

CITY OF GRANT
MINUTES

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DATE : February 7, 2023
TIME STARTED : 7:12 p.m.
TIME ENDED : 8:033 p.m.
MEMBERS PRESENT : Councilmember Carr, Rog, Giefer,
and Mayor Huber
MEMBERS ABSENT : None

Staff members present: City Planner, Jennifer Swanson; City Treasurer Sharon Schwarze and Administrator/Clerk, Kim Points

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:12 p.m.

PUBLIC INPUT

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

SETTING THE AGENDA

Council Member Giefer moved to approve the agenda, as presented. Council Member Rog seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

January 3, 2023 City Council Meeting Minutes	Approved
January 2023 Bill List, \$102,217.71	Approved
Bremer Bank, Road Bond, \$81,254.80	Approved
Administrator/Clerk Monthly Medical, \$1,300.00	Approved
Extension of Assessor Contract, Todd Smith	Approved

Council Member Giefer moved to approve the consent agenda, as presented. Council Member Carr seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

STAFF AGENDA ITEMS

City Engineer, Brad Reifsteck

1 **Consideration of Resolution No. 2023-05, Speed Limit Policy on City Gravel Roads** – City
2 Engineer Reifsteck advised Grant has several posted speed limits on local streets in the city that were
3 set based on MnDOT speed studies or on County or State roadways. At this time, if speed limits are
4 not posted on a street the statutory speed is 30 mph in an urban district, 35 mph in a rural residential
5 district and 55 mph on all other roadways.

6
7 The city of Grant currently has just over 15 miles (22 %) of all roadways (paved or gravel) with
8 posted speed limits greater than 35 mph. Township Roads, County Roads or State Trunk Highways
9 are not included. The current speed limits on all roadways in the City of Grant are shown on Figure 1
10 of the attached Tech Memo.

11
12 The city requested WSB to evaluate two alternatives for reducing speed limits on all local roadways
13 to 35 mph or less.

14
15 The first alternative includes a citywide maximum 35mph speed limit on all local roadways (paved or
16 gravel), see figure 3 in the attached Tech Memo. Any existing streets currently posted less than 35
17 mph would remain at their current posted speed limit. Should this alternative be considered, it would
18 be recommended that the street being changed should have any existing speed limits signs removed
19 and a new 35 mph speed limit sign posted (approximately 30 signs).

20
21 The second alternative includes reducing speeds to 35 mph on all gravel roadways see figure 5 in the
22 attached Tech Memo. Like Alternative 1, some of the gravel roadways currently have speed limits of
23 35 mph or less. With this alternative, some paved roadways will remain at 40mph, 45 mph, 50 mph.
24 Should this alternative be considered, it would be recommended that the streets being changed
25 should have any existing speed limit signs removed and a new 35 mph speed limit posted.

26
27 Based on the review of the speed limit alternatives, Alternative 1 above, with maximum of 35 mph on
28 all local streets as shown in Figure 3 is recommended. The preliminary estimated cost to remove the
29 existing speed limit signs and installation of approximately 30 new 35 mph speed limit sign would be
30 approximately \$7,500.00.

31
32 Should the City Council determine that they would be in favor of reducing speed limits on local
33 streets, the following steps are required:

- 34
- 35 • Approve Speed Limit Policy and Resolution adopting the reduced speed limits on local
36 roadways.
 - 37 • Prepare an implementation signing plan showing the removal of existing signs and installation
38 of new speed limit signs.
 - 39 • Prepare a communication plan informing the community on the speed limit changes and that
40 lowering the speed limits will create safer roadways for both vehicles and pedestrians. At a
41 minimum this would include:
 - 42 ○ Preparation of articles and maps in the city newsletter
 - 43 ○ Announcement at Community events and City Meetings
 - 44 ○ Press Release
- 45

1 Council Member Carr moved to adopt Resolution No. 2023-05 up to the amount of \$5,000.00.
2 Council Member Giefer seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

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4 City Planner, Jennifer Swanson (no action items)

5
6 City Attorney, Nick Vivian (no action items)

7
8 **NEW BUSINESS**

9 **PUBLIC HEARING, Consideration of Ordinance No. 2023-72, 2023, Moratorium on Land Use**
10 – Staff advised a recent Land Use application raised several questions regarding storage land use
11 within the City of Grant. Staff is recommending the Council approve a moratorium on storage land
12 use so the current ordinances relating to storage can be studied.

