

**Minutes of the Grinnell City Council Meeting
Tuesday, September 5, 2006**

The Grinnell City Council met in regular session in the council chambers of the Grinnell Community Center, 927 4th Avenue, Grinnell, Iowa, at 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, September 5, 2006. Mayor Canfield presided.

ROLL CALL: PRESENT: Wilson, McNaul, White, Wright, Worley, Witt

PERFECTING AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Moved by WHITE, second by WORLEY, to approve the Agenda and the Consent Agenda as presented. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: White, Worley, Witt, Wright, Wilson, McNaul. Motion carried

CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. Previous minutes as drafted from the Monday, August 21, 2006 Regular Session.
- B. Approval of the On-Premise Application for Liquor, Wine or Beer for Casa Margaritas, Inc., 101 West St.
- C. Approval of the Off-Premise Application for Beer for Casey's General Store #1950, 217 6th Ave.
- D. Approval of the On-Premise Application for Liquor, Wine or Beer for Rabbitt's Tavern, Inc., 721 4th Ave.
- E. Approval of the request by the Grinnell Historic Neighborhood Association for the Grinnell Historic Home Tour on October 8, 2006 including waiver of fees and covering no parking signs.

APPROVAL OF THE CLAIMS:

Moved by WHITE, second by MCNAUL, to approve payment of the claims where funds are available. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: White, McNaul, Worley, Wright, Wilson, Witt. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS/MEETING MINUTES:

- A. Finance Committee: August 21, 2006
- B. Planning Committee: August 21, 2006
- C. Public Works and Grounds Committee: August 21, 2006
- D. Public Safety Committee: August 22, 2006
- E. Stewart Library Board of Trustees: August 24, 2006
- F. GET-12 Cable Television Committee: August 29, 2006
- G. Grinnell Renaissance: August 29, 2006.
- H. Letter of Resignation from the Library Board from Sue Drake.

COMMITTEE BUSINESS:

- A. Report from the Finance Committee
 - o Approval of business grant for Lonnski's Pub & Deli. (See Resolution No. 3002.)

Moved by WHITE, second by WITT, to approve Resolution No. 3002: "A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF A BUSINESS GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,442.45 TO LONNSKI'S PUB & DELI FOR BENEFITS TO THE PUBLIC DUE TO THE ENHANCEMENT

OF THE RETAIL ENVIRONMENT IN DOWNTOWN GRINNELL.” Roll Call Vote: Ayes: White, Witt, McNaul, Worley, Wright, Wilson. Motion carried.

- Update on ethanol plant.

A public meeting will be held Thursday, September 7, 2006 at 9:00 a.m. with the County Supervisors to discuss the incentive package they plan to offer Big River Resources.

White commented that the lawsuit that has been filed could cause the project to be delayed. He stated that there will be some public relations pieces put in the paper.

- Review setting the equivalent residential unit charge for the storm water utility at \$2.50. (See Resolution No. 3003.)

Moved by WHITE, second by WITT, to approve Resolution No. 3003: “A RESOLUTION SETTING THE EQUIVALENT RESIDENTIAL UNIT CHARGE FOR THE STORM WATER UTILITY AT \$2.50.” Roll Call Vote: Ayes: White, Witt, Wilson, Wright, Worley, McNaul. Motion carried.

Behrens stated that Jan Anderson and he are willing to discuss the storm water utility with anyone that wants more information.

- Update on local option sales tax initiative.

White stated that a consortium of individuals from the three main projects, that will possibly be funded with the local option sales tax, need to meet to discuss the benefits of the tax and develop a strategy for communicating those benefits to the public.

- Discuss city manager performance evaluation and contract renewal.

White stated that Canfield and he met that afternoon to go over the evaluations. They will present the results after the Public Safety meeting tomorrow, September 6, 2006.

- Discuss Grinnell High School yearbook advertising request.

The consensus of the committee was to deny the request.

- Discuss letter of endorsement for the Brooklyn Community Foundation.

The city of Brooklyn is requesting a letter of support for their application to the Vision Iowa program for a community center to honor Mike Manatt. Canfield supported providing a letter of endorsement but suggested researching what, if any, impact this project might have on the city’s plan to apply to this same program for the Iowa Transportation Museum. Behrens is checking on the impact.

- Update on letter to IRS in regard to payroll reporting.

The city is still waiting to hear from the IRS on whether a penalty will be issued or not.

- Review of the requests for assistance from the Campbell Fund.

Approved by the committee as presented.

B. Report from the Planning Committee

- Discuss fringe area agreement.

A joint meeting between the county board of supervisors and the county planning and zoning commission will be held Thursday, September 14, 2006 to discuss the fringe area agreement.

Behrens stated that packets of information on the fringe area agreement have been sent to the county supervisors and the planning and zoning commission. The fringe area is the two mile radius outside the city limits and is a way for the city to manage the growth on the outskirts of the city. He stated that the city has been working on the agreement for one and one half years. The agreement will help protect the wastewater treatment plant and the compost facilities.

Behrens commented that the fringe area would be zoned as agricultural. It provides a protection for farmers and will make it more appealing to build within the city limits. The ownership of the rural land is being fragmented. He stated that the city's density has decreased over the last ten years. If a business wants to locate in the fringe area, the business must be agricultural in nature or they will need to locate in the industrial park.

The fringe area agreement is modeled after the Pella and Marion County agreement. Demographic information included in the packets came from the park plan.

Anyone in the two mile radius that is interested in seeing the plan can come into the city offices to view it.

- Discuss dark sky lighting ordinance. (See Ordinance No. 1276.)

