



# City of Grand Island

Tuesday, March 09, 2004

Council Session

## Item G2

### **Approving Minutes of February 24, 2004 City Council Regular Meeting**

*The Minutes of February 24, 2004 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

February 24, 2004

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 February 24, 2004. Notice of the meeting was given in the Grand Island Independent on February 18, 2004.

Mayor Jay Vavricek called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The following members were present: Councilmembers Meyer, Whitesides, Pielstick, Gilbert, Nicerkson, Cornelius, Pauly, Hornady, Walker and Haase. The following City Officials were present: City Administrator Gary Greer, City Clerk RaNae Edwards, Finance Director David Springer, Public Works Director Steve Riehle, and City Attorney Doug Walker.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE was said followed by the INVOCATION given by Pastor Vern Rice, Independent Bethel Baptist Church, 1223 East 6<sup>th</sup> Street.

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

MAYOR COMMUNICATION: Mayor Vavricek commented on the announcement made by the Army not to fund the Comanche Helicopter Project and that it should not affect the Apache Helicopter site here in Grand Island. He stated that several people had been in contact with Washington about this project. Also mentioned was the City Council Retreat held Saturday, February 21, 2004 at the Crane Meadows Nature Center. The Mayor stated it was an instrumental and outstanding day and that ballot language for the ½ Cent Sales Tax issue was discussed with the best interest of the community in mind. This would be brought back to Council at the March 2, 2004 Study Session.

PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS:

Proclamation "Read Across America" March 2, 2004. Mayor Vavricek proclaimed March 2, 2004 as "Read Across America" in conjunction with Dr. Suess's birthday. Glenda Frazier and four students from Shoemaker and Gates Elementary School's were present to receive the proclamation.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

Public Hearing on One & Six Year Street Improvement Program. Steve Riehle, Public Works Director reported that adoption of a One and Six Year Street Improvement Program was required by State law as part of the requirements to receive approximately three million dollars of state gas tax funds each year. A review of the proposed plan was presented:

- Tuesday, January 27, 2004 - City Council refers Plan to Regional Planning Commission.
- Wednesday, February 18, 2004 - Regional Planning Commission conducts Public Hearing and forwards recommendation to City Council.
- Tuesday, February 24, 2004 - City Council hears presentation from staff, conducts Public Hearing and passes Resolution adopting the Plan.

The following update was given:

### **2004 Construction Season**

One of the major projects for the 2004 construction season related to the improvements on South Locust Street. The improvements from U.S. Highway 34 to Stolley Park Road had been completed and currently had a contract for improvements between Stolley Park Road and Fonner Park Road which included a new concrete roadway, 5' concrete sidewalks, concrete driveways, storm drainage, roadway lighting, ornamental pedestrian lighting and landscaping. A contract would be let for the construction of two bridges over the Platte River for the northbound lanes of South Locust Street between I-80 and the south City Limits. The Nebraska Department of Roads had two major projects scheduled for, or underway in 2004. These were the on going construction of the South Locust Street I-80 interchange, with completion scheduled in late summer of 2004, and commencement of the roadway construction for the widening of East Highway 30 from just east of Stuhr Road to east of the Merrick County line. Other projects planned for 2004 included the paving of the Shanna Street and Lariat Lane connections and Independence Avenue from 13<sup>th</sup> Street to Shanna Street, and the widening of Stolley Park Road west of U.S. Highway 281 by Case New Holland (CNH). Also planned was the continuation of the Hiker/Biker trail from Central Community College to Hall County Park.

### **2005 – 2009 Construction Seasons**

Significant projects beyond the 2004 construction season included the widening of Stolley Park Road from South Locust Street to the southern Fonner Park Events Center entrance, grade separation construction at the UPRR on Broadwell Street and an east by-pass location on either Stuhr Road or Shady Bend Road. Also planned during this period was completion of the construction of two northbound bridges on South Locust Street over the Platte River channels, and the commencement of roadway construction for the northbound lanes of South Locust Street between the I-80 interchange and the south city limits as well as the continuation of various segments of the Hiker/Biker trail construction. Completion of the four-lane roadway construction on East Highway 30 from Stuhr Road to the Merrick County line was scheduled for 2005.

