 Council Member Bohnen referred to the coverage map noting the square shows a dense area with one
44 acre lots. Putting up a 3-phase there provides more coverage to the City of Mahtomedi.

45

1 Council Member Huber suggested it be moved down to Kimbro up on the hill.

2
3 Council Member Lobin advised the circles on the coverage map are not exactly where they would be
4 placed. It is illustrating the general area. Moving it east or west is fine. The City has already
5 purchased the sirens and they should be installed where the most coverage is obtained. She believes
6 that is along Hwy 12.

7
8 Council Member Bohnen asked if the order has actually been placed yet. If not, the order could be
9 changed. Only order one of them and get another battery operated siren in the future.

10
11 Council Member Fogelson advised he would support that.

12
13 Mayor Carr stated two sirens additional sirens are better than what the City has now. They are cost
14 effective and placed in that area is beneficial. More sirens will be purchased in the future.

15
16 Council Member Huber stated the City is never going to have 100% coverage and it won't ever be
17 perfect. The purchase of the sirens was already voted on and other cities have much larger gaps
18 relating to siren coverage.

19
20 Council Member Bohnen stated when this was voted on he made the comment that the City may be
21 limited to locations with a 3-phase siren. He stated he believes there is only one good location within
22 the City for a 3-phase siren.

23
24 Council Member Fogelson asked if a grant writer has been explored. City Engineer Olson stated
25 there currently are no grants available for emergency sirens.

26
27 **Council Member Lobin moved to have WSB locate the two additional sirens in the best location**
28 **along Hwy 12. Council Member Huber seconded it.**

29
30 **Council Member Huber made a friendly amendment to include in the motion best location**
31 **consistent with the mechanical demands to provide the best coverage. Council Member Lobin**
32 **agreed to the friendly amendment.**

33
34 **Mayor Carr made a friendly amendment to include WSB working with residents relating to the**
35 **placement. Council Member Lobin and Council Member Huber agreed to the friendly**
36 **amendment.**

37
38 **Motion carried unanimously.**

39
40 **Staff Report** – A report from City Engineer Olson was provided for March 2013 engineering
41 activities to be placed on file.

42
43 **City Planner, Jennifer Haskamp**

44

1 **Staff Report** – A report from City Planner Haskamp was provided for March 2013 planning activities
2 to be placed on file.

3
4 **City Attorney, Nick Vivian**

5
6 **Harmony Horse Farm Update** – City Attorney Vivian updated the Council on the Harmony Horse
7 Farm noting no action is required.

8
9 **City Charter Update** - City Attorney Vivian advised he did receive a call from the Judge and he will
10 be accepting applications for the Charter Commission. A notice has been posted. He outlined the
11 application process and information that should be submitted with the application. The applications
12 should be sent to the Judge directly. Council Members who want to serve on the Commission are
13 also required to apply and submit to the court. The deadline is May 1, 2013.

14
15 Mayor Carr distributed a draft resolution to have the Council recommend applicants to submit to the
16 Judge and asked if the Council would like to make recommendations. He stated he did speak to Mr.
17 Tufty, Mr. Helander, Mr. Potter, Ms. Schwarze, Mr. Berg and Ms. Siekmeier.

18
19 City Attorney Vivian advised the Council can make recommendations to the Judge.

20
21 Council Member Huber stated he had no problem with recommending those citizens listed. However,
22 he was not aware that the Council was going to do this tonight. If the resolution is passed with
23 names, does the Judge favor those or is the City jeopardizing them?

24
25 City Attorney Vivian advised it is hard to say if the resolution will have any impact or not.
26 Appointments to the Commission are at the complete discretion of the Judge.

27
28 Mayor Carr stated the resolution that was passed regarding a Charter City stated the Council may
29 make recommendation relating to applicants.

30
31 Council Member Bohnen stated he has not talked to anyone about applying. He did recommend Mr.
32 Wally Anderson.

33
34 Council Member Fogelson stated it is very frustrating that he did not have the resolution ahead of
35 time. He indicated he is uncomfortable putting names on a resolution without talking to potential
36 applicants.

37
38 Mayor Carr stated the City can also do a resolution after the applications are due to the judge.

39
40 Council Member Bohnen stated he does not want to endorse a resolution tonight.

41
42 Mr. Wally Anderson and Mr. Jerry Helander indicated they did not want to be listed on the resolution.

43

1 **Mayor Carr moved to adopt a resolution recommending appointment to the City of Grant**
2 **Charter Commission, as amended. Council Member Lobin seconded the motion. Motion**
3 **carried with Council Member Bohnen and Fogelson voting nay.**

4
5 **Staff Report** – A report from City Attorney Vivian was provided for February 2013 legal activities to
6 be placed on file.

7
8 **Building Inspector, Jack Kramer** – A report was from Building Inspector Kramer was provided for
9 March 2013 to be placed on file for review.

10
11 **NEW BUSINESS**

12
13 **Proclamation – Celebrate Community Media Week, Council Member Huber** – Council Member
14 Huber read the Celebrate Community Media Week Proclamation promoting media week at the Cable
15 Commission and inviting citizens to an open house.

16
17 **Resolution No. 2013-10 Wheelage Tax, Mayor Carr** – Mayor Carr advised the Wheelage Tax
18 resolution was revised to be capped at \$10.00.