Worley stated that Duane Neff has spent a lot of time reviewing and editing the ordinance. The committee suggested sending it to planning and zoning and to city attorney for review. A dark sky lighting ordinance is designed to cut down on lights reflecting in the night sky and help eliminate nuisance lighting.

- Discuss urban renewal area amendment procedures.

The consultation meeting was held Thursday, August 31, 2006 and the public hearing will be held September 18, 2006.

- Inquiry

The speed limits on Highway 146 from Wal-Mart north to the current 35 mph limit were questioned. A study has been completed by the Iowa Department of Transportation and they did not recommend changing the speed limit. Staff will review the study and see if other recommendations should be made. The request will be sent to the public safety committee for review.

Two parties involved a land transfer issue have come to an agreement and the city will no longer have to be involved in the situation.

C. Report from the Public Works and Grounds Committee

- Approval of the setting the equivalent residential unit charge for the storm water utility at \$2.50. (See Resolution No. 3003.)

Handled above under the Finance Committee.

- Review of Pay Request No. 1 in regard to Lang Creek Crossing Phase 2. (See Resolution No. 3004.)

Moved by WITT, second by MCNAUL, to approve Resolution No. 3004: "A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF CONTRACTOR'S PROGRESS PAYMENT NO. 1 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$230,878.50 TO THE UNDERGROUND COMPANY OF CARLISLE, IOWA FOR WORK COMPLETED ON THE LANG CREEK CROSSING – PHASE 2." Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Witt, McNaul, Wright, Wilson, Worley, White. Motion carried.

- Approval of Pay Request No. 2 in regard to the Grinnell Trailhead Project (See Resolution No. 3005).

Moved by WITT, second by WRIGHT, to approve Resolution No. 3005: "A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF CONTRACTOR'S PROGRESS PAYMENT NO. 2 (FINAL) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$30,308.28 TO HOWREY CONSTRUCTION INC. OF ROCKWELL CITY, IOWA FOR WORK COMPLETED ON THE GRINNELL TRAILHEAD PROJECT." Roll Call Vote: Witt, Wright, Wilson, White, McNaul, Worley. Motion carried.

- Discuss water and sewer extension – Prairie Point Estates.

The cost estimate has been reduced, due to a change in the plans. There isn't money in the budget and there is money in the reserves, but not enough in the sewer reserves to cover the entire cost. Staff is discussing options for funding the project with the developer.

- Discuss IDOT report on school crossing.

Five intersections are recommended for modification, including the addition of permanent signage. A recommendations was made to close a portion or Prairie Street west of Bailey Park and make cul-de-sac.

- Update on parks plan.

A key stakeholder meeting is in works. Staff is waiting for names of individuals to invite before a date is set.

The meeting scheduled for Wednesday, September 6, 2006 at 6:30 pm has been cancelled.

- Inquiry.

The seal coating has not been completed. Manatts ran out of pre-coated chips and only half of the streets have been completed. It will be approximately two weeks before they are back and three to four weeks before the project is completed. The project was supposed to be completed on August 18, 2006 and they started today. A change order needs to be completed.

- D. Report from the Public Safety Committee
(Please Note: This meeting was held on Tuesday, August 22, 2006.)

- Review Adoption of National Incident Management System by State and Local Governments.

The Fire Chief and Police Chief presented information on the National Incident Management System (NIMS). As a part of the adoption of NIMS, the City Council, Mayor, City Manager, City Clerk and Deputy City Clerk should take at a minimum classes IS-100 and IS-700.

- Review request to amend city of Grinnell's cat ordinance pertaining to cats running at-large.

Wilson commented that there are varying interpretations of what passing over the lawn means. He stated that a resident's neighbor's cat was bothering their dog and the neighbor was asked to keep the cat on their property. The cat continued to bother the dog so the police were called. It went to court and the suit was lost due to the court's interpretation. The committee is looking at amending the ordinance.

Wilson stated he will be attending the meeting with supervisors on the ethanol plant. He is concerned with the additional traffic it will produce on Highway 146. Another concern is how the money set aside for public safety is distributed.

E. Mayor's Committee Appointment Recommendations

- Appointment of Rachel Bly – Library Board.

Moved by WHITE, second by WORLEY, to appoint Rachel Bly to the Library Board. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: White, Worley, Wilson, Witt, McNaul, Wright. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. None.

APPROVAL OF THE RESOLUTIONS:

Moved by MCNAUL, second by WORLEY, to approve Resolution No. 3006: "A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS AS SUBMITTED FOR PROPERTY AND REQUEST TAX EXEMPTION FOR THIS IMPROVEMENT ACCORDING TO CHAPTER 404 OF THE STATE CODE (Donald L. & Doris M. Weaver, 12 Melrose Lane)." Roll Call Vote: Ayes: McNaul, Worley, Wright, Wilson, White, Witt. Motion carried.

Moved by MCNAUL, second by WORLEY, to approve Resolution No. 3007: "A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS AS SUBMITTED FOR PROPERTY AND REQUEST TAX EXEMPTION FOR THIS IMPROVEMENT ACCORDING TO CHAPTER 404 OF THE STATE CODE (Janet M. Barnes, 1631 Hobart Street)." Roll Call Vote: Ayes: McNaul, Worley, Wilson, White, Wright, Witt. Motion carried.

INQUIRIES:

Canfield commented that Don Bradley from KGRN had passed away.

REPORT FROM THE CITY MANAGER: None.

ADJOURN:

Moved by MCNAUL, second by WHITE, to adjourn this regular session of the Grinnell City Council at 7:37 pm. Vote: (6) ayes, motion carried.

ATTEST:

Gordon Canfield, Mayor

Anmarie Wingerter, Deputy City Clerk