



City of Grand Island

Tuesday, July 11, 2006

Council Session

Item F1

#9053 - Consideration of Deleting Chapter 11 of the Grand Island City Code Relative to Civil Rights

Staff Contact: Dale Shotkoski

Council Agenda Memo

From: Dale M. Shotkoski, Interim City Attorney
Meeting: July 11, 2006
Subject: City Code Revision to Chapter 11
Item #'s: F-1
Presenter(s): Dale M. Shotkoski, Interim City Attorney

Background

The Mayor, City Council and City Administration established a goal of revising the Grand Island City Code. The City Code Revision Committee has met and has recommended the deletion of Chapter 11, Civil Rights, from the Grand Island City Code.

Discussion

Chapter 11 of the Grand Island City Code pertains to civil rights and the establishment of a Human Rights Commission. The purpose of the commission was to ensure that there shall be no discrimination in the acquisition, ownership, possession or enjoyment of housing throughout the City of Grand Island. Furthermore, the commission was to ensure that all persons be entitled to full and equal enjoyment of public accommodations, facilities and privileges, and to foster and encourage and promote mutual respect and understanding among all individuals in the city and to discourage unlawful conduct and violence in the attainment of the goals of equality and civil rights, housing opportunities and employment within the city.

The State of Nebraska has the Nebraska Equal Opportunity Commission which has nearly identical goals as contained in Chapter 11 of the Grand Island City Code. The State of Nebraska has funded and employed staff to take complaints and deal with civil rights issues as they are received and the state has jurisdiction over any violations of civil rights that would occur within the City of Grand Island. The resources available to the State of Nebraska through the NEOC is far greater than the staff and resources available for the city.

Alternatives

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

1. Move to approve
2. Refer the issue to a Committee
3. Postpone the issue to future date
4. Take no action on the issue

Recommendation

City Administration recommends that the Council approve the deletion of Chapter 11 of the Grand Island City Code.

Sample Motion

Motion to delete Chapter 11 of the Grand Island City Code.

ORDINANCE NO. 9053

An ordinance to repeal Chapter 11 of the Grand Island City Code as now existing pertaining to Civil Rights; to repeal any ordinance or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith; and to provide for publication and the effective date of this ordinance.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GRAND ISLAND, NEBRASKA:

SECTION 1. Chapter 11 of the Grand Island City Code is hereby repealed.

SECTION 2. Any ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith be, and hereby are, repealed.

SECTION 3. The validity of any section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase of this ordinance shall not affect the validity or enforceability of any other section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase thereof.

SECTION 4. That this ordinance shall be in force and take effect from and after its passage and publication, within fifteen days in one issue of the Grand Island Independent as provided by law.

Enacted: July 11, 2006.

Jay Vavricek, Mayor

Attest:

RaNae Edwards, City Clerk

Approved as to Form	☐ _____
July 6, 2006	☐ City Attorney