

CITY OF GRANT
WASHINGTON COUNTY, MINNESOTA
ORDINANCE 2017-51

**An Ordinance Amending the Grant Code of Ordinances
Amending Chapter 28 Streets, Sidewalks and Other Public Places**

The City Council of the City of Grant, Washington County, Minnesota, does hereby ordain as follows:

SECTION 1. AMENDMENT OF CHAPTER 28, STREETS, SIDEWALKS AND OTHER PUBLIC PLACES, OF THE CITY’S CODE OF ORDINANCES.

That City Code Chapter 28, Article IV is hereby AMENDED to ADD the following

Section 28-52. Findings, Purpose, and Intent.

To provide for the health, safety and welfare of its citizens, and to ensure the integrity of its streets and the appropriate use of the rights-of-way, the city strives to keep its rights-of-way in good repair and free from unnecessary encumbrances. Accordingly, the city enacts this Article IV of Chapter 28 of the Code establishing reasonable regulations concerning the placement and maintenance of facilities and equipment within the city’s rights-of-way and obstructions of such rights-of-way.

This Article is intended to implement Minnesota Statutes Sections 237.162 and 237.163 Minnesota Rules 7819.0050 – 7819.9950, and other applicable laws governing use of rights-of-way. Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Sections 237.163 subdivision 2(b), and all authority granted to the city, the city hereby elects to manage rights-of-way within its jurisdiction.

Section 28-53. Definitions.

Abandon Facility means a facility no longer in service or physically disconnected from a portion of the operating facility, or from any other facility, that is in use.

Applicant means any person that has applied for a permit to excavate or obstruct a right-of-way.

City means the city of Grant, Minnesota, its elected officials, officers, employees and agents.

Commission means the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission.

Construction Performance Bond means any of the following forms of security provided at a permittee’s option:

- (1) Individual project bond;
- (2) Cash deposit;

- (3) Security of a form listed or approved under Minnesota Statutes, section 15.73, subdivision;
- (4) Letter of Credit, in a form acceptable to the city;
- (5) Self-insurance, in a form acceptable to the city;
- (6) A blanket bond for projects within the city, or other form of construction bond, for a time specific^{3d} and in a form acceptable to the city.

Degradation means a decrease in the useful life of the right-of-way caused by excavation in or disturbance of the right-of-way, resulting in the need to reconstruct such right-of-way earlier than would be required if the excavation or disturbance did not occur.

Degradation Cost means the cost, subject to Minnesota Rules 7819.1100, to achieve a level of restoration as determined by the city at the time the permit is issued, not to exceed the maximum restoration shown in plates 1 to 13, set forth in Minnesota Rules parts 7819.9900 to 7819.9950.

Degradation Fee means the fee established by the city at the time of permitting in an amount estimated to recover the degradation cost.

Director means the City Engineer of the city, or his or her designee.

Delay Penalty is the penalty imposed as a result of unreasonable delays in right-of-way excavation, obstruction, patching, or restoration as established by permit.

Emergency means a condition that (1) poses a danger to life or health, or of a significant loss of property; or (2) requires immediate repair or replacement of facilities in order to restore service to a customer.

Equipment means any tangible asset used to install, repair, or maintain facilities in any right-of-way.

Excavate means to dig into or in any way remove or physically disturb or penetrate any part of a right-of-way.

Facility or Facilities means tangible asset in the public right-of-way required to provide utility service.

Local Representative means a local person authorized by a right-of-way user to accept service and to make decisions for that right-of-way user regarding all matters within scope of this Article IV.

Management Costs means the actual costs the city incurs in managing its rights-of-way, including costs associated with registering applicants; issuing, processing, and verifying right-of-way permit applications; inspecting job sites and restoration projects; maintaining, supporting, protecting, or moving user facilities during right-of-way work; determining the adequacy of right-of-way restoration; restoring work inadequately performed after providing notice and the opportunity to correct the work; and revoking right-of-way permits. Management costs do not include payment for the use of the right-of-way or the fees and costs of any litigation or appeals relating to this Article IV.

Obstruct means to place any tangible object in the right-of-way so as to hinder free and open passage over that or any part of the right-of-way.

