

CITY OF GRANT  
MINUTES

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**DATE** : March 4, 2014  
**TIME STARTED** : 7:00 p.m.  
**TIME ENDED** : 7:55 p.m.  
**MEMBERS PRESENT** : Councilmember Bohnen, Tronrud (7:42 pm)  
Huber, Lobin and Mayor Carr  
**MEMBERS ABSENT** : None

Staff members present: City Attorney, Nick Vivian; City Planner, Jennifer Haskamp; City Engineer, Phil Olson; City Treasurer, Sharon Schwarze; 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 Bohnen moved to approve the agenda, as presented. Council Member Lobin seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.**

**CONSENT AGENDA**

February 3, 2014 City Council Meeting Minutes	Approved
Bill List, \$39,479.31	Approved
David’s Consulting, 2014 Proposed Price Revisions	Approved
KEJ Enterprises, Snow Removal, \$18,562.50	Approved
Federal Signal Corporation, Purchase Order For Siren, \$12,060.00	Approved

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

**STAFF AGENDA ITEMS**

**City Engineer, Phil Olson**

1 **Renewal of Grading Contract, Kline Bros.** – City Engineer Olson advised a revised gravel roadway  
2 maintenance contract is attached for Council consideration. This contract will extend the existing  
3 gravel roadway maintenance contract with Kline Brothers Excavating through 2016. The current  
4 gravel roadway maintenance contract is scheduled to expire on December 31, 2014.

5  
6 City Engineer Olson stated no pricing changes are proposed for 2014. Grader pricing for 2015 and  
7 2016 is proposed to increase to \$80.00/hour.

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9 **Council Member Bohnen moved to approve the Grading Contract, as presented. Council**  
10 **Member Huber seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.**

11  
12 **Resolution No. 2014-07, Snow Plowing Policy** – City Engineer Olson advised the purpose of a snow  
13 plow policy is to define and outline the City's snow and ice control objectives. Snow and ice control  
14 is necessary for routine travel and emergency services. The goal is to provide snow and ice control in  
15 a safe and cost-effective manner, keeping in mind safety, budget, personal, and environmental  
16 concerns.

17  
18 City Engineer Olson stated a snow policy was last discussed by the City Council in December, 2011.  
19 At that time, the policy was not revised but Council agreed that snow plowing could begin at 2 inches  
20 and that priority routes would be removed from the plowing map. He reviewed the snow policy  
21 included in the packet for Council discussion.

22  
23 Mayor Carr noted that not being allowed to push snow in the roadways is per state statute and not a  
24 City rule. He stated the City has never had an official snow policy before.

25  
26 Council Member Bohnen stated that part of the reason for the policy is to make sure everyone is  
27 aware of the City's snow removal practise and be clear about what is expected from the plowing  
28 contractors. He stated he has had people frustrated with how the City handles snow plowing.

29  
30 Mr. Hershel Weisberg, 10725 Kimbro, came forward and stated he previously wrote a letter to the  
31 City Council regarding his plowing concerns. He stated school busses are getting stuck and he is very  
32 concerned that in the last couple of years roads are not be cleared in a timely manner.

33  
34 Council Member Bohnen stated the budget for snowplowing last year was \$100,000 and \$116,000  
35 was spent. The Contractors are doing what the City is asking of them. Per the budget, the City  
36 cannot afford to clear all roads twice. It takes about nine hours for the entire plowing route. There  
37 are 78 cul-de-sacs which take a large amount of plowing time. Unless the City commits more funding  
38 the plowing situation will not change.

39  
40 Council Member Huber raised the question of the contractor even investing more in equipment with  
41 the City's limited budget. He stated it seems as though timing may be an issue.

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43 **Council Member Bohnen moved to adopt Resolution No. 2014-07, as presented. Council**  
44 **Member Lobin seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.**

1 **Renewal of Snow Plowing Contract, KEJ Enterprises** – City Engineer Olson advised a snow  
2 removal contract extension with KEJ Enterprises is attached for Council consideration. This contract  
3 will extend the existing snow plow contract through April, 2017. The current snow plowing contract  
4 is scheduled to expire in April, 2014. He reviewed the proposed new pricing for the extended  
5 contract.

6  
7 Council Member Bohnen advised KEJ does utilize some of the other City contractors for snow  
8 removal when necessary. Those contractors bill the City directly. He stated he would like the City to  
9 continue using KEJ for snow plowing services.

