

CITY OF GRANT  
MINUTES

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**DATE** : **October 2, 2007**  
**TIME STARTED** : **7:00 p.m.**  
**TIME ENDED** : **9:20 p.m.**  
**MEMBERS PRESENT** : **Councilmember Fogelson, Hinseth, Linner, Levitz and Mayor Carr**  
**MEMBERS ABSENT** : **None**

Staff members present: City Attorney, Nick Vivian; City Engineer, Diane Hankee; City Planner, Sherri Buss; and City 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 Linner moved to approve the agenda as presented. Council Member Levitz seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.**

**CONSENT AGENDA**

The September 4, 2007, City Council Meeting Minutes and September Bill List were removed from the consent agenda.

September 12, Special City Council Meeting Minutes	Approved
Joe & Julie Speltz, Escrow Refund (\$1,829.50)	Approved
Fuhr Trenching, 2007 Culvert Replacement, (\$4,695.95)	Approved

**Council Member Levitz moved to approve the Consent Agenda, as amended. Council Member Hinseth seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.**

September 4, 2007, City Council Meeting Minutes – Page 5, line 29, was corrected to read “Road Commissioner Hinseth requested residents help out with brush removal, mowing and clearing if the brush is within 4 horizontal feet and 15 vertical feet of the edge of the road”.

1 **Council Member Linner moved to approve the September 4, 2007, City Council Meeting**  
2 **Minutes, as amended. Council Member Fogelson seconded the motion. Motion carried**  
3 **unanimously.**

4  
5 September 2007 Bill List (\$41,236.01)

6  
7 Council Member Linner questioned the Logger's Trail expenses from the City Attorney. She  
8 indicated that City did not initiate the revision of the CUP so Mr. Pohl should be required to submit  
9 additional escrow dollars.

10  
11 City Attorney Vivian advised he would look into the expenses related to the Logger's Trail CUP.

12  
13 Council Member Linner noted some account line item corrections for three bills which were charged  
14 to the wrong account number. She also requested updated escrow account information from the  
15 Treasurer..

16  
17 Council Member Hinseth noted one of the fees for Joe's Tree Service should be noted as Road Safety  
18 Fund.

19  
20 **Council Member Hinseth moved to approve the September 2007 Bill List, as presented.**  
21 **Council Member Fogelson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.**

22  
23 **PUBLIC COMMENT**

24  
25 There was no public comment.

26  
27 **EAGLE SCOUT TOWN HALL PROJECT**

28  
29 Mr. Jon Comb, Eagle Scout, came forward and presented a plan for a project at Town Hall relating to  
30 a path and construction of bat houses. He requested the City purchase the materials for the project in  
31 the amount of \$1,200.00

32  
33 Mayor Carr noted the location of the bat houses is important due to various function at Town Hall.

34  
35 Council Member Fogelson suggested the project be funded with the funds that will be left over from  
36 the Town Hall Maintenance Fund.

37  
38 **Council Member Levitz moved to approve the plan for the bat houses and path, as presented.**  
39 **Council Member Linner seconded the motion.**

40  
41 Mayor Carr made a friendly amendment to include that the City Treasurer verifies the City does have  
42 funds left over in the Town Hall Maintenance Fund. Council Member Levitz and Council Member  
43 Linner agreed to the amendment.

44  
45 **Motion carried unanimously.**

46

**STAFF REPORTS**

1  
2  
3 **September 2007, City of Grant Police Report, Deputy Breana Fry** - The September 2007 Police  
4 Report was provided to be placed on file for review at City Hall.

5  
6 **City Engineer, Diane Hankee** – City Engineer Hankee indicated her report for September 2007 was  
7 provided to be placed on file for review.

8  
9 **2007-2008 Snow Plowing** – City Engineer Hankee a meeting was held with Miller’s and the Road  
10 Commissioner to negotiate the proposed price for snowplowing. After negotiation, the proposed fee  
11 went from \$145,000 to \$138,000. The mobilization fee will be \$950.00 per month. She  
12 recommended the City redo the bids for services on plowing and grading next year.

