

CITY OF GRANT
MINUTES

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DATE : July 2, 2013
TIME STARTED : 7:04 p.m.
TIME ENDED : 8:30 p.m.
MEMBERS PRESENT : Councilmember Bohnen, 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 7:04 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

SETTING THE AGENDA

**Council Member Bohnen moved to approve the agenda, as presented. Council Member Huber
seconded the motion.**

**Mayor Carr made a friendly amendment to remove Item 8B, Charter Commission use of Town
Hall, from the regular agenda, questioning as to why it was on the agenda again.**

Council Member Bohnen stated others had questions about use of Town Hall. The Charter
Commission has now had two meetings and wants the City to support their efforts. A motion was not
taken when this item was previously on the agenda.

Mayor Carr noted a vote on use of Town Hall was taken in March, 2013.

Council Member Bohnen stated comments were made by Council Member Huber regarding use of
Town Hall when a Charter Commission was formed.

Council Member Huber stated the group wants to pursue its own path, that being the actual Charter.
He stated he does not understand why the building is so important. He would like the Charter
Commission to be as independent as possible and feels that is very important. Once the Charter has
been drafted and approved by the voters, this issue can be revisited.

Council Member Bohnen stated he wants to discuss this issue under the agenda item.

Council Member Bohnen did not agree to the friendly amendment.

1 **Motion failed with Council Member Huber and Mayor Carr voting nay. Council Member**
2 **Lobin abstained.**

3
4 **Mayor Carr moved to approve the agenda, with Item 8B, Charter Commission use of Town**
5 **Hall removed. Council Member Huber seconded the motion. Motion carried with Council**
6 **Member Bohnen voting nay.**

7
8 **CONSENT AGENDA**

9
10 June 4, 2013 City Council Meeting Minutes Approved

11
12 Bill List, \$58,233.26 Approved

13
14 Resolution No. 2013-16, Lovas Lot
15 Line Adjustment Approved

16
17 City of Mahtomedi, 2nd Quarter
18 Fire Contract, \$29,601.75 Approved

19
20 City of Stillwater, 1st Half
21 Fire Contract, \$46,243.00 Approved

22
23 Brochman Blacktopping, \$15,355.00 Approved

24
25 **Council Member Lobin moved to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented. Council Member**
26 **Huber seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.**

27
28 **PUBLIC INPUT**

29
30 **Use of Washington County Sheriff, Bob Engelhart** – Mr. Bob Engelhart came forward and stated
31 the City is over budget on the Sheriff's Department and then excused himself from the meeting.

32
33 **Present Draft Ballot for Referendum, Larry Lanoux** – Mr. Larry Lanoux came forward and read a
34 draft ballot. He provided the background on this issue as well as funding and road history and
35 requested the Council put a road levy on the November ballot. He asked this be an agenda item for
36 consideration next month.

37
38 Council Member Huber stated he does support a referendum but won't do that until there is a revised
39 road policy and then will explore funding sources. He stated the City needs good road information
40 and the Road Commissioner is working on that. He noted there is no City election this year.

41
42 **STAFF REPORTS**

43
44 **City Engineer, Phil Olson**

1 **Jocelyn Lane Special Project** – City Engineer Olson advised the west side of the roadway near 7130
2 Jocelyn Lane has settled from what appears to be an issue with the catch basin or storm sewer. This
3 section of road has two separate storm sewer crossings, one that is only a few feet deep and is
4 connected to the catch basin and a second for the creek is over ten feet deep.

5
6 Based on an initial inspection of the area, it appears that the problem is due to weathering in the catch
7 basin and a possible settlement of the shallow storm sewer pipe. Another possibility is that the deeper
8 pipe could be damaged and could be the source of the roadway settlement. Additional investigation is
9 recommended to verify that the deeper pipe is still in adequate condition prior to completing any
10 surface repairs. Inspection of the deeper pipe is difficult now due to the recent rain but it can likely
11 occur later this summer.

