

CITY OF GRANT  
MINUTES

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**DATE** : June 4, 2013  
**TIME STARTED** : 7:00 p.m.  
**TIME ENDED** : 9:20 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; City Planner, Jennifer Haskamp; and Administrator/Clerk, Kim Points

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Carr called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**SETTING THE AGENDA**

**Council Member Fogelson moved to approve the agenda, as amended. Council Member Bohnen seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.**

**CONSENT AGENDA**

May 2, 2013 City Council Meeting Minutes	Approved
Bill List, \$66,547.60	Approved
Brochman Blacktopping, Pothole Repair, \$41,487.00	Approved
Washington County, Snow Removal, \$9,006.77	Approved

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

**PUBLIC INPUT**

**When Will Planning Commission Be Reappointed, Loren Sederstrom** – Mr. Loren Sederstrom came forward and inquired when the Planning Commission would be reinstated and also formally requested he be appointed to the City Council.

1 **Road Referendum on Ballot, Bob Engelhart** – Mr. Wally Anderson came forward on behalf of Mr.  
2 Engelhart and read a letter relating to a road referendum and requested a progress report on that issue.

3  
4 Council Member Huber advised he is willing to write a road referendum when 1) a road policy has  
5 been established; 2) a plan is developed; and 3) funding is determined for that plan. He added that  
6 accurate road information is needed and the Road Commissioner is working on that.

7  
8 Council Member Bohnen added he does not support a road referendum at this time. The current road  
9 maintenance policy needs to be tweaked and once that is in place funding can be identified.

10  
11 **GRP Tractor Parade, Larry Lanoux** – Mr. Larry Lanoux came forward and provided information  
12 regarding the annual GRP tractor parade noting it is the second Saturday in September. The theme is  
13 the Civil War and he encouraged everyone to participate.

14  
15 **Public Agenda Item Request Process, John Smith** – Mr. John Smith came forward and requested  
16 the Council reconsider its position on the public agenda item request process stating he has a problem  
17 with the control of content.

## 18 19 STAFF REPORTS

### 20 21 **City Engineer, Phil Olson**

22  
23 **Seal Coat/Roadway Maintenance Plan** – City Engineer Olson stated the revised Seal Coat/Roadway  
24 maintenance plan included in the packet is an updated version of the plan developed in 2008. That  
25 plan has been utilized as a guideline for planning seal coat projects. He reviewed the updated listing  
26 of the roadways scheduled for patching and seal coat through 2016. Roadways scheduled beyond  
27 2016 are shown as being scheduled for a seal coat but should be reviewed again prior to completing  
28 work.

29  
30 Council Member Huber referred to the costs associated with 79<sup>th</sup> Street and stated the City needs to  
31 get a funding mechanism for roads in place as well as a revised road policy.

32  
33 Council Member Bohnen stated there is \$20,000 in the special road projects fund. Approximately  
34 \$4,200 of that has been spent on the 69<sup>th</sup> Street apron. He asked if there is enough time for a letter to  
35 go out to the Irish Avenue neighborhood to get a road project going.

36  
37 City Engineer Olson advised that timeline would be very tight. There are quotes for the special area  
38 there on Irish but the whole road is up for an overlay.

39  
40 Council Member Huber asked if the special area was done this year and they want to overly next year  
41 would the City lose out on the work done this year.

42  
43 City Engineer Olson advised the work would be not be lost as they would just go up to that point. He  
44 recommended a letter be sent to the 79<sup>th</sup> and Leeward area.

45

1 Council Member Bohnen stated everyone in the Irish Avenue area would benefit from the special  
2 project being done. That section of the roadway has to be repaired.

3  
4 Mayor carr stated it should be clear in the letter going out that the City cannot carry over funds from  
5 year to year.

6  
7 **Motion by Council Member Fogelson to approve the Seal Coat /Roadway Plan, as presented.**  
8 **Council Member Lobin seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.**

9  
10 **Irish Avenue Drainage Repair** – City Engineer Olson advised quotes and plans were requested for  
11 the repair of pavement and drainage on Irish Avenue, near the driveway of 11645 Irish Avenue. This  
12 area of Irish Avenue has been an ongoing maintenance issue and was identified during the road tour  
13 as a potential project area for 2013. Contractors were asked to provide a plan and cost based on some  
14 standard design parameters that were provided. The email requesting quotes and plans from  
15 contractors is attached.

16  
17 Quotes and plans were requested from Brochman Blacktopping Co., Schifsky and Sons, Miller  
18 Excavating, and the Klein Brothers. Two submittals were received and the costs are listed below.  
19 The complete submittals, including plan sketches, are attached for Council review.

20		
21	Brochman Blacktopping Co.....	\$26,270
22	Schifsky and Sons.....	\$28,800
23		

24 No quotes were received from Miller Excavating and the Klein Brothers. Additionally, Carl Bolander  
25 and Sons Co. was contacted about this project but they did not feel they could provide a competitive  
26 quote based on the amount of paving.

27  
28 Submittals from both contractors appear to meet the basic scope and intent of the project. Brochman  
29 Blacktopping Co. appeared to provide more information regarding the drainage issues and also had a  
30 lower bid.