10  
11 **Council Member Bohnen moved to approve the Snow Plowing Contract, as presented. Council**  
12 **Member Huber seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.**

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14 **City Planner, Jennifer Haskamp – No action items.**

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16 **City Attorney, Nick Vivian**

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18 **Minnesota Department of Revenue License Revocation Request** – City Attorney Vivian advised  
19 the City received a notice from the Minnesota Department of Revenue that the City must revoke the  
20 Windy Acres Saloon & Eatery liquor license, due to the nonpayment of taxes.

21  
22 City Attorney Vivian advised the following should be determined before the City acts to revoke the  
23 Applicant's liquor license: 1) whether the applicant failed to request a contested case hearing within  
24 30 days of receipt of the Department's intent to revoke the applicant's liquor license; and 2) the  
25 Department's stated deadline for City revocation of the liquor license. A special meeting of the City  
26 Council may need to be called later in March if the City's 30-day timeline to revoke is about to  
27 expire. Staff will work with the Administrator/Clerk and Department of Revenue to process this  
28 matter.

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30 **NEW BUSINESS**

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32 **GRP Scholarship Application on City Website, Mayor Carr** – Mayor Carr advised the City  
33 received a request to post information regarding a private scholarship opportunity on the City website.

34  
35 City Attorney Vivian stated it is not appropriate to post this on the City website. The City should not  
36 be in the business of posting private scholarships. He recommended the Council deny the request and  
37 also have a blanket policy to not advertise on the City website.

38  
39 Council Member Bohnen stated the Council had previously discussed the option of having a local  
40 bulletin board on the City website for these type of things as well as garage sales, local community  
41 information, etc. He asked if that would be a possibility for the scholarship information.

42  
43 Mayor Carr stated the Council did talk about that but chose not to have a community bulletin board.  
44

1 Council Member Huber added it is not appropriate to use tax dollars and resources to advertise  
2 businesses on the City website.

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4 **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

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6 There was no unfinished business.

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8 **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

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10 **City Council Reports:**

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12 Council Member Bohnen stated at the last Charter Commission meeting there was frustration over not  
13 having public comment at the City Council meetings. One of the speakers at the Charter Commission  
14 meeting was frustrated and did not get answers regarding the School District. He stated he put him in  
15 touch with the Administrator/Clerk about adding his issue to the agenda. It is not on this agenda but  
16 he may want the issue added to the agenda for a future meeting.

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18 City Attorney Vivian stated the City does have public comment at City Council meetings. The public  
19 does have the opportunity to talk to the City Council.

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21 Council Member Tronrud arrived at 7:42 p.m.

22

23 Council Member Huber added that notes are being taken during public comment and his email box is  
24 still empty. He expressed frustration that citizens do not call him or email him. He stated he will  
25 address concerns raised by residents.

26

27 Mayor Carr stated the City still has people abusing public comment. He stated he wants to hear  
28 citizen comments but he will not sit and listen to personal attacks. He asked that all citizens please not  
29 abuse the privilege of speaking during public comment.

30

31 Council Member Huber requested articles for the next newsletter which Council Member Tronrud  
32 will be putting together. All articles should be submitted prior to the April Council meeting.

33

34 Council Member Bohnen advised an email was sent out reminding all Planning Commissioners to  
35 turn in their zoning books. A member of the previous Planning Commission has stated they do not  
36 need to turn their books in until new members are appointed so they are holding their books in  
37 protest. He suggested the City have a return agreement for all City property.

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39 **Staff Updates:**

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41 There were no staff updates.

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43 **COMMUNITY CALENDAR MARCH 5 THROUGH MARCH 31, 2014:**

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44 **Mahtomedi Public Schools Board Meeting, Thursday, March 13, 2014, Mahtomedi District  
45 Education Center, 7:00 p.m.**

1 Stillwater Public Schools Board Meeting, Thursday, March 13<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> , 2014, Stillwater City  
2 Hall, 7:00 p.m.

3 Charter Commission Meeting, Thursday, March 20<sup>th</sup> , 2014, Mahtomedi City Hall, 7:00 p.m.

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

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6 **ADJOURN**

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8 **There being no further business, Council Member Bohnen moved to adjourn at 7:55 p.m.**  
9 **Council Member Huber seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.**

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11 The City Council adjourned to a work session to take public comment. No action was taken.  
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17 These minutes were considered and approved at the regular Council Meeting April 1, 2014.  
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21 \_\_\_\_\_  
22 Kim Points, Administrator/Clerk

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Tom Carr, Mayor