19
20 **Council Member Bohnen moved to adopt Resolution No. 2013-10, as presented. Council**
21 **Member Fogelson seconded the motion. Motion carried with Council Member Huber voting**
22 **nay.**

23
24 **Public Input Discussion, Mayor Carr** – Mayor Carr advised public input was removed from the
25 agenda until it could be discussed by the Council because it was being abused. He stated he has
26 always been told to let people talk but it is being abused. He asked the what the Council would like
27 to do about public input. There is an agenda item process that could be utilized and then if a topic
28 were on the agenda the Council can have a dialogue. The other option is to have public input but
29 include dialogue. Another option is have citizens who want to bring forward an issue submit that to
30 the Clerk to read.

31
32 Council Member Bohnen stated open dialogue is dangerous as a discussion may be held about
33 subjects not on the agenda. He recommended the City utilize the agenda request form so an issue is
34 on the agenda.

35
36 Council Member Lobin stated she likes the idea of being able to converse with citizens.

37
38 Mayor Carr pointed out with the agenda request form there will be more time as it will be an agenda
39 item. He stated he does have the discretion to limit the time.

40
41 Council Member Fogelson stated that because public input has been abused, he supports using the
42 agenda request form so the Council can be prepared. He noted he does want public input back
43 eventually.

44
45 Council Member Huber stated he looks forward to using the form and bringing the facts to the table.

1 It was the consensus of the Council to include public input at the May Council meeting with the
2 utilization of the agenda request form.

3

4 **OLD BUSINESS**

5

6 **City Website Update** – Council Member Huber advised he met with the Cable Commission today.
7 The City of Grant has been selected and will be one of the first cities to have streaming on the website
8 for City meetings. He noted the new website has gone live.

9

10 **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

11

12 **City Council Reports:**

13

14 Council Member Fogelson advised there is a seminar on ground water, put on by the Metropolitan
15 Council on April 4, 2013, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m., at Century College.

16

17 Council Member Huber advised the newsletter is at the printer. The annual Clean Up day is Saturday,
18 April 27, 2013. Maroney’s is participating again this year. The Salvation Army will also be there this
19 year taking donations, which is a good addition to the event.

20

21 Council Member Bohnen advised the asphalt plant are not yet open so only a cold mix can be used for
22 the very deep potholes, which does not last. As soon as the plant is open the City will be out fixing
23 potholes. The most efficient way to get them repaired is to use the road feedback form on the
24 website. In addition, grading will start soon as weather permits.

25

26 **2013 City Council Goals** – Mayor Carr advised staff is working on a couple of the 2013 Goals as
27 directed by the Council. He distributed a worksheet on capital funds for paved roads and stated he
28 would like everyone to review and talk about at a future meeting. In addition, there is a bill moving
29 forward at the legislature regarding this type of program. A resolution is available and if the City
30 supports the bill, it should be voted on tonight.

31

32 Council Member Fogelson advised he would support the resolution.

33

34 Council Member Huber read what the legislation would do in terms of enabling the establishment of
35 street districts.

36

37 **Council Member Fogelson moved to adopt a resolution supporting legislation authorizing the**
38 **establishment of municipal street improvement district and write a letter of support to the**
39 **Senators and Representatives. Council Member Lobin seconded the motion. Motion carried**
40 **unanimously.**

41

42 Mayor Carr asked the Council to look at the worksheet and be ready to discuss at the next meeting.
43 He distributed another worksheet on domestic animals. When the ordinances were codified, some
44 language was removed and it does not refer specifically to chickens. He stated he believes the
45 Council should correct this.

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It was the consensus of the Council that the domestic animals would be on the agenda for the June meeting. All questions and comments regarding the worksheet should be sent to the Administrator/Clerk to include in the June packet.

Council Member Lobin advised the CodeRED information is now on the City website.

Staff Reports (any updates from Staff):

Administrator/Clerk Points advised that the reason documents were not being put on the old website is that during the construction of the new website, the previous webmaster did not have access to the website. She informed the Council that a grant in the amount of \$300 was received for the Municipal Clerk’s Institute. She asked for direction regarding the Zoning Books that were distributed to the Planning Commissioners.

The Council requested all Zoning Books be returned to the City.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR APRIL 3 THROUGH APRIL 30, 2013:

City Council Work Session, Monday, April 8, 2013, Town Hall, 7:00 p.m.

Mahtomedi Public Schools Board Meeting, Thursday, April 11, 2013, Mahtomedi District Education Center, 7:00 p.m.

Stillwater Public Schools Board Meeting, Thursday, April 11 and 25th, 2013, Stillwater City Hall, 7:00 p.m.

Washington County Commissioners Meeting, Tuesdays, Government Center, 9:00 a.m.

RWSCC Open House, Thursday, April 25, 2013, 3:00 – 7:00 p.m. Community Media Center, 2460 East County Road F, White Bear Lake

ADJOURN

There being no further business, Council Member Fogelson moved to adjourn at 8:42 p.m. Council Member Bohnen seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

These minutes were considered and approved at the regular Council Meeting May 2, 2013.

Kim Points, City Clerk

Tom Carr, Mayor