31  
32 Council Member Huber inquired about the draining and the curbing that would be removed in that  
33 area.

34  
35 City Engineer Olson advised there is no change in the drainage and removal of both sides of the curb  
36 would be done to get the water off the road.

37  
38 **Council Member Bohnen moved to accept the Brochman Quote for Irish Avenue, as presented.**  
39 **Council Member Fogelson seconded the motion.**

40  
41 Council Member Huber stated there is \$15,800 left in the special road projects and asked where the  
42 other \$10,000 would come from.

43  
44 Council Member Bohnen stated if the additional funds are used from the seal coat fund, there would  
45 still be funds available for other special projects.

1  
2 Council Member Huber stated he would like to see a minimal amount taken out of the special project  
3 funds and use the funds designated for Irish Avenue seal coating.  
4

5 It was the consensus of the Council that the funds would come from Irish Avenue seal coat fund and a  
6 letter not sent to the Irish Avenue neighborhood.  
7

8 **Motion carried unanimously.**  
9

10 **City Planner, Jennifer Haskamp** – City Planner Haskamp advised she received an application from  
11 Mr. Lovas this evening. It is likely the application will be on the July meeting agenda for  
12 consideration.  
13

14 **City Attorney, Nick Vivian**  
15

16 **Harmony Horse Farm** – City Attorney Vivian provided an update regarding the Harmony Horse  
17 Farm enforcement issue.  
18

19 Council Member Bohnen advised he would like to move forward with the Groomsman Quarters  
20 ordinance at the July City Council meeting.  
21

22 It was the consensus of the Council for Council Member Bohnen to work with the City Planner on the  
23 ordinance revision for discussion at the July Council meeting.  
24

25 **Charter Commission Update** – City Attorney Vivian provided an update on the Charter  
26 Commission noting they are a group that is established by the legislature. They are associated with  
27 the City but are separate. They have certain rights that are spelled out by state statute. The role of the  
28 Commission is very narrow and they are subject to open meeting laws, data practices, etc. There have  
29 been questions about staff working in conjunction with the Commission. Chapter 410 spells that out  
30 very clearly. The only connection is the City has the obligation to reimburse costs up to \$1,500. He  
31 stated he is unclear if the City is obligated to hold a special election to vote on the Charter. He  
32 believes that the Charter and the City can work together in the most cost effective manner. Statute  
33 indicates expenses are submitted to the City for approval. There is no authority of the Commission to  
34 utilize staff time. They do their own meeting minutes, posting, etc. A request to the City Council  
35 should be submitted to utilize and City staff time. The Commission is not a City committee. He  
36 stated he doesn't think the City would loan the video tech or the video equipment to a third party.  
37

38 Mr. Jim Dorsey, 10575 Hadley, came forward and agrees with the City Attorney but noted the Charter  
39 Commission did come into existence due to a petition of the City. He requested the City Attorney  
40 attend the Commission's first meeting.  
41

42 City Attorney Vivian stated the Court does not have discretion when a petition or a resolution from  
43 the City comes forward. The Judge is required to appoint.  
44

1 Council Member Fogelson stated he thinks the City should honor the request and have the City  
2 Attorney present at the first meeting.

3  
4 Mayor Carr stated he doesn't think the City Attorney can help the Charter Commission and at some  
5 point the Commission is going to have to hire an attorney.

6  
7 **NEW BUSINESS**

8  
9 **Accept 2012 Audit, Sharon Schwarze** – City Treasurer Schwarze advised the draft audit was  
10 included in the Council packets. There were a few minor changes to the audit.

11  
12 **Motion by Mayor Carr to accept the 2012 Audit, as presented. Council Member Fogelson**  
13 **seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.**

14  
15 City Treasurer Schwarze stated the audit did note a couple of accounting practises that will be  
16 improved upon internally to the City.

17  
18 Council Member Huber stated he was interviewed by the auditors and they spoke very highly and  
19 were impressed with City Treasurer Schwarze and Administrator/Clerk.

20  
21 City Treasurer Schwarze advised back taxes will be collected this year.

22  
23 **Schedule 2014 Budget Meeting, Sharon Schwarze** – City Treasurer Schwarze requested a 2014  
24 budget work session be scheduled. She noted the will be levy limits in 2014 and as well as a  
25 reduction in sales tax.

26  
27 A 2014 Budget Work Session was scheduled on August 6, 2013, 6:00 p.m. at Town Hall.

28  
29 **Request for use of Town Hall for Charter Commission, Admininstrator/Clerk** –

30 Administrator/Clerk Points advised a request for use of Town Hall for Charter Commission meetings  
31 was submitted to the City,.

32  
33 Mayor Carr stated he thought the Commission meetings could be held at the Church. The Church  
34 does want to accommodate the meetings and they have the space, heat and restrooms. It is available  
35 on the first Monday of every month at 7:00 p.m. The Charter Commission meetings should be held  
36 seperately from the City and should have meetings at the Church.

37  
38 Council Member Bohnen stated the benefit of having those meetings at Town Hall is the video  
39 equipment is available as well as a video technician. The public that may attend the meetings are  
40 more familiar with having meetings at Town Hall. The Church may not be available long term.