13  
14 **Council Member Hinseth moved to approve the Miller’s snowplowing proposal, as amended.**  
15 **Council Member Levitz seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.**

16  
17 **Jasmine Avenue Feasibility Study** – City Engineer Hankee advised a valid petition has been  
18 received per MN statute 429 and the City’s Assessment policy. She outlined the process and fees  
19 associated as they relate to a feasibility report for proposed improvements to Jasmine Avenue. The  
20 estimated fee for all services is approximately \$4,500.

21  
22 Mayor Carr clarified that the feasibility study is paid for by the City unless the project does move  
23 forward. He also noted the project could still be completed without the required 75% of residents in  
24 favor of the project.

25  
26 Council Member Hinseth suggested the City schedule a neighborhood meeting with residents, City  
27 Engineer and Road Commissioner to discuss assessments, costs and other information. After that  
28 meeting the City could determine if a feasibility study should be done.

29  
30 Mr. Robert Tuft came forward and expressed a lot of appreciation for the Road Commissioner and  
31 the City Engineer for their help relating to this project. He stated it is perfectly understandable to  
32 wait for ordering the feasibility study until after the neighborhood meeting.

33  
34 **Council Member Linner moved to direct staff to schedule a neighborhood meeting to obtain**  
35 **input from residents noting the City Council would be invited. Council Member Hinseth**  
36 **seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.**

37  
38 **City Planner, Sherri Buss** – A report was provided in the Council packet for September 2007 City  
39 planning activities, to be placed on file for review.

40  
41 **Grogan Variance Application** – City Planner Buss advised the application has been tabled until the  
42 next Planning Commission meeting due to a Brown’s Creek issue.

43  
44 City Planner Buss referred to the house numbering system and advised a recommendation would be  
45 coming forward at the November meeting. The Council indicated they are interested in the

1 Metropolitan Council system for house numbering and wondered if their system is the same as the  
2 system used by the County.

3  
4 City Planner Buss noted the resolutions to adopt the Watershed District Plan would be coming  
5 forward at the November meeting also.

6  
7 **City Attorney, Nick Vivian** – City Attorney Vivian provided a report for September 2007 to be  
8 placed on file for review. He also provided the Council with an update regarding the Sanderson  
9 zoning issue recommending the City go back to court to enforce the City's current ordinance.

10  
11 **Mayor Carr moved to authorize legal action relating to the Sanderson Zoning Issue. Council**  
12 **Member Linner seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.**

13  
14 City Attorney Vivian also provided an update on other zoning issues within the City noting for the  
15 most part they have been settled. A recommendation regarding the Ritt variance will be coming  
16 forward at a future meeting.

17  
18 **Property Maintenance Ordinance** – City Attorney Vivian recommended the City develop a  
19 property maintenance ordinance and indicated he would provide a draft ordinance for Council  
20 review.

21  
22 The Council determined Council Member Linner would review current ordinances dealing with  
23 property maintenance and/or develop draft property maintenance for review at the November City  
24 Council meeting.

25  
26 **Building Inspector, Jack Kramer** – A report from Building Inspector Kramer was provided for  
27 September 2007 to be placed on file for review.

28  
29 City Engineer Hankee noted the property owner at 6782 Jocelyn Ave. North did submit a permit  
30 application and the red tag has been removed.

31  
32 **OLD BUSINESS**

33  
34 **Oakleigh Dock Association** – Council Member Fogelson provided the background regarding this  
35 issue noting there are encroachment issues from both neighbors adjacent to the City property. He  
36 advised he is working with the Oakleigh Dock Association in terms of developing a lease and would  
37 be contacting the individual property owners that are encroaching on City property.

38  
39 **Council Member Hinseth moved to authorize WSB to do a survey of the City property.**  
40 **Council Member Linner seconded the motion.**

41  
42 Council Member Hinseth amended the motion to include that the results of the land survey be  
43 included in the November packets. Council Member Linner agreed to the amendment.

44

1 Mayor Carr expressed concern about having a survey done and moving forward in an amicable way.  
2 He stated once a survey is done it may be harder to find a resolution. He stated he would prefer, at  
3 this point, Council Member Fogelson continue to work with the neighbors.

4  
5 Council Member Fogelson stated he would like to continue to work with the property owners and  
6 believes the City can work through this issue and negotiate a solution.

