

CITY OF GRANT  
MINUTES

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**DATE** : August 3, 2010  
**TIME STARTED** : 7:00 p.m.  
**TIME ENDED** : 9:56 p.m.  
**MEMBERS PRESENT** : Councilmember Fogelson, Hinseth, Huber, Potter and Mayor Carr  
**MEMBERS ABSENT** : None

Staff members present: City Attorney, Nick Vivian; City Planner, Jennifer Haskamp; 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 Huber moved to approve the agenda as presented. Council Member Hinseth seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.**

**CONSENT AGENDA**

July 6, 2010, City Council Meeting Minutes	Approved
Bill List, \$58,431.42	Approved
Resolution No. 2010-16, 2010 Election Judges	Approved
Resolution No. 2010-12, Summary Publication Of Ordinance No. 2010-21	Approved
Exempt Gambling Permit, Little Sisters of the Poor, One Day Raffle	Approved

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

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

1 Mr. Larry Lanoux, 9711 Keswick, came forward and provided contact information for a new group  
2 designed to foster a positive attitude within the City of Grant.

3  
4 Ms. Ruth Sohl-Kreiger, 9415 N 84<sup>th</sup> Street, came forward and presented the results of an informal  
5 survey regarding the voluntary pavement of Jeffrey Boulevard. She also suggested the road policy  
6 relating to assessments be changed.

7  
8 Mr. Doug Schwartz, resident, came forward and stated the process for the Jeffrey Boulevard paving  
9 project has been very frustrating and the current policy is completely unfair.

10  
11 Mr. Rob Weber, 83<sup>rd</sup> Street, came forward and stated fairness is an issue and everyone should be  
12 assessed the same.

13  
14 **SEPTIC SYSTEM, ORDINANCE NO. 2010-22, CHRIS LECLAIR**

15  
16 Mr. Chris LeClair, Washington County, reviewed the septic ordinance changes and explained the  
17 City has three options relating to the ordinance change 1)do nothing and the County ordinance  
18 prevails; 2) adopt the County's ordinance by reference, and 3) adopt a new septic ordinance.

19  
20 Mr. LeClair recommended the City adopt the County's septic ordinance by reference because some of  
21 the requirements of the ordinance may change.

22  
23 **Council Member Potter moved to approve Ordinance No. 2010-23, referencing the County's**  
24 **septic ordinance, as presented. Council Member Fogelson seconded the motion. Motion**  
25 **carried unanimously.**

26  
27 **Resolution No. 2010-15, Summary Publication of Ordinance No. 2010-23** – City Attorney Vivian  
28 advised Resolution No. 2010-15 provides for the approval of a summary publication of the septic  
29 system ordinance.

30  
31 **Council Member Fogelson moved to adopt Resolution No. 2010-15, as presented. Council**  
32 **Member Huber seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.**

33  
34 **STAFF REPORTS**

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36 **City Engineer, Diane Hanke**

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38 **Staff Report** – The July 2010 Engineer's Report was provided to be placed on file for review.

39  
40 **City Planner, Jennifer Haskamp**

41  
42 **Axdahl Variance Request** – City Planner Haskamp provided the background of the variance request  
43 noting the public hearing was held at the Planning Commission meeting. She stated the Planning  
44 Commission did recommend approval of the request with confirmation that the design of the roadway  
45 is adequate for commercial vehicles and a speed limit sign be posted.

1 City Planner Haskamp advised the roadway is adequate for commercial vehicles and the City is not  
2 allowed to post a speed limit sign but could put up a “sharp curve” sign to alert drivers.

3  
4 **Council Member Hinseth moved to approve the Axdahl variance request, as presented.**  
5 **Council Member Fogelson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.**

6  
7 **Wind Energy Systems, Ordinance No. 2009-17** – City Planner Haskamp provided the background  
8 on this issue noting the Planning Commission reviewed the draft ordinance and held the public  
9 hearing at their July 2010 meeting. She reviewed the draft ordinance as well as the changes  
10 recommended by the Planning Commission, relating to maximum height and tower setbacks. The  
11 Planning Commission recommended approval by a 4-2 vote.

12  
13 Council Member Fogelson suggested the maximum height be 100 feet as 35 foot towers effectively  
14 bans wind energy systems within the City of Grant.

15  
16 Council Member Hinseth stated he believes allowing systems higher than 35 feet is not compatible  
17 with Grant’s countryside. He also stated that while wind turbines may be viable in the future, Grant’s  
18 ordinances should not react to accommodate every new unproven idea.

19  
20 Council Member Huber stated wind power is available at 35 feet and anything higher is an eyesore  
21 and violates the Comprehensive Plan.

22  
23 Council Member Potter had additional questions regarding blade size, tower heights, etc.