Patch or Patching means a method of pavement replacement that is temporary in nature. A patch consists of (1) the compaction of the subbase and aggregate base, and (2) the replacement, in kind, of the existing pavement for a minimum of two feet beyond the edges of the excavation in all directions.

Pavement means any type of improved surface that is within the public right-of-way and that is paved or otherwise constructed with bituminous, concrete, aggregate, or gravel.

Permit has the meaning given “right-of-way permit” in Minnesota Statutes, section 237.162.

Permittee means any person to whom a permit to excavate or obstruct a right-of-way has been granted by the city under this Article IV.

Person means an individual or entity subject to the laws and rules of this state, however organized, whether public or private, whether domestic or foreign, whether for profit or nonprofit, and whether natural, corporate, or political.

Public Right-of-Way or Right-of-Way has the meaning given it in Minnesota Statutes, section 237.162, subdivision 3.

Restore or Restoration means the process by which an excavated right-of-way and surrounding area, including pavement and foundation, is returned to the same condition and life expectancy that existed before excavation.

Restoration Cost means the amount of money paid to the city by a right-of-way user to achieve the level of restoration according to plates 1 to 13 of Minnesota Rule 7819.1100 Subpart 1.

Right-of-Way User means any person who has or seeks to have its equipment or facilities located in any right-of-way.

Service or Utility Service means and includes (1) services provided by a public utility as defined in Minnesota Statutes 216B.02, subdivisions 4 and 6; (2) services of a telecommunications provided including transporting of voice or data information; (3) services of a cable communications system as defined in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 238.02, subdivision 3; (4) natural gas or electric energy or telecommunications services provided by a local government unit; (5) services provided by a cooperative electric association organized under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 308A.

Temporary Surface means the compaction of subbase and aggregate base and replacement, in kind, of the existing pavement only to the edges of the excavation. It is temporary in nature except when the replacement is of pavement included in the city’s pavement management plan, in which case it is considered full restoration.

Trench means an excavation in the right-of-way, with the excavation having a length equal to or greater than the width of the pavement of adjacent pavement.

Section 28-54. Administration

The City Engineer is the principal city official responsible for the administration of the rights-of-way, right-of-way permits, and the ordinances related thereto. The City Engineer may delegate any or all of the duties hereunder.

Section 28-55. Conduct Prohibited.

Except as authorized pursuant to a permit issued by the city, no person shall:

- (a) Obstruct or excavate any right-of-way.
- (b) Place any equipment, facilities, or structures in any right-of-way.
- (c) Deposit snow or ice on any right-of-way.

- (d) Erect a fence or other barrier on or across any right-of-way.
- (e) Obstruct any ditch in or abutting a right-of-way.
- (f) Place any advertisement or sign other than a traffic control sign or other governmental sign in any right-of-way.
- (g) Deface, mar, damage or tamper with any sign, marker, signal, monument, equipment facility, structure, material, tools, or any appurtenance in any right-of-way.
- (h) Drive a vehicle over, through, around, or past any fence, barrier, sign, or obstruction erected to prevent traffic from passing over the right-of-way, or portion of the right-of-way.

Section 28-56. Registration and Right-of-Way Occupancy.

(a) *Registration.* Each right-of-way user, including persons with installation and maintenance responsibilities by contract, lease, sublease or assignment, must register with the city. Registration will consist of providing registration information and paying a registration fee.

(b) *Registration prior to work.* No person may construct, install, repair remove, relocate any equipment or facilities or perform any other work in any right-of-way without first being registered with the city.

(c) *Exceptions.* Persons shall not be required to register, obtain permits or satisfy any other requirements under this Section for the following:

- (1) Construction and maintenance of driveways, sidewalks, curb and gutter, or parking lots pursuant to a driveway permit, except repairs or restoration necessitated by utility cuts or other work;
- (2) Plowing and preparing the land for planting a perennial hay crop, and harvesting said crop;
- (3) Snow removal activities;
- (4) Placement of flexible fiberglass markers at the edge of the paved road to assist snow plow operators (metal posts are prohibited).

Nothing herein relieves a person from complying with the provisions of the Minnesota Statutes, chapter 216D, Gopher One Call Law.

Section 28-57. Registration Information.