41  
42 City Attorney Vivian stated the only requirement relating to meetings is that they are public. The City  
43 Council has to make a policy decision as to whether or not they are held at Town Hall.

44

1 Council Member Huber stated the Charter Commission is a separate body from the City Council.  
2 They need to be as independent as possible. Citizens of Grant vote at the Church so they know where  
3 it is. He stated he would like complete independence from the City as they were formed to draft a  
4 guiding document for the City.  
5

6 Council Member Fogelson stated the Commisison was created to draft a document for the City of  
7 Grant. Town Hall is the only place owned by the City. All citizens know where it is. It is an  
8 independnt body and they should decide where they want to meet and the City should make Town  
9 Hall available to them.  
10

11 Council Member Lobin stated she does not understand why this is such an issue. She would rather  
12 see them get organized and it doesn't make sense that they don't want to meet at the Church.  
13

14 It was the consensus of the Council that the Charter Commisison meetings would not be held at Town  
15 Hall.  
16

17 **Resolution No. 2013-15, Accepting Letter of Resignation from Council Member Fogelson –**  
18 Council Member Fogelson thanked the citizens of Grant as well as his fellow Council Members. He  
19 stated it was a true honor to serve. He requested the current Council listen to each other, especially  
20 when in disagreement.  
21

22 Mayor Carr presented Council Member Fogelson with a plaque and thanked him for his years of  
23 service.  
24

25 Council Member Huber noted he and Council Member Fogelson gracefully tranferred things over  
26 when reappointments were made within the Council. He stated Council Member Fogelson was  
27 always prepared and did not create or want any chaos and for that he admires Council Member  
28 Fogelson.  
29

30 Council Member Bohnen stated it was a pleasure to run and serve with Council Member Fogelson.  
31 He always had a positive attitude and he admires that. He thanked Council Member Fogelson for his  
32 work and years of service.  
33

34 **Council Member Huber moved to adopt Resolution No. 2013-15, as presented. Council**  
35 **Member Bohnen seconded the motion. Motion carried with Council Member Fogelson**  
36 **abstaining.**  
37

38 **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**  
39

40 **City Website Update, Mayor Carr** – There were no issues raised with the website.  
41

42 **Emergency Sirens, Council Member Lobin** – Council Member Lobin advised that due to incorrect  
43 information from Xcel, the siren mapping was incorrect and the quotes were incomplete.  
44

1 **Council Member Lobin moved to rescind the motion approving purchase of two used sirens.**  
2 **Council Member Fogelson seconded the motion.**

3  
4 Council Member Huber inquired about the incorrect information from Xcel.

5  
6 City Engineer Olson advised the information obtained from Xcel was incomplete and information  
7 requested was not received.

8  
9 Council Member Huber clarified that the City never got good information from Xcel to move forward  
10 with the locating of the two previously approved sirens.

11  
12 **Motion carried unanimously.**

13  
14 **Council Member Lobin moved to authorize purchase of one batter operated siren and direct**  
15 **staff to determine the best site for location. Council Member Bohnen seconded the motion.**

16 **Motion carried unanimously.**

17  
18 **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

19  
20 **City Council Reports:**

21  
22 Council Member Huber advised he was working with the Mahtomedi Fire Department as the dry  
23 hydrant was once again vandalized.

24  
25 Council Member Bohnen advised the apron on 69<sup>th</sup> Street will be worked on in the next couple of  
26 weeks. He stated he has also identified the need for a dead end sign on Ideal for when Hilton Trail is  
27 closed.

28  
29 Mayor Carr stated there is going to be a vacancy on the Council after the meeting this evening. He  
30 stated the Council will need to fill the spot and he thinks all Council Members should be able to think  
31 of a few people to fill the vacancy. He requested all Council Members come back to the next meeting  
32 with names. He suggested the vacancy be filled at the August meeting.

33  
34 Council Member Huber stated he won't be formally interviewing anyone. He will talk to a few  
35 people and get a feel for them on his own.

36  
37 City Attorney Vivian advised the Council has the decision making authority to determine what  
38 process is utilized to appoint. There is no prescribed method or timeline to fill the vacancy.

39  
40 **2013 City Council Goals** – There was no discussion regarding this item.

41  
42 **Staff Reports** – Staff update were included in the Council packets.

43  
44 **COMMUNITY CALENDAR JUNE 5 THROUGH THROUGH JUNE 30, 2013:**

1 **Mahtomedi Public Schools Board Meeting, Thursday, June 13, 2013, Mahtomedi District**  
2 **Education Center, 7:00 p.m.**

3 **Stillwater Public Schools Board Meeting, Thursday, June 13 and 27<sup>th</sup>, 2013, Stillwater City**  
4 **Hall, 7:00 p.m.**

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

6  
7

8 **ADJOURN**

9

10 **There being no further business, Council Member Fogelson moved to adjourn at 9:20 p.m.**  
11 **Council Member Lobin seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.**

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

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19 \_\_\_\_\_  
Kim Points, Administrator/Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_ Tom Carr, Mayor

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