

A regular session of the Grundy Center City Council was called to order at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, June 21, 2021 in the Council Chambers by Mayor Protem Stefl. Present: Kuester, Smith and Mcdonald. Absent: Kiewiet and Hamann. Due to the COVID-19 crisis, the City of Grundy Center will be holding this regular city council meeting electronically via a conference call. If you would like to participate, use the call in or webinar information: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/196704453>. Can also dial in using your phone. United States: +1 (571) 317-3122 Access Code: 196-704-453.

Kuester moved and Smith seconded the approval of the meeting agenda with striking item #7 and with no conflict of interest. Motion carried four ayes.

Mcdonald moved and Kuester seconded the consent agenda consisting of: approval of the minutes of the regular session held Monday, June 7, 2021; approval of annual cigarette licenses for Casey's General Store, 504 G Avenue; Scotty's Saloon, 806 G Avenue; Brothers Market, 1400 G Avenue; Casey's General Store, 1708 G Avenue; Dollar General, 2009 Commerce Drive; approval for Landmark Bistro & Natural Grind to close 8th Street on Friday, July 9th from G Avenue to the alley and Saturday, July 10, 2021 to allow for preparation for and Felix Grundy Days; and approval of additional street closure for Felix Grundy Committee for Saturday, July 10, 2021 of 8th Street from H Avenue to J Avenue from 9-11am for Kiddie Parade. No further discussion, motion carried four ayes.

Mayor Protem Stefl opened the public forum at 6:32 pm. Rich Ahlberg commented on hearing rumor about behavior at Sports Complex and should be ashamed of themselves; asked who's responsible to review applications for Police Department positions; asked if there is an ordinance for bicycles to have rear flashing lights at night; asked about gravel parking lot and red truck parked there for days with no license plate and flat tire; and asked if 619 G Avenue rear of the building could be considered a hazard. No further comments, forum closed at 6:38 pm.

Mayor Protem Stefl then swore in Officer Chad Luck as a new full time Police Officer for the City.

Smith moved and Kuester seconded action to open the public hearing at 6:40pm on Ordinance 556 & 557 for Chapter 92.02 – Water Rates and Chapter 99.07 - Sewer Rate increases of 2%. Leonard Stephens, 309 2nd Street, presented the Council with a petition for a redress of grievance regarding his water. Stephens commented that the ice-pigging that was completed last year did help for about 2-3 months not a long term solution. Stephens commented against any rate increase for him until he is provided same water as the rest of the residents of Grundy Center. Rich Ahlberg asked if there is a time limit on water repairs and if there is water testing done. No further comments, Smith moved and Mcdonald seconded action to close the public hearing at 6:55pm.

Smith moved and Mcdonald seconded action on the First Reading of Ordinance 556- Chapter 92.02 Water Rates for a 2% increase effective July 1, 2021. Smith asked for the history of the 2% increase every July 1st. Bangasser explained that was put into place to cover our purchase cost of water and assist with saving for upcoming projects. Stefl commented that Iowa Rural Utilities Assn issues us a rate increase yearly to at most every other year. Stefl commented that the rate increases are necessary however also feels exceptions may be necessary as well. How do you determine who? Kuester commented without the 2% increases we would never be able to afford projects like one being looked at. No further discussion, motion carried four ayes.

Kuester moved and Stefl seconded action on the First Reading of Ordinance 557- Chapter 99.07 Sanitary Sewer Rates for a 2% increase effective July 1, 2021. No further discussion, motion carried four ayes.

Kuester moved and Stefl seconded action to open a public hearing at 7:08pm on Ordinance 558- Stop Sign Installation at Indigo and L Avenue intersection. No public comments. Smith moved and Mcdonald seconded action to close the public hearing at 7:09pm. No further discussions, motions carried four ayes.

Kuester moved and Smith seconded action the First Reading of Ordinance 558, an ordinance to install a stop sign at Indigo Street and L Avenue intersection. Stefl commented on feedback he received if this is that critical? Kuester commented that residents had reached out to him with concerns on vehicles cutting that corner too short and almost hitting people walking or riding bicycles. Smith commented that about a third of the drivers cut that corner way too short and that a sign would need to be there eventually. By adding it now would be proactive instead of after an accident occurs. No further discussion, motion carried four ayes.

Stefl moved and Mcdonald seconded action on Resolution 2021-35, a resolution to approve the fiscal year 2021 annual cash transfers. Smith asked if this was regular business, Sawyer confirmed. All cash transfer are included in annual budget as well. No further discussion, motion carried four ayes.