(a) *Information Required.* The information provided to the city at the time of registration shall include, but not be limited to:

- (1) The right-of-way user's name, Gopher One-Call registration certificate number, address and e-mail address if applicable, and telephone and facsimile numbers;
- (2) The name, address and e-mail address, if applicable, and telephone and facsimile numbers of local representative accessible for consultation at all times. Current contact information shall be provided at the time of registration.
- (3) A certificate of insurance or self-insurance:
 - i. Verifying that an insurance policy has been issued to the right-of-way user by an insurance company authorized to do business in the State of Minnesota, or a form of self-insurance acceptable to the city;
 - ii. Verifying that the right-of-way user is insured against claims for personal injury, including death, as well as claims for property damage arising out of the (i) use and occupancy of the right-of-way by the right-of-way user, its officers, agents, employees and permittees, and (ii) placement and use of facilities and equipment in the right-of-way by the right-of-way user, its officers, agents, employees and

- iii. Either naming the city as an additional insured or otherwise providing evidence satisfactory to the Administrator that the city is fully covered and will be defended;
- iv. Requiring that the city be notified thirty (30) days in advance of cancellation of the policy or material modification off a coverage term;
- v. Indicating comprehensive liability coverage, automobile liability coverage, workers' compensation and umbrella coverage established by the city in amounts sufficient to protect the city and the public and to carry out the purposes and policies of this Article.
- vi. Evidencing adequate third part claim coverage and city indemnification for all actions included in Minnesota Rule part 7819.1250.

(4) Such evidence as the city may require to demonstrate that the person is authorized to do business in Minnesota.

(5) Such evidence as the city may require to demonstrate that the person is authorized to use or occupy the right-of-way.

(b) *Notice of Changes.* The registrant shall keep all of the information listed above current at all times by providing to the city information as to changes within fifteen (15) days following the date on which the registrant has knowledge of any change.

Section 28-58. Reporting Obligations.

(a) *Operations.* Each right-of-way user shall, at the time of registration and by December 1 of each year, file a construction and maintenance plan for underground facilities with the city. Such plan shall be submitted using a format designated by the city and shall contain the information determined by the city to be necessary to facilitate the coordination and reduction in the frequency of excavations and obstructions of rights-of-way.

(b) *Plan.* The plan shall include, but not be limited to, the following information:

- (1) The locations and the estimated beginning and ending dates of all projects to be commenced during the next calendar year (in this section, a “next-year project”); and
- (2) To the extent known, the tentative locations and estimated beginning and ending dates for all projects contemplated for the five years following the next calendar year (in this section, a “five-year project”).

(c) *Failure to Include Projects in Plan.* The city may deny an application for a right-of-way permit for failure to include a project in the plan submitted to the city for next-year projects unless the right-of-way user demonstrates that it used commercially reasonable efforts to identify the project. The city may annually produce for inspection a list of all planned projects for inspection.

Section 28-59. Permit Requirement.

(a) *Permit Required.* A permit is required to excavate the right-of-way, to place equipment of facilities in or on the right-of-way, or to obstruct or otherwise hinder free and open passage over the right-of-way. The permit shall specify the extent and the duration of the work permitted.

(b) *Permit Extensions.* No person may excavate or obstruct the right-of-way beyond the date or dates specified in the permit unless (i) such person makes a supplementary application for another right-of-way permit before the expiration of the initial permit, and (ii) a new permit or permit extension is granted.

(c) *Delay Penalty.* In accordance with Minnesota Rule 7819.1000 subp. 3, the city may establish and impose a delay penalty for unreasonable delays in right-of-way excavation, obstruction, patching, or restoration. The delay penalty shall be established from time to time by city council resolution. A delay penalty will not be imposed for delays due to force majeure, including inclement weather, civil strife, acts of God, or other circumstances beyond the control of the applicant.

(d) *Permit Delay.* Permits issued under this Section shall be conspicuously displayed or otherwise available at all times at the indicated work site and shall be available for inspection by the city.

Section 28-60. Permit Applications.

