



City of Grand Island

Tuesday, May 11, 2010

Council Session

Item G3

Approving Minutes of May 4, 2010 City Council Study Session

Staff Contact: RaNae Edwards

CITY OF GRAND ISLAND, NEBRASKA

MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION

May 4, 2010

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a Study Session 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 May 4, 2010. Notice of the meeting was given in the *Grand Island Independent* on April 28, 2010.

Mayor Hornady called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The following Councilmember's were present: Gericke, Nickerson, Zapata, Ramsey, Dugan, Carney, Haase, Gilbert, Niemann, and Meyer. The following City Officials were present: City Administrator Jeff Pederson, City Clerk RaNae Edwards, City Attorney Dale Shotkoski, Public Works Director Steve Riehle, and Finance Director Mary Lou Brown.

INVOCATION was given by Mayor Hornady followed by the PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

MAYOR COMMUNICATION: Mayor Hornady introduced CYC members Lauren Cantrell and Michael Hollman. Also mentioned was the National Day of Prayer breakfast to be held at Trinity Lutheran School on Thursday, May 6, 2010.

Discussion Regarding Odor Ordinance. City Administrator Jeff Pederson reported that the odor issues in Grand Island had been dealt with for several years. The Public Works Department had been monitoring odor for several years using the Nasal Ranger and the Odor Hotline. Assistant to the City Administrator Shannon Oster presented a PowerPoint on how an odor ordinance would be shaped along with research from other municipalities, odor studies, and odor experts.

Reviewed were the calls to the Odor Hotline. Overall the odor calls had decreased. Rendering waste odors were recorded more often than other odors. Ms. Oster outlined the framework of an Odor Ordinance. She stated an odor ordinance would likely be treated as a nuisance and would go through a process of: 1) Complaint System; 2) Investigation of Odor; and 3) Odor Violation: Remedial Plan, Review, and Implementation Process. Ms. Oster explained these three processes along with the fiscal impact.

Stated was that there were few places which had an odor ordinance because of the subjective issue and was difficult to measure in an affordable and timely manner. Of those cities surveyed that had an odor ordinance, a complaint response system in combination with an odor investigation was common. Because of the multiple steps necessary to determine an odor as offensive, an ordinance would create a new program.

Ron Miller, 704 South Cherry Street complained about the Odor Hotline and odors from JBS Swift. Bud Jeffries, 28 Kuester Lake commented on being involved with the odor issues in Grand Island, being on an odor committee, and odor issues dating as far back as 1927. He stated he thought the odor ordinance might help.

Discussion was held regarding the odor investigator and if it would require a new FTE. Ms. Oster stated the Health Department would be a part of this process. Questions concerning the Community Odor Board and their duties were discussed. Costs for the Odor Hotline and an investigator were mentioned along with other odors within Grand Island. The number of readings of the Nasal Ranger were explained. The Nasal Ranger does not work under 32 degrees Fahrenheit.

Public Works Director Steve Riehle answered questions concerning DEQ samplings. The odors were not a health risk but more of a nuisance. Ms. Oster stated a final cost would be hard to estimate, but significant staff time would be required.

City Attorney Dale Shotkoski stated he did not know what the maximum penalties would be for violations, it would depend upon if it ended up in court. Those businesses outside of the City causing odors like feedlots would not fall under this ordinance. Discussed was the make-up of an odor board. City Administrator Jeff Pederson stated they had talked with the Health Department concerning the administration of this issue and where the responsibility would fall.

Mr. Shotkoski stated odor fines would go to the school fund. JBS and the Waste Water Treatment Plant odors were mentioned as being about 50/50. Enforcement from other cities was discussed. Ms. Oster commented on several cities and the processes they took which worked well.

Review of Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). City Administrator Jeff Pederson stated the City had been working on the CIP programs and the challenges of funding. He reported on the Five Year Capital Fund (400 Fund) programs as identified and prioritized through the Program Prioritization. Operating capital from the General fund had dropped to zero. Funds for CIP came from Gas Tax, Keno, and Special Assessments in the amount of approximately \$1 million.

Public Works Director Steve Riehle commented on the scoring for the Public Works CIP projects done through his office. Reviewed were the current year projects and funds budgeted. Funding for a new Lincoln Pool in an amount of \$1.1 million was mentioned vs. renovation of the current facility. It was mentioned that way-side horns and round-a-bout funding could be pushed back.

Finance Director Mary Lou Brown reviewed the 2009/2010 funding sources. Explained was the different funds and what they could pay for. Debt Service Fund from the General Fund was reviewed.

Report on Program Prioritization Model. City Administrator Jeff Pederson reported that the City of Grand Island began the Program Prioritization process several months ago. Presented was an update of the model for the 2010/2011 budget process. Program scoring had been completed and information compiled into the four quartiles for General Fund programs.

The following reductions through the program prioritization were made:

Community-Oriented Programs:

<u>Ranking</u>	<u>2010 Proposed Budget</u>	<u>Increase (Reduce) %</u>	<u>2011 Target Budget</u>
Qrt 1	\$11,866,803	-2.00%	\$11,629,467
Qrt 2	\$10,013,714	-6.50%	\$ 9,362,822
Qrt 3	\$ 5,320,562	-11.00%	\$ 4,735,300
Qrt 4	\$ 2,304,147	-16.00%	\$ 1,935,483
Totals	\$29,505,226	-6.24%	\$27,663,073

Governance Programs:

<u>Ranking</u>	<u>2010 Proposed Budget</u>	<u>Increase (Reduce) %</u>	<u>2011 Target Budget</u>
Qrt 1	\$1,252,869	-2.00%	\$1,227,812
Qrt 2	\$ 892,180	-3.00%	\$ 865,415
Qrt 3	\$ 477,024	-4.00%	\$ 457,943
Qrt 4	\$ 747,059	-2.00%	\$ 732,118
Totals	\$3,369,132	-2.55%	\$3,283,287

Finance Director Mary Lou Brown commented on the labor costs to each budget and the challenges for each department to create next year's budget. Compliments were made by the Mayor and Council for the work done on this process by City staff.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

RaNae Edwards
City Clerk