



City of Grand Island

Tuesday, June 14, 2005

Council Session

Item G2

Approving Minutes of June 7, 2005 City Council Study Session

The Minutes of June 7, 2005 City Council Study Session are submitted for approval. See attached MINUTES.

Staff Contact: RaNae Edwards

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS

CITY OF GRAND ISLAND, NEBRASKA

MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL AND COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (CRA) JOINT STUDY SESSION

June 7, 2005

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a Joint Study Session of the City Council of the City of Grand Island, Nebraska and the Community Redevelopment Authority (CRA) was conducted in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 100 East First Street, on June 7, 2005. Notice of the meeting was given in the *Grand Island Independent* on June 1, 2005.

Mayor Jay Vavricek called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The following members were present: Councilmember's Whitesides, Pielstick, Gilbert, Nickerson, Cornelius, Pauly, Hornady, Walker, and Haase. Councilmember Meyer was absent due to the death of his father. The following Community Redevelopment Authority members were present: Barry Sandstrom, Chairman of CRA; Lee Elliott; Sue Pirnie; and Glen Murray. 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

Discussion Concerning Community Redevelopment Authority (CRA) Organization. Chad Naby, Regional Planning Director reported on the history of the Planning Department and that on February 15, 2005 the City Council approved Ordinance No. 8954 which changed the section in the City Code that relates to the management of the Community Redevelopment Authority.

Mr. Naby explained the functions of the Community Development Division, staffing, and how the Community Redevelopment Authority (CRA) would fit into the Hall County Regional Planning Department. It was proposed that CRA would pay 10% or \$15,000 towards the funding for these services.

Mr. Naby presented a proposal for the Regional Planning Department to assume the management duties and staffing of the Grand Island Community Redevelopment Authority. It was mentioned that the activities of the CRA dovetailed neatly into the current activities of the Regional Planning Department and its Community Development Division.

Barry Sandstrom, Chairman of the CRA spoke in support of having the Regional Planning Department manage this board and spoke of the benefits that could be gained. Concerns were brought up as to who would lead this process and not lose the momentum that CRA has had.

Discussed was the role of the CRA board as it would be moved back to the City. Mr. Naby stated the CRA board would function as it had in the past. Staffing would be provided by the City as the Chamber had done in the past. Mr. Naby would be in charge of the day-to-day operations and the contact person for CRA. Discussed was the salary split between the City and County. The County would approve the Planning Department's budget which would include CRA expenses, but would not need to approve Mr. Naby taking over the management of CRA.

Councilmember Pielstick commented on the advantages and expertise of the City performing these functions and recommended that this item be brought forward to Council for a vote at the next council meeting. City Administrator, Gary Greer commented on the team work within the City and that the CRA could do things the City could not. The City would work hard to keep the momentum going.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

RaNae Edwards
City Clerk