12
13 The cost to repair this issue is not known at this time until additional investigation is completed on
14 the deeper storm sewer crossing. Pictures of the roadway settlement were included in the packets.

15
16 Council Member Bohnen advised that on the west side of the culvert you can hear rushing water but
17 the other side is quiet. The real problem is the sink hole, which is the tip of the iceberg. Repairs
18 have to wait until the water slows down and it keeps sinking even when filled with dirt. The culvert
19 has been compromised for quite some time. The repairs on this could be up to \$32,000. If the City
20 moves forward, a funding source has to be determined. He noted he has talked to neighbors out there
21 and they know the area has to be torn up but it is mainly in the right of way.

22
23 City Treasurer Schwarze advised that the City is at more than 70% reserves so far this year.

24
25 Council Member Bohnen stated there is approximately \$14,700 in the special projects fund.

26
27 Mayor Carr stated he is fine using reserves for this along with what the City has in the special projects
28 fund. This is an emergency situation that has to be taken care of.

29
30 Council Member Huber disagreed stating the special project on Justen is moving forward and that
31 will save dollars in the long run. This type of project needs to be done and reserves should be used.

32
33 Council Member Lobin stated she is in agreement about the project.

34
35 City Engineer Olson advised he has meeting scheduled for Justen Trail. The utilities need to be
36 located and a timeline will be discussed for relocation. The goal is to get that project done in the fall.

37
38 **Mayor Carr moved to move forward with the Jocelyn Lane Special Project taking the necessary**
39 **funds out of reserves and continue with the Justen Trail project. Council Member Lobin**
40 **seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.**

41
42 **City Planner, Jennifer Haskamp – No action items.**

43
44 **City Attorney, Nick Vivian - No action items.**

45

1 **NEW BUSINESS**

2
3 **Washington County Water Pilot Program, Administrator/Clerk** – Information regarding the
4 Washington County Water Pilot Program was included in the Council packets.

5
6 It was the consensus of the Council that the City of Grant will participate in the program.

7
8 **Road Counts, Council Member Huber** – Council Member Huber stated the City is getting more
9 road information so a potential road plan can be better funded. He inquired how far the City is in
10 completing the road counts.

11
12 Council Member Bohnen referred to a map with fresh road counts. They are currently focusing on the
13 asphalt roads. He provided the background of road counts within the City noting weight and speed
14 can also be tracked. The average over a three day span is documented as the road count.

15
16 Council Member Huber stated all the information is being gathered and asked when the Road
17 Commissioner sees having all the information to move forward to begin discussion on a revised road
18 policy.

19
20 Council Member Bohnen stated there are a lot of variables with all the information. More of a traffic
21 study could be done if they section off areas.

22
23 Council Member Huber clarified there is no percentage of how much of the road counts are done. He
24 stated the City does have road counts in 2012, specifically for Goodview Avenue prior to paving. He
25 inquired about a recent count on Goodview after the paving. He noted he has an issue with road
26 counts on Goodview being done on a Memorial Day holiday.

27
28 Council Member Bohnen stated testing was done on a holiday. There has been some failure with the
29 counter tubes.

30
31 Council Member Huber stated he would like to see another count done on Goodview. Accuracy of
32 these road counts will determine how the City moves forward with a revised road policy. He
33 requested the Council be updated on the counts and he would like to see a comprehensive road plan in
34 place before his term is over. He asked about road counts and how the Hilton closure is affecting the
35 City's road counts.

36
37 Council Member Bohnen stated the road counters will be placed out in that area when Hilton is
38 closed.

39
40 Council Member Huber asked if the City can use the counters to leverage the County and State to
41 help with road maintenance as a result of impacts from the Hilton closure on City road networks. He
42 stated he would like to see road counts on every Council agenda.

43
44 City Engineer Olson advised if extra road repairs are required, due to the road construction, the City
45 can approach the County for reimbursement.

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UNFINISHED BUSINESS

City Website Update, Mayor Carr – There were no issues raised with the website.