An application for a permit is made to the city. Right-of-way permit applications shall contain, and will only be considered complete upon compliance with the following:

- (a) Registration with the city pursuant to this Article.
- (b) Submission of a completed permit application form, including all required attachments, and scaled drawings showing the location and area of the proposed project and the location of all known existing and proposed facilities.
- (c) Payment of money due to the city for:
 - (1) Permit fees, estimated restoration costs and other management costs;
 - (2) Prior obstructions or excavations;
 - (3) Any undisputed loss, damage, or expense suffered by the city because of applicant's prior excavations or obstructions of the rights-of-way or any emergency actions taken by the city;
 - (4) Franchise fees or other charges, if applicable.
- (d) Payment of disputed amounts due to the city by posting security or depositing in an escrow account an amount equal to at least 100% of the amount owing.
- (e) Posting an additional or larger construction performance bond should the city deem the existing construction performance bond inadequate.

Section 28-61. Issuance of Permit; Conditions.

(a) *Permit Issuance.* If the Applicant has satisfied the requirements of this Article IV the city shall issue a permit.

(b) *Conditions.* The city may impose reasonable conditions upon the issuance of the permit and the performance of the applicant thereunder to protect the health, safety and welfare or when necessary to protect the right-of-way and its current use. The city may establish and define location and relocation requirements for equipment and facilities to be located in the right-of-way.

Section 28-62. Permit Fee.

(a) *Fee Schedule and Fee Allocation.* The city's permit fees shall be designed to recover the city's actual costs and shall be based on an allocation among all users of the right-of-way, including the city.

(b) *Permit Fee Amount.* The city shall establish a permit fee sufficient to recover the following costs:

- (1) The city's management costs;
- (2) Degradation costs, if applicable
- (c) *Payment of Permit Fees.* No permit shall be issued without payment of permit fees. The city may allow an applicant to pay such fees within thirty (30) days of billing. Permit fees paid for a permit that the city has revoked for a breach are not refundable.

(d) *Application to Franchises.* Unless otherwise agreed to in a franchise, management costs may be charged separately from and in addition to the franchise fees imposed on a right-of-way user in the franchise.

Section 28-63. Right-of-Way Patching and Restoration.

(a) *Timing.* The work to be done under a permit, and the required patching and restoration of the right-of-way, must be completed within the dates specified in the permit, increased by as many days as work could not be done because of circumstances beyond the control of the permittee or when work was prohibited as unseasonal or unreasonable under (INSPCTION # citation here).

(b) *Patching.* The permittee must patch its own work.

(c) *Restoration.* The city may choose either to have the permittee restore the surface and subgrading portions of right-of-way or the city may restore the surface portion of right-of-way itself. If the city restores the surface portion of right-of way, permittee shall pay the costs thereof within thirty (30) days of billing. If, following such restoration, the pavement settles due to permittee's improper backfilling, the permittee shall pay to the city, within thirty (30) days of billing, all costs associated with correcting the defective work. IF the permittee restores the right-of-way itself, it shall at the time of filing the permit application post a construction performance bond in accordance with the provisions of Minnesota Rule 7819.3000.

(d) *Degradation fee in Lieu of Restoration.* In lieu of right-of-way restoration, a right-of-way user may elect to pay a degradation fee in an amount identified by the city. However, the right-of-way user shall remain responsible for replacing and compacting the subgrade and aggregate base material in the excavation and degradation fee shall not include the cost to accomplish these responsibilities.

(e) *Standards.* The permittee shall perform patching and restoration according to the standards in Minnesota Rule 7819.1100, and with the materials specified by the city.

(f) *Duty to correct defects.* The permittee shall correct defects in patching, or restoration performed by permittee or its agents upon notification from the city, using the method required by the city.

(g) *Failure to restore.* If the permittee fails to restore the right-of-way in the manner and to the condition required by the city, or fails to satisfactorily and timely complete all restoration required by the city, the city shall notify the permittee in writing of the specific alleged failure or failures and shall allow the permittee ten (1) days from receipt of notice to cure said failure or failures. In the even the permittee fails to cure, the city may at its option perform the necessary work and permittee shall pay to the city, within thirty (30) days of billing, the cost of restoring the right-of-way. If permittee fails to pay as required, the city may exercise its rights under the construction performance bond.

Section 28-64. Other Obligations.

(a) *Compliance with other laws.* Obtaining a right-of-way permit does not relieve permittee of its duty to obtain all other necessary permits, licenses, and authority and to apy all fees required by the city or other applicable rule, law or regulation. A permittee shall comply with all requirements of local, state and federal laws, including Minn. Statute 216D.01-.09 (Gopher One Call Excavation Notice System). A permittee shall perform all work in conformance with the applicable codes and established rules and regulations, and is responsible for all work done in the right-of-way pursuant to its permit, regardless of who does the work.