Smith moved and Stefl seconded action on Resolution 2021-36, a resolution to approve the fiscal year 2022 current city staff wages. No further discussion, motion carried four ayes.

Mcdonald moved and Stefl seconded action on Resolution 2021-37, a resolution to accept a quote from T&T Computers for a new city hall server. Sawyer commented that current server is 8+ years old and has ran out of storage space. Smith explained the difference between software RAID and hardware RAID. Smith moved and Kuester seconded action to accept the quote for the hardware RAID at \$4,071.55 which includes labor to install. No further discussion, motions carried with four ayes.

Mcdonald moved and Stefl seconded action on Resolution 2021-38, a resolution to approve the hire of Pam Mackie for the Community Center Co-Director/Head Bartender position and set her wage. No further discussion, motion carried with four ayes.

Mayor Protem Stefl opened the discussion on the Emergency Medical Services Levy with Dwight Gliem, EMS Director and approve to publish help wanted ad for a fulltime Paramedic-24 hour Shift position to fill vacancy. Gliem commented that he received a resignation from Colby Medinger. Kuester moved and Mcdonald seconded approval to proceed with publishing the help wanted ad to the 24 hr. Shift Paramedic. Gliem then proceeded to explain that Governor Reynolds signed a bill for allow for emergency medical services to be deemed an "essential service" for the State of Iowa. This means the City has the ability to levy for EMS Services if we so wish to do so. The bill states the revenue would need to be for a specific purpose and voted on by the residents of Grundy Center. Gliem explained a needs assessment is the first step for the specific purpose of the funds will be used for. Gliem commented that the first purpose he felt was needed is a joint EMS/Police Station. Ambulance department has outgrown their current location with no space to add another ambulance. Would like to see a station that would be sufficient for the departments that would last years to come. Gliem was given direction to meet with City Attorney to determine next steps and how to proceed. No formal action taken at this time.

Mcdonald moved and Stefl seconded action to approve Mayor Kiewiet's appointment of Jill Krausman to the Historic Preservation Commission with term ending December 31, 2022; Curt Mauer to the Board of Adjustments with term ending December 31, 2025; and Emily Hendricks to the Municipal Utilities Board with term ending June 30, 2027. No further discussion, motion carried four ayes.

Stefl moved and Kuester seconded action to approve Mayor Kiewiet to sign the Form of Grant Disbursement Request #1 for the GC Development Corporation and Clerk to proceed with payment. No further discussion, motion carried three ayes (Stefl, Kuester and Mcdonald) and one abstain (Smith).

Mayor Protem Stefl opened the discussion on the BIG Grant policy and procedures. Sawyer explained a meeting was held with Smith and Kuester to discuss addition/changes to the policy. The recommended additions are: 1. Maximum grant award is \$20,000 per fiscal year per parcel. And 2. The City reserves the right to award half of the allocated annual funds in the second half of the fiscal year. If the City has available allocated funds towards the end of the fiscal year, the City reserves the right to award additional funds to previous awardees. Stefl commented that these additions address issue of running out of funds early in the fiscal year. Smith moved and Mcdonald seconded action approved discussed addition to the policy as written. Kuester commented on need for inspection before/after on BIG grant projects. Discussion lead to who would do the inspections. No further discussion, motion carried four ayes.

Mcdonald moved and Stefl seconded action to approve Mayor Kiewiet to sign the US Department of the Treasury-Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds document and the Award Terms and Conditions document. Sawyer explained this is for the American Rescue Plan Funds from the federal government. City could see about \$350-400K in relief funds. More details to come on how funds can be used. No further discussion, motion carried four ayes.

Finance Committee commented on receipt of a peddlers permit for fireworks and City Hall janitor position.

Public Safety Committee commented Officer Luck is on waiting list for fall academy at Hawkeye Community College and Officer Walters is back working full time.

Public Works Committee commented on swimming lessons has started; Sports Complex project has started; gave update on Sewer Improvements Project and bids for street improvements have been received.

Regular Session

June 21, 2021

Page 3 of 3

Smith moved and Stefl seconded adjournment of the meeting at 8:20 pm. Motion carried four ayes. Next meeting will be Monday, July 6, 2021 at 6:30pm.

David Stefl, Mayor Protem

Attest: Kristy Sawyer, City Clerk