Charter Commission use of Town Hall, Council Member Bohnen – This item was removed upon approval of the agenda.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

City Council Reports:

Mayor Carr stated there is a vacancy within the City Council. He suggested some Council name potential candidates for the vacancy this evening. Council Members can contact them individually. He stated Mr. Dan Potter volunteered that he would be fine with Mr. Potter. Mr. Dave Tronrud has also expressed interest.

Council Member Huber stated he also heard from Mr. Potter and they had an informative discussion. He stated he is going to talk to Mr. Tronrud also.

Council Member Bohnen stated he would welcome Mr. Potter back and Mr. Dennis Kaup has also expressed interest. He stated he would highly recommend both of them.

Council Member Lobin advised she spoke to Mr. Potter also and would be comfortable with him on the Council. It is important to have someone that will help with the roads. She also spoke with Mr. Kaup.

Mayor Carr stated everyone should talk to those interested and the appointment will be made in August at the beginning of the meeting.

Council Member Huber stated the dry hydrant was hit again and he will be working with the dive team on repairs.

Council Member Bohnen stated the recent storm that went through the City resulted in trees going down over roads. Some of those trees were on power lines and everyone needs to be aware that the downed trees cannot be removed until Xcel deals with the power lines. The City is currently \$10,000 over budget on pot holing and any work done in the fall will result in even more over budget. He noted he will have an update on City brushing at the next meeting. The dust control was put down last week and will also be done two days in July. He stated he was able to accommodate all requests for the City cost share program.

Council Member Lobin stated she would like to put together an emergency crew within the City.

Mayor Carr stated Mr. Lanoux went off topic during public comment and cursed at a Council Member. He stated the Council has indicated he has the right to call on people or not.

1
2 City Attorney Vivian advised the Mayor does have to ensure meetings run smoothly and the City can
3 conduct its business. The Council does determine how public comment operates.

4
5 Mayor Carr advised that based on the comments tonight, he does not want to see Mr. Lanoux speak
6 anymore. The City Council does not need to tolerate belligerent behavior. He stated he does not
7 know how to stop it other than not allow him to speak at all.

8
9 **2013 City Council Goals** – Council Member Bohnen advised he did look into this and had a brief
10 discussion with the City Planner.

11
12 Administrator/Clerk Points stated it appears groomsman quarters could be added to the City’s land
13 use as an allowed use. There are two chapters within the City’s code that would have to be reviewed
14 for conflicting language. There are many questions that would have to be answered as far as the
15 allowed use staff should look into any conflicting language within the current City Code.

16
17 Council Member Bohnen stated it would be prudent for the City Planner to look into any potential
18 conflicts within the City Code and bring that back to the August meeting.

19
20 Mayor Carr stated he still has too many questions and the policy should be figured out before any
21 work is done on this by staff and the City spends any money.

22
23 Council Member Huber stated he has no problem with looking at the benefits/impact of the allowed
24 use. The City Planner is well qualified to provide the Council with the impacts of the change and
25 conflicting language within the Code. He stated he thinks it would be prudent to have the City
26 Planner do some preliminary work on the potential change.

27
28 Mayor Carr stated he would like a ball park figure as to how many commercial businesses that this
29 would affect. He stated he would help Council Member Bohnen with that. He would also like the
30 breakdown of residential stables and number of horses they have on site. He will come back with that
31 information at the August meeting and a discussion will be held.

32
33 **Staff Reports** – Staff updates were included in the Council packets.

34
35 **COMMUNITY CALENDAR JULY 3 THROUGH JULY 31, 2013:**

36
37 **Mahtomedi Public Schools Board Meeting, Thursday, July 11, 2013, Mahtomedi District**
38 **Education Center, 7:00 p.m.**

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

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

42
43 **ADJOURN**

1 **There being no further business, Council Member Huber moved to adjourn at 8:35 p.m.**
2 **Council Member Bohnen seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.**

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5 These minutes were considered and approved at the regular Council Meeting August 6, 2013.

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Kim Points, Administrator/Clerk

Tom Carr, Mayor

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APPROVED