(b) *Prohibited Work.* Except in an emergency, and with the approval of the city, no right-of-way obstruction or excavation may be done when seasonally prohibited or when conditions are unreasonable for such work.

(c) *Interference with right-of-way.* A permittee shall not so obstruct or interfere with the natural passage of water through the gutters or other waterways. Private vehicles must be parked in conformance with city parking regulations. Unless specifically authorized by a permit, trucks must be loaded and unloaded within the defined permit area.

(d) *Traffic control.* A permittee shall implement traffic control measures in the area of the work and use traffic control procedures in accordance with the most recent manuals on uniform traffic control, traffic control devices and traffic zone layouts published by the State of Minnesota.

Section 28-65. Denial of Permit.

The City may deny a permit for failure to meet the requirements and conditions of this Article, to protect the public health, safety, and welfare, or to protect the right-of-way and its current use.

Section 28-66. Installation Requirements.

The installation of facilities in the right-of-way and associated excavation, backfilling, patching, and restoration work shall be done in conformance with Minnesota Rule 7819.1100 and other applicable local requirements.

Section 28-67. Inspection.

(a) *Notice of completion.* When the work under any permit hereunder is completed, the permittee shall furnish a completion certificate in accordance with Minnesota Rule 7819.1300.

(b) *Site Inspection.* The permittee shall make the work site available to the city for inspection at all reasonable times during the execution of and upon completion of the work.

(c) *Authority of Director.* The director may order the immediate cessation of any work which poses a serious threat to the life, health, safety or well-being of the public, or order the permittee to correct work that does not conform to the terms of the permit or other applicable standards, conditions, or code. If the work failure is a “substantial breach” within the meaning of Minnesota Statute 237.163 subd. 4(c), the order shall state the failure to correct the violation will be cause for revocation of the permit after a specified period determined by the director. The permittee shall present proof to the director that the violation has been timely corrected. If the violation is not timely corrected, the director may revoke the permit.

Section 28-68. Work Done without a Permit.

(a) *Emergency Situation.* Each right-of-way user shall immediately notify the director of any event regarding its facilities that the right-of-way user considers to be an emergency. The right-of-way user may take whatever actions are necessary to respond to the emergency. Within two (2) business days after the occurrence of the emergency the right-of-way user shall apply for the necessary permits and fulfill the rest of the requirements necessary to comply with this Article.

(b) If the city becomes aware of an emergency affecting facilities in the right-of-way, the city will attempt to contact the local representative of each potentially affected right-of-way user. The city may take whatever action it deems necessary to respond to the emergency, the cost of which shall be borne by affected right-of-way users.

(c) *Non-Emergency Situation.* Except in an emergency, any person who, without first having obtained the necessary permit, obstructs or excavates a right-of-way must subsequently obtain a permit, pay an unauthorized work permit fee in an amount established from time to time by the city council, deposit with the city the fees necessary to correct any damage to the right-of-way and comply with all the requirements of this Article.

Section 28-69. Revocation of Permits.

(a) *Substantial Breach.* The city reserves its right to revoke any right-of-way permit, without a fee refund, if there is a substantial breach of the terms and conditions of any statute, ordinance, rule or regulation, or any material condition of the permit. A substantial breach by permittee shall include, but shall not be limited to, the following:

- (1) The violation of any material provision of a permit'
- (2) An evasion or attempt to evade any material provision of a permit, or the perpetration or attempt to perpetrate any fraud or deceit upon the city or its citizens;
- (3) Any material misrepresentation of fact in the application for a permit;
- (4) The failure to complete work in a timely manner; or
- (5) The failure to correct, in a timely manner, work that does not conform to a condition indicated in an order issued by the director.

(b) *Written notice of breach.* If the city determines that the permittee has committed a substantial breach of term or condition of any statute, ordinance, rule regulation or any condition of the permit the city shall make a written demand upon the permittee to remedy such violation. The demand shall state that continued violations may be cause for revocation of the permit. A substantial breach, as stated above, will allow the city to place additional or revised conditions on the permit to mitigate and remedy the breach.

