



City of Grand Island

Tuesday, January 24, 2006

Council Session

Item G23

#2006-32 - Approving Alternative Fuel Program Recommendations

Staff Contact: Paul Bresino

Council Agenda Memo

From: Paul M. Briseno, Assistant to the City Administrator
Meeting: January 24, 2006
Subject: Alternative Fuel Policy
Item #'s: G-23
Presenter(s): Paul M. Briseno, Assistant to the City Administrator

Background

In September 2005 Mayor Vavricek requested an Alternative Fuel Report on behalf of the Council. The report presented at the January 17, 2006 Council Study Session give guidance and recommendation of procurement of alternative fuel and vehicles for the municipal fleet.

Ethanol and Biodiesel fuel created from domestically grown crops provide an alternative fuel source that has proven to provide superior results. Alternative fuels contain characteristics that are more environmentally friendly than regular petroleum products.

Alternative fuels and fuel flex vehicles offer the City of Grand Island a resource for obtaining optimal operating efficiency of the municipal fleet. Alternative fuels decrease the dependence of foreign fuels and increase agriculture prices that directly impacts Grand Island with added economic value.

Discussion

The City of Grand Island Administration recommends the following criteria for the municipal fleet.

Recommendation 1

Mandate all post-1986 vehicles within the municipal owned fleet burn **only E10.**

- Fleet Services will not have enough demand to keep unleaded on hand. A reserve of unleaded fuel only consumed by the Parks Department's small engine fleet and two pre-1986 vehicles would cause the fuel to go bad over a period of time.
- The two 10,000 gallon tanks of fuel will be converted as E10 tanks.
 - A smaller separate tank could be purchased for unleaded engines not meeting the mandate such as the small engine fleet of the Parks Department.

Recommendation 2

Require departments to purchase Fuel Flex Vehicles/Alternative Fuel Vehicles when available from state bid. FFV/AFV must meet the requirements of the application set forth by the department. FFV/AFV must be at little or no additional cost when compared to regular gasoline engine vehicles. When the municipal fleet has obtained a fleet of 25% FFV/AFV the expectation of purchasing/converting an E85 tank and pump should be examined for Fleet Services.

Recommendation 3

Mandate that all summer blends of on/off Road diesel fuel contain a biodiesel splash blend of 4% but not greater than 5%.

Alternatives

It appears that the Council has the following alternatives concerning the issue at hand. The Council may:

1. Make a motion to approve the Alternative Fuel Policy
2. Refer the issue to a Committee
3. Postpone the issue to future date
4. Take no action on the issue
- 5.

Recommendation

City Administration recommends that the Council approve a resolution supporting the Alternative Fuel Policy for the municipal fleet.

Sample Motion

Motion to approve the Alternative Fuel Policy

RESOLUTION 2006-32

WHEREAS, on March 8, 1993, by Resolution 93-020, the City Council of the City of Grand Island recommended that gasohol be the preferred fuel for use in the City-owned motor vehicles equipped to use unleaded fuels; and

WHEREAS, a report presented to the City Council at its Study Session on January 17, 2006, outlined the environmental benefits, economic value, and optimal operating efficiencies that could occur by mandating the use of ethanol and soy biodiesel in the City vehicles; and

WHEREAS, the report set out the following recommendations pertaining to alternative fuels:

1. Mandate that all post-1986 city owned vehicles use only 10% ethanol blend fuel.
2. Require departments to purchase flex fuel vehicles / alternative fuel vehicles when available through the state bid process, if such purchase can be accomplished at comparable prices to regular gasoline engine vehicles and that they meet the requirements of the application set forth by the department.
3. Mandate that all summer blends of on/off road diesel fuel contain a biodiesel splash blend of 4% but not greater than 5%.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GRAND ISLAND, NEBRASKA, that the recommendations are hereby approved as identified above and as set out in the report presented to the Grand Island City Council at its January 17, 2006 Study Session pertaining to alternative fuel for city vehicles.

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Adopted by the City Council of the City of Grand Island, Nebraska, January 24, 2006.

Jay Vavricek, Mayor

Attest:

RaNae Edwards, City Clerk

Approved as to Form	☐ _____
January 19, 2006	☐ City Attorney