Bruce Swihart, 339 Ponderosa Drive and Mary Ellen Walter, 309 Ponderosa Drive requested that Schimmer Drive Paving scheduled for 2005 be moved up to 2004. No further public testimony was heard.

Public Hearing on Affordable Housing Trust Fund Grant from the Nebraska Department of Economic Development. Joni Kuzma, Community Development Specialist reported that The Nebraska Department of Economic Development allowed Homeownership Assistance, through

grants to municipal organizations and non-profit agencies, to facilitate and expand homeownership among persons of low-to-moderate income. The Nebraska Department of Economic Development would accept applications through the Affordable Housing Trust Fund program up to March 1, 2004 for grant funding. Lincoln, Nebraska Developer, Fred Hoppe, had prepared an application for submittal to the Nebraska Department of Economic Development through the City of Grand Island, as an eligible municipal corporation, for \$300,000 in grant funding for approximately 15 low to moderate income home buyers. The grant would provide direct home buyer assistance for first-time homeowners in El Huerto Subdivision, as proposed by Mr. Hoppe in the Community Development Block Grant project area, generally known as northeast Grand Island. No public testimony was heard.

CONSENT AGENDA: Items G-4 and G-12 were removed from the Consent Agenda. Motion by Nickerson, second by Cornelius, to approve the Consent Agenda excluding Items G-4 and G-12. Upon roll call vote, all voted aye. Motion adopted.

Approving Minutes of February 10, 2004 City Council Regular Meeting. Councilmembers Hornady and Walker abstained.

Approving Minutes of February 17, 2004 City Council Study Session.

Approving Request of Whiskey Creek Steakhouse for Change of Location for Class "I-39333" Liquor License from 3537 West 13<sup>th</sup> Street to 1016 Diers Avenue.

#2004-30 – Approving Change Order 1 to the Contract with The Diamond Engineering Company, Grand Island, Nebraska for Sanitary Sewer District #507, Cannon Road & North Road for an Increase of \$2,040.00 and a Revised Contract Amount of \$123,429.95.

#2004-31 – Approving Certificate of Final Completion for Sanitary Sewer District #507 with The Diamond Engineering Company, Grand Island, Nebraska.

#2004-32 – Approving the Designation of Enviro-Group, Inc., of Green Wood, Indiana as the Sole Source Provider of Liquid Clay Alternative Daily Cover (ADC) Material at the Landfill.

#2004-33 – Approving Funding of Economic Development Request (NWPS Funds) in the Amount of \$23,310 to the Grand Island Area Economic Development Corporation.

#2004-34 – Approving Bid Award for Chimney Obstruction Lighting Replacement to Flash Technology of Franklin, Tennessee in the Amount of \$57,170.00.

#2004-35 – Approving Donation of \$500.00 to the Children's Groundwater Festival '04.

#2004-36 – Approving Contract Award for Engineering Services for Sport Shooting Facility at CAAP to Clark Vargas and Associates, Ltd. Consulting Engineers of Jacksonville, Florida in an Amount of \$136,370.00.

#2004-29 – Approving One & Six Year Street Improvement Program. Motion was made by Walker, second by Pielstick to approve Resolution #2004-29. A lengthy discussion was held with regards to Schimmer Drive concerning funding in the amount of \$175,000.00, crushed asphalt, dust and dust control, traffic, and other projects in the One & Six Year Street Improvement Program.

Upon roll call vote, all voted aye. Motion adopted. Councilmember Pielstick encouraged staff to look into dust control for Schimmer Drive.

#2004-37 – Approving Affordable Housing Trust Fund Grant from the Nebraska Department of Economic Development. Motion was made by Meyer, second by Whitesides to approve Resolution #2004-37. No discussion took place. Upon roll call vote, all voted aye. Motion adopted.

PAYMENT OF CLAIMS:

Motion by Cornelius, second by Walker, carried unanimously to approve the Claims for the period of February 11, 2004 through February 24, 2004, for a total amount of \$2,476,984.81. Motion adopted.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Motion was made by Hornady, second by Pauly, to adjourn to Executive Session at 8:05 p.m. for the purpose of discussing personnel issues. Upon roll call vote, all voted aye. Motion adopted.

RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION: Motion was made by Pielstick, second by Meyer, to return to Regular Session at 8:25 p.m. Upon roll call vote, all voted aye. Motion adopted.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

RaNae Edwards  
City Clerk