



City of Grand Island

Tuesday, March 15, 2011

Study Session

Item C1

Proclamation "Sunshine Week" March 13-19, 2011

The City of Grand Island supports the full measures of our nation's Bill of Rights, the Constitution and the laws of Nebraska and considers openness in policy making decisions, in the "sun light" of transparency with the inherent right to access to government meeting and public records, in the best interest of its citizens. The Mayor has proclaimed the week of March 13-19, 2011 as "Sunshine Week". See attached PROCLAMATION.

Staff Contact: Mayor Vavricek

THE OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
City of Grand Island
State of Nebraska

PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS, our nation declared, "We hold these Truths to be self-evident, that all Men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness with Governments deriving their just Powers from the Consent of the Governed"; and
- WHEREAS, the framers of the Declaration of independence "pledged their Lives, Fortunes, and sacred Honor"; and
- WHEREAS, our nation's Constitution declares, "We THE People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity;" and
- WHEREAS, in 1789, Congress under the Constitution first convened in the month of March; and
- WHEREAS, the Constitution's First Amendment declares Congress "shall make no law abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press"; and
- WHEREAS, the foundation of the State of Nebraska states, "The Salvation of the State, is the Watchfulness of its Citizens"; and
- WHEREAS, the City of Grand Island supports the full measures of our nation's Bill of Rights, the Constitution and the laws of Nebraska and considers openness in policy making decisions, in the "sun light" of transparency with the inherent right to access to government meetings, public records, in the best interest of its citizens; and
- WHEREAS, the City of Grand Island abides by the Open Meetings Act in conducting business and Nebraska Open Records Law requests, convenes to the people's business with pre-announced published notices, welcomes attendance by a free press and citizens, telecasts its regularly scheduled meetings on GITV and archived for posterity with accountability of its proceedings and actions with minutes recorded by a City Clerk and later publicly approved by its elected body; and

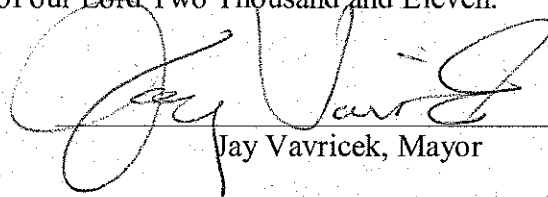
WHEREAS, the values of public trust rests on the genuine efforts to foster open government is publicly acknowledged and supported by Mayor Jay Vavricek and each member of the Grand Island City Council and embraced by each dedicated employee of the City of Grand Island.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jay Vavricek, Mayor of the City of Grand Island, Nebraska, commemorate and declare March 13th - 19th, 2011 as Open Government

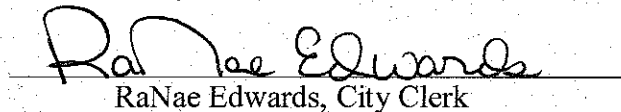
“SUNSHINE WEEK”

in the City of Grand Island, and encourage all citizens, members of an impartial free press and the city’s elected leaders to mutually work to emulate the best intentions of our nation’s Bill of Rights, the Constitution and transparency in government in the highest measure of service to the people of Grand Island.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the City of Grand Island to be affixed this eighth day of March in the year of our Lord Two Thousand and Eleven.


Jay Vavricek, Mayor

Attest:


RaNae Edwards, City Clerk