7  
8 Council Member Hinseth and Council Member Linner withdrew the motion and the second.

9  
10 **Council Member Hinseth moved to explore draft proposals of a lease arrangement with the**  
11 **property owners and Oakleigh Dock Association. There was no second.**

12  
13 The Council determined Council Member Fogelson will continue to discuss this issue with the  
14 property owners and Oakleigh Dock Association and keep the Council updated.

#### 15 NEW BUSINESS

16  
17  
18 There was no new business.

#### 19 DISCUSSION ITEMS

##### 20 **City Council Reports:**

21  
22  
23  
24 Council Member Linner updated the Council on the Town Hall maintenance project noting she and  
25 the City Clerk would be meeting with the contractor next week. She stated the Ordinance  
26 Codification project has been on hold since July. The ordinances have now been published and the  
27 contract was signed this evening. She and Council Member Fogelson still need to verify the  
28 ordinances in the City office. Council Member Linner advised she was looking into streamlining the  
29 COC process to reduce costs. She stated she would be meeting with the City Planner and have a  
30 recommendation at the November Council meeting.

31  
32 Council Member Fogelson advised he has looked into the census data information and believes the  
33 City should participate in the process. He will work with the City Clerk to update the City's  
34 information.

35  
36 Mayor Carr stated the Council needs to have the finalized CUP list and vote on enforcement. He  
37 stated he would like to have the process in place by January 2008.

38  
39 City Attorney Vivian advised once the Council determines which CUP's will be included in the  
40 yearly compliance check, a letter would be sent out. There will be a fee and inspection process. He  
41 stated he would have a recommendation at the November Council meeting.

42  
43 Mayor Carr suggested the City advertise for Planning Commission applicants. The Council  
44 determined a notice would be posted on the website and an ad would be published in the newspaper.  
45 Mayor Carr stated the Council needs to have the finalized definitions for the Chart of Accounts by the  
46 November Council meeting. He indicated he would speak to the City Treasurer regarding this issue.

1 He stated he still needs two City Clerk evaluations and both public school districts are going to have  
2 meetings that the Council is invited too. He stated he has information if anyone is interested in  
3 attending those meetings.

4  
5 Mayor Carr indicated he is still hearing about individual Council Members requesting consultant  
6 time. There are costs associated with that. He inquired about City staff's billing procedures. He  
7 stated the Council needs to be aware of those costs.

8  
9 **Road Commissioner Report, Brad Hinseth** – Road Commissioner Hinseth presented grader edges,  
10 gravel shouldering and street patches proposal noting there are dollars in those budgets to have the  
11 work completed. The Council advised the Road Commissioner to move forward with those projects.

12  
13 Road Commissioner Hinseth advised he has had meeting with the City of Hugo regarding Goodview  
14 Avenue. The residents there are not in favor of paving that portion of the roadway. He indicated that  
15 in discussions with the Mayor that he suggested the City create a minimum maintenance roadway and  
16 put signs up posting that.

17  
18 City Attorney Vivian advised the change in the roadway needs to be posted well in advance. The  
19 City should also look at the ordinance in terms of the minimum maintenance road definition.

20  
21 City Engineer suggested Road Commissioner Hinseth speak to the County and make them aware of  
22 the proposed change.

23  
24 Road Commissioner Hinseth stated he attended the Stillwater Fire Department open house this  
25 evening. There is going to be a public open house this month and suggested that be posted on the  
26 website for residents. He noted he would have grader information at the next Council meeting.

27  
28 **COMMUNITY CALENDAR OCTOBER 4 THROUGH OCTOBER 31, 2007:**

29  
30 **Comprehensive Plan Meeting, Monday, October 15, 2007, Town Hall, 6:00 p.m.**

31  
32 **Planning Commission Meeting, Monday, October 15, 2007, Town Hall, 7:00 p.m.**

33  
34 **ADJOURN**

35  
36 **There being no further business, Council Member Linner moved to adjourn at 9:20 p.m.**  
37 **Council Member Levitz seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.**

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40 These minutes were considered and approved at the regular Council Meeting, November 5, 2007.

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46 Kim Points, City Clerk

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Tom Carr, Mayor

APPROVED