



City of Grand Island

Tuesday, September 10, 2002

Council Session

Item G1

Approving Minutes of August 27, 2002 City Council Regular Meeting

*The Minutes of August 27, 2002 City Council Regular Meeting are submitted for approval.
See attached MINUTES.*

Staff Contact: RaNae Edwards

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS

CITY OF GRAND ISLAND, NEBRASKA

MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

August 27, 2002

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a Regular Meeting of the City Council of the City of Grand Island, Nebraska was conducted in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 100 East First Street, on August 27, 2002. Notice of the meeting was given in the Grand Island Independent on August 21, 2002.

Mayor Ken Gnadt called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The following members were present: Councilmembers Pielstick, Ward, Seifert, Larson, Whitesides, Haase, Murray, Walker and Sorensen. Councilmember Hornady was absent. The following City Officials were present: City Administrator Marlan Ferguson, City Clerk RaNae Edwards, City Attorney Charlie Cuypers, Public Works Director Steve Riehle and Finance Director David Springer.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE was said followed by the INVOCATION given by Pastor William Voelker, Peace Lutheran Church, 4018 Zola Lane.

RESERVE TIME TO SPEAK ON AGENDA ITEMS: One individual reserved time to speak on agenda items.

PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS:

Presentation by the National Weather Service - StormReady. Howard Maxon, Emergency Management Director introduced Steve Kisner representing the National Weather Service from Hastings. Mr. Kisner stated the City of Grand Island had qualified to be designated a StormReady Community. Mr. Kisner presented the City with the StormReady Community Certificate.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

Public Hearing on Acquisition of Easements Located in Sanitary Sewer District #500, Seedling Mile Area. Steve Riehle, Public Works Director, reported that acquisition of easements located south of Seedling Mile Road and west of Shady Bend Road was required in order to have access to install, upgrade, maintain, and repair public sanitary sewer mains. No public testimony was heard.

Public Hearing on Acquisition of Right of Way in Sanitary Sewer District #501, Freedom Drive. Steve Riehle, Public Works Director, reported that acquisition of right of way located along Stolley Park Road south of the intersection with Freedom Drive was required in order to have access to install, upgrade, maintain, and repair sanitary sewer main. No public testimony was heard.

Public Hearing on Acquisition of Public Utility Easements for Sanitary Sewer Project #2002-S-5. Steve Riehle, Public Works Director, reported that acquisition of two public utility easements located near Shoemaker Elementary School, was required in order to have access to install, upgrade, maintain, and repair public sanitary sewer mains. No public testimony was heard.

ORDINANCES:

Councilmember Sorensen moved that the statutory rules requiring ordinances to be read by title on three different days be suspended and that ordinances numbered:

#8760 - Consideration to Repeal Ordinance #6957

#8761 - Consideration of Approving FY2002-2003 Annual Single City Budget, The Annual Appropriations Bill Including Addendum #1

be considered for passage on the same day upon reading by number only and that the City Clerk be permitted to call out the number of these ordinances on their first reading and then upon final passage and call for a roll call vote on each reading and then upon final passage. Councilmember Larson seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote, all voted aye. Motion adopted.

Mayor: Is there any one in the audience interested in these ordinances? Councilmember Pielstick wanted it noted that she would be voting no on Ordinance #8761. No public testimony was heard.

City Clerk: Ordinances #8760 and #8761 on first reading. All those in favor of the passage of these ordinances on first reading, answer roll call vote. Upon roll call vote, all voted aye. Motion adopted.

City Clerk: Ordinance #8760 and #8761 on final passage. All those in favor of the passage of these ordinances on final passage, answer roll call vote. Upon roll call vote, all voted aye. Motion adopted.

Mayor: By reason of the roll call votes on first reading and then upon final passage, Ordinances #8760 and #8761 are declared to be lawfully passed and adopted upon publication as required by law.

CONSENT AGENDA: Councilmember Whitesides requested item G-19 be removed from the Consent Agenda. Motion by Pielstick, second by Larson, carried unanimously to approve the Consent Agenda excluding item G-19.

Receipt of Official Document – Civil Service Minutes of August 7, 2002.

Authorizing Expenditures Associated with Business Improvement Board Attendance at International Downtown Association.

Approving Minutes of August 12, 2002 City Council Special Meeting.

Approving Minutes of August 13, 2002 City Council Regular Meeting.

Approving Minutes of August 20, 2002 City Council Study Session.

Approving Minutes of August 20, 2002 City Council Special Meeting.

Approving Request of Patricia Lange, 521 Memorial Drive, for Liquor Manager Designation for Bosselman, Inc. dba Pump & Pantry #3, Capital Avenue and US Highway 281.

#2002-252 – Approving Acquisition of Easements Located in Sanitary Sewer District #500, Seedling Mile Area.

#2002-253 – Approving Acquisition of Right of Way in Sanitary Sewer District #501, Freedom Drive.

#2002-254 – Approving Acquisition of Public Utility Easements Located in Sanitary Sewer Project #2002-S-5.

#2002-255 – Approving Bid Award for Electrical and Control Installation at Platte Generating Station with Capital Electric Kansas City, Missouri in an Amount of \$133,500.00.

#2002-256 – Approving Bid Award for Railroad Track Tie Replacement at Platte Generating Station with Judds Brothers Construction Company, Lincoln, Nebraska in an Amount of \$45,300.00.

#2002-257 – Approving Bid Award for 2002 Model Compost Screener for Solid Waste Division, Public Works Department with McCloskey Brothers Manufacturing, Petersborough, Ontario, Canada in an Amount of \$92,500.00.