13 Council Member Rog moved to open the public hearing at 7:39 p.m. Council Member Giefer
14 seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

15 Mr. Jerry Helander, 6261 Jasmine Avenue, came forward and expressed concern regarding the public
16 hearing notice that was published in the newspaper.

17 Council Member moved to close the public hearing at 7:45 p.m. Council Member Rog
18 seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

19 Council Member Rog moved to approve Ordinance No. 2023-72, as presented. Council
20 Member Giefer seconded the motion. Motion carried with Council Member Carr voting nay.

21 **Consideration of Resolution No. 2023-04, Summary Publication of Ordinance No. 2023-72 –**
22 Staff advised Resolution No. 2023-04 authorizes a summary publication of Ordinance No. 2023-72.

23 Council Member Giefer moved to adopt Resolution No. 2023-04, as presented. Council
24 Member Rog seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

25 **Consideration of Planning Commission Appointment, David Tronrud –** Staff advised

26 Mayor Huber moved to appoint Mr. David Tronrud to the Planning Commission, as presented.
27 Council Member Carr seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

28 **Consideration of City Council Meeting Start Time –** Staff requested the City Council consider a
29 6:30 p.m. meeting start time to be consistent with the Planning Commission.

30 Council Member Carr moved to change the City Council Meeting time to 6:30 p.m. Council
31 Member Rog seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

32 **Consideration of Resolution No. 2023-06, Fill Vacancy on the Grant City Council –** Staff advised
33 a vacancy on the City Council was declared at the January meeting. The Council can now consider
34 an appointment to fill that vacancy.

35 Mayor Huber moved to adopt Resolution No. 2023-06, appointing Mr. Robert Tufty to the City
36 Council Vacancy. Council Member Giefer seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously
37 with a roll call vote.

38
39 **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

1 There was no unfinished business.

2 **DISCUSSION ITEMS** (no action taken)

3 **Staff Updates (updates from Staff, no action taken)**

4 **City Council Reports/Future Agenda Items**

5 Mayor Huber advised the City Council engaged in a work session last month regarding benefits for
6 City positions. The City of Grant is the only City that does not provide any benefits. The Council
7 determined they wanted to rectify that for two reasons: 1) health insurance is very expensive and the
8 Council agreed to set up a health reimbursement account (HCA) in the amount of \$1,300.00 per
9 month; and 2) to provide for continuity within the City for contractors and consultants. Filling future
10 positions in the City will prove to be much easier if the City has a full package.

11 Council Member Carr added that the Administrator/Clerk has been underpaid for a long time. It is
12 good to do this and it doesn't go against the Comprehensive Plan.

13 Council Member Rog stated the Administrator/Clerk does a very good job and the City should try to
14 keep her in place.

15 **A City Council Work Session was scheduled for Wednesday, February 15th at 6:30 p.m., in
16 person at Town Hall.**

17
18 **COMMUNITY CALENDAR FEBRUARY 8 THROUGH FEBRUARY 28, 2023:**

19 **Mahtomedi Public Schools Board Meeting, Thursday, February 9th and February 23rd,
20 Mahtomedi District Education Center, 7:00 p.m.**

21 **Stillwater Public Schools Board Meeting, Thursday, February 9th, Stillwater City Hall, 7:00
22 p.m.**

23 **Washington County Commissioners Meeting, Tuesdays, Government Center, 9:00 a.m.**

24
25 **ADJOURNMENT**

26 **Council Member Giefer moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:03 p.m. Council Member Rog
27 seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.**
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31 These minutes were considered and approved at the regular Council Meeting March 7, 2023.
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37 Kim Points, Administrator/Clerk

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37 Jeff Huber, Mayor