24  
25 Mayor Carr read sections from the City’s Comprehensive Plan stating towers higher than 35 feet do  
26 not maintain the rural life and rural character of within the City of Grant.

27  
28 After much discussion, the Council directed staff to revise the draft ordinance to include 35 feet  
29 maximum towers within A-1 and A-2 zoning districts, and setbacks 1 ½ times the tower height from  
30 the lot line. The Council also asked the City Planner to obtain more information regarding blade sizes  
31 of wind energy systems.

32  
33 **Environmental Nuisances, Ordinance No. 2010-23** – City Planner Haskamp provided the  
34 background information on the ordinance advising the Planning Commission did hold a public  
35 hearing and recommended approval.

36  
37 City Attorney Vivian stated the reason for the revisions was to allow for enforcement of the  
38 ordinance.

39  
40 **Council Member Hinseth moved to approve Ordinance No. 2010-23, as presented. Council**  
41 **Member Huber seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.**

42  
43 **Resolution No. 2010-17, Summary Publication of Ordinance No. 2010-23** – City Planner  
44 Haskamp advised Resolution No. 2010-17 allows for a summary publication of Ordinance No. 2010-  
45 23.

1 **Council Member Hinseth moved to adopt Resolution No. 2010-17, as presented. Council**  
2 **Member Potter seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.**

3  
4 **Staff Report** – The July 2010 Planner’s Report was provided to be placed on file for review.

5  
6 **City Attorney, Nick Vivian**

7  
8 **Staff Report** – A report for July 2010 was provided to be placed on file for review.

9 .  
10 **Building Inspector, Jack Kramer** – A report was from Building Inspector Kramer was provided for  
11 July 2010 to be placed on file for review.

12  
13 **OLD BUSINESS**

14  
15 **Town Hall Improvements Update** – Mayor Carr provided an update on the Town Hall  
16 improvements advising bids are being obtained and action will be taken by the Council at the  
17 September 2010 Council meeting.

18  
19 **NEW BUSINESS**

20  
21 **Acceptance of 2009 Audit** – Mayor Carr referred to the 2009 Audit that was mailed to the City  
22 Council.

23  
24 **Council Member Potter moved to accept the 2009 Audit, as presented. Council Member**  
25 **Hinseth seconded the motion.**

26  
27 Council Member Potter referred to the recommendations and three items that were bullet pointed and  
28 stated the City should follow through on those recommendations.

29  
30 **Motion carried unanimously.**

31  
32 **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

33  
34 **City Council Reports:**

35  
36 Council Member Hinseth provided an update on the Gateway bridge project on Manning Avenue  
37 noting that Manning Ave. will only be closed one weekend in October. Sealcoating within the City of  
38 Grant was completed last week. He asked that residents who are not able to do their own road  
39 frontage trimming to please not hinder contractors working to improve road safety.

40  
41 Council Member Potter made a friendly suggestion that residents be made aware of the brushing  
42 schedule.

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44 Council Member Hinseth indicated that brushing is routine road maintenance done based on need, not  
45 based on any schedule.

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Council Member Fogelson suggested the City look into the possibility of having another bad weather siren be installed within the City of Grant.

Council Member Huber advised that possibility has been explored before and he will work with Council Member Fogelson on that issue.

Council Member Huber stated he is working on the cable equipment and will have some bids available at the next meeting. He also stated the City is moving forward with the upgrades to the ball field. The water pump at Town Hall has been bleached out for a retest and the City did receive a grant for the dry hydrant but it is a matching grant in the amount of \$1,500. More information will be available at the September Council meeting. Residents should be careful with children and pets as there have been some cougar sightings within the City.

**CLOSED SESSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONFERRING WITH LEGAL COUNSEL AS PERMITTED BY THE ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE PURSUANT TO MINN.STAT. 13D.05 SUBD. 3 (d) ON THE FOLLOWING LEGAL MATTERS:**

**City of Grant V. Floyd’s Auto Sales**

**City of Grant V. Flug**

**Council Member Hinseth moved to go into closed session at 9:25 p.m. Council Member Huber seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Council Member Hinseth moved to adjourn the closed session at 9:55 p.m. Council Member Huber seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.**

City Attorney Vivian advised a discussion was held regarding litigation strategy. No action was taken. The Council did provide direction and legal counsel will proceed as directed.

**COMMUNITY CALENDAR AUGUST 4 THROUGH AUGUST 31, 2010:**

**Planning Commission Meeting, Monday, August 16, 2010, Town Hall, 7:00 p.m.**

**ADJOURN**

**There being no further business, Council Member Potter moved to adjourn at 9:56 p.m. Council Member Huber seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.**

These minutes were considered and approved at the regular Council Meeting September 7, 2010.

1 Kim Points, City Clerk  
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Tom Carr, Mayor

APPROVED