(c) *Response to notice of breach.* Within a time established by the director following permittee's receipt of notification of the breach, permittee shall provide the city with a plan to cure the breach, acceptable to the city. Permittee's failure to submit a timely and acceptable plan, or permittee's failure to timely implement the approved plan, shall be cause for immediate revocation of the permit.

(d) *Reimbursement of city costs.* If a permit is revoked, the permittee shall also reimburse the city for the city's reasonable costs, including restoration costs and the costs of collection and reasonable attorneys' fees incurred in connection with such revocation.

Section 28-70. Mapping Data.

Each right-of-way user and permittee shall provide mapping informational a form required by the city in accordance with Minnesota Rules 7819.4000 and 7819.4100.

Section 28-71. Relocation of Facilities.

A right-of-way user shall promptly and at its own expense, with due regard for seasonal working conditions, permanently remove and relocate its facilities in the right-of-way when it is necessary to prevent interference, and not merely for the convenience of the city, in connection with: (1) a present or future city use of the right-of-way for a public project; (2) the public health or safety; or (3) the safety and convenience of travel over the right-of-way.

Section 28-72. Interference by Other Facilities.

When the city does work in the right-of-way and finds it necessary to maintain, support, or move a right-of-way user's facilities to carry out the work without damaging right-of-way user's facilities, the city shall notify the local representative as early as is reasonable possible. The city costs associated therewith will be billed to that right-of-way user and must be paid within thirty (30) days form the date of billing. Each right-of-way user shall be responsible for the cost of repairing any facilities in the right-of-way which it or its facilities damages.

Section 28-73. Right-of-Way Vacation.

If the city vacates a right-of-way that contains the facilities of a right-of-way user, the right-of-way user's rights in the vacated right-of-way are governed by Minnesota Rules 7819.3200.

Section 28-74. Indemnification and Liability.

By registering with the city, or by accepting a permit under this Article, a right-of-way user or permittee agrees to defend and indemnify the city in accordance with the provisions of Minnesota Rule 7819.1250.

Section 28-75. Abandoned and Unusable Facilities.

(a) Discontinued Operations. A right-of-way user who has determined to discontinue all or a portion of its operations in the city must provide information satisfactory to the city that the right-of-way user's obligations for its facilities in the right-of-way under this Article have been lawfully assumed by another right-of-way user.

(b) Removal. Any right-of-way user who has abandoned facilities in any right-of-way shall remove it from that right-of-way if required in conjunction with other right-of-way repair, excavation, or construction, unless this requirement is waived by the city.

Section 28-75. Appeal.

A right-of-way user that: (1) has been denied registration; (2) has been denied a permit; (3) has had a permit revoked; or (4) believes that the fees imposed are not in conformity with Minnesota Statute 237.163, Section 410.06 may have the denial, revocation, or fee imposition reviewed, upon written request, by the city council. The city council shall act on a timely written request at its next regularly scheduled meeting. A decision by the city council affirming the denial, revocation, or fee imposition will be in writing.

Section 28-76. Reservation of Regulatory and Policy Powers.

A permittee's or right-of-way user's rights are subject to the regulatory and police power authority of the city to adopt and enforce general ordinances necessary to protect the health, safety and welfare of the public.

Section 28-77. Severability.

If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, or portion of this Article IV is for any reason held invalid or unconstitutional by any court, regulatory body or administrative agency of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct, and independent provision and such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions thereof.

Section 28-78. Penalty.

Any person violating any provision of this Article IV, or any permit or order issued hereunder, shall, upon conviction thereof, be guilty of a misdemeanor punishable in accordance with Section 2-102 of the City Code.

SECTION 2. SEVERABILITY.

In the event that court of competent jurisdiction adjudges any part of this ordinance to be invalid, such judgment shall not affect any other provisions of this ordinance not specifically included within that judgment.

SECTION 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This ordinance takes effect upon its adoption and publication according to law.

WHEREUPON, a vote, being taken upon a motion by Council member _____ and seconded by Council member _____, the following upon roll call:

Voting AYE:

Voting NAY:

Whereupon said Ordinance was declared passed adopted this ___day of _____, 2017.

Jeff Huber, Mayor

Attest: Kim Points, City Clerk