#2002-258 – Approving Certificate of Final Completion with The Diamond Engineering Company, Grand Island, Nebraska and Setting Board of Equalization Date of September 24, 2002 for Sanitary Sewer District #493, Old Potash Subdivision. Councilmember Pielstick voted no.

#2002-259 – Approving Certificate of Final Completion with The Diamond Engineering Company, Grand Island, Nebraska and Setting Board of Equalization Date of September 24, 2002 for Sanitary Sewer District #503, Edna Drive. Councilmember Pielstick voted no.

#2002-260 – Approving Certificate of Final Completion for Sanitary Sewer Project #2001-S-5 with The Diamond Engineering Company, Grand Island, Nebraska. Councilmember Pielstick voted no.

#2002-261 – Approving Continuation of Sanitary Sewer District #507, Cannon Road Between Mansfield Road & North Road and Approximately 340' of State Street East of North Road.

#2002-262 – Approving Memorandum of Understanding Relative to Participation in the Grand Island Multicultural Coalition.

#2002-264 – Approving Extension of Interlocal Agreement with Hall County for Keno Games.

#2002-265 – Approving Council Meeting Date Changes for November, 2002.

#2002-266 – Approving Agreement with Grand Island Modelers Club Relative to Development and Operation of Facilities at CHAAP.

#2002-267 – Approving Agreement with the Nebraska State Patrol Relative to Preliminary Design and Cost Estimates for Joint Weapons Training Facility at CHAAP.

#2002-263 – Approving Agreement with the Cottonwood Lake Association Relative to Funding for Cottonwood Lake Dredging in an Amount not to Exceed \$50,000.00. Councilmember Seifert stated concerns of using public funds for a private lake. Also mentioned were the fact that this project had not been discussed or budgeted for and that other projects had priority. Councilmember Walker questioned other areas in the City with this same problem. Public Works Director Steve Riehle mentioned several.

Ilene Gruendel, President of the Cotton wood Lake Association, spoke in favor.

Discussion was had concerning the original agreement with the Cottonwood Lake Association and the City regarding the upkeep and maintenance of the lake. The City's responsibility was to clean out the silt near the storm water inlets, which had never been done. Discussed were timing issues of doing this project along with the Sucks Lake Project and the cost savings that would occur.

City Attorney Charlie Cuypers explained the proposed Agreement and the \$50,000 cap for cleanup to the City.

Motion was made by Larson, second by Ward to approve Resolution #2002-263. Approved unanimously.

RESOLUTIONS:

#2002-268 – Consideration of Intent to Enter into a Stuhr Museum Train Operating Agreement Contingent on a Successful Bond Election in November. Pam Price representing Stuhr Museum Foundation met with the Board to request that this item be tabled contingent upon successful bond election in November.

City Attorney Charlie Cuypers stated that if this project was to be successful, a good solid business plan was needed.

Motion was made by Larson, second by Seifert, to authorize staff to work with the Stuhr Museum Foundation to for a business plan for the operation of the train within 90 days. Carried unanimously to approve.

#2002-269 – Consideration of Approving Labor Union Contract with AFSCME. Human Resources Director Brenda Sutherland, reported that the proposed labor agreement between AFSCME, Local 251 and the City of Grand Island was submitted for approval. The current AFSCME contract would expire September 30, 2002. The proposed contract would be a five-year contract. The contract would cover the time frame of October 1, 2002 until September 30, 2007.

Some of the more notable changes in the contract were; changing "garage" classifications to "fleet services", removing Maintenance Worker I classification, adding a Senior Maintenance Worker - Parks, defining hours worked and adding a personal leave day. The first year of the contract proposed a 2.0% increase for all positions per the salary survey that was done jointly with the City and a 3.0% COLA. Years two and three called for a 2.5% COLA. There would be a survey done for year four to insure comparability and a 3.0% COLA in year five.

Motion was made by Sorensen, second by Walker, carried unanimously to approve. Steve Hancock – AFSCME representative and the Mayor signed the contract.

#2002-270 – Consideration of Certifying a ½ Cent Sales Tax Ballot Issue for the May 11, 2004 Primary Election. City Administrator Marlan Ferguson, reported that the City Council, at their March 6, 2002 Council Retreat, established securing the ½ cent sales tax as a priority. Reasoning behind this decision was simple: if the City was to continue with major capital projects, an additional revenue source was needed. The State of Nebraska is in a budget crisis and has cut back State Aid to Municipalities, which would ultimately impact the City of Grand Island's budget. The need for capital projects for public safety including Fire Station, Training Center, replacement equipment and possible relocation of the Police Department Public Safety Center was ongoing. There was also a need to fund infrastructure projects including sewer, water, storm sewer and streets. These projects would not be completed in a timely fashion without additional funding. Property tax relief could be realized with the increased sales tax revenue.

State Statute only allows the sales tax issue to be on the ballot once every 23 month. At the May, 2002 primary election the issue of the ½ cent sales tax for an endowment was on the ballot and was defeated. The next time this issue could be on the ballot would be May 11th, 2004. Mr. Ferguson stated it was important that the City establish its intent to have the ½ cent sales tax on the ballot at the next election. Resolution #2002-270 secures the City's position for forwarding the ½ cent sales tax issue in May 2004. The exact ballot language could be modified in accordance with ballot issue guidelines.

Motion by Larson, second , by Ward, carried unanimously to approve.

#2002-271 – Consideration of Approving 1% Increase to the Lid Limit. This item was pulled from the agenda.

PAYMENT OF CLAIMS:

Motion by Whitesides, second by Seifert, carried unanimously to approve the Claims for the period of August 14, 2002 through August 27, 2002, for a total amount of \$3,058,893.77.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

RaNae Edwards
City Clerk