



# City of Grand Island

Tuesday, June 23, 2009

Council Session

## Item I3

**#2009-150 - Approving Appointment of Mary Lou Brown as  
Finance Director**

Staff Contact: Mayor Hornady

# Council Agenda Memo

**From:** Mayor Margaret Hornady  
**Meeting:** June 23, 2009  
**Subject:** Appointment of City Finance Director/City Treasurer  
**Item #'s:** I-3  
**Presenter(s):** Mayor Margaret Hornady

## Background

January 12, 2009, City Finance Director, David Springer notified the City of his intention to retire as of April 17, 2009. As the search for his replacement has been difficult, he graciously offered to extend his retirement date until August 7, 2009. Mr. Springer began his employment with the City on May 24, 2000. The Finance Director/City Treasurer position is considered a statutory officer of the City of Grand Island and is appointed by the Mayor and approved by the City Council.

## Discussion

The City began its search for a new Finance Director in late January 2009. The recruitment efforts included advertising in various local news papers, national online publications, various State League of Municipalities publications, and direct mail just to name a few sources.

I am pleased to announce that a candidate has been chosen to bring forward for appointment. Mary Lou Brown, a native Nebraskan who currently resides near Denver Colorado is my recommendation for the next Finance Director/City Treasurer. Mary Lou will be begin at step 4 of the pay scale which equates to \$85,965.35 per year. Mary Lou comes to us with a strong background in corporate accounting, finance and treasury. Her educational background includes a B.A. in Business and French from Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, Minnesota and a M.B.A. in Finance from Creighton University in Omaha, Nebraska.

She is currently the Director of Bankruptcy Claims as a member of the Adelpia Bankruptcy Team. Prior to her work with Adelpia, she worked as a Senior Director of Human Resources Operations with Dex Media, a Senior Director of Financial Planning

and Analysis with Qwest Communications, and held similar titles with US West Dex and US West, Inc.

She has a reputation of being a person of high ethical standards, a problem solver, and someone who enjoys a challenge. Her successful career history is attributed to her strong technical knowledge and her leadership skills. While she doesn't come in with municipal experience I have every confidence that she is someone who will learn quickly and be able to bring people together to find solutions.

It is with great pleasure that I forward Ms. Mary Lou Brown to the City Council for their approval of her as the next City Finance Director/City Treasurer.

### **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**

Mayor Margaret Hornady recommends that the Council approve the appointment of Mary Lou Brown to be the Finance Director/City Treasurer for the City of Grand Island.

### **Sample Motion**

Move to approve the appointment of Mary Lou Brown as Finance Director/City Treasurer for the City of Grand Island.

R E S O L U T I O N 2009-150

WHEREAS, under Neb. Rev. Stat., §16-308, the office of Finance Director for the City of Grand Island, Nebraska, is an appointed position; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor, with the approval of the City Council, may appoint the position of Finance Director; and

WHEREAS, this position appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by the City Council shall hold the position until the end of the Mayor's term of office; and

WHEREAS, this position appointed by the Mayor may be removed at any time by the Mayor with approval of a majority of the City Council.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GRAND ISLAND, NEBRASKA, that Mary Lou Brown is hereby duly appointed the Finance Director for the City of Grand Island, Nebraska, until the end of the Mayor's term of office.

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Adopted by the City Council of the City of Grand Island, Nebraska, June 23, 2009.

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Margaret Hornady, Mayor

Attest:

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RaNae Edwards, City Clerk

Approved as to Form	☐ _____
June 19, 2009	☐ City Attorney