

A regular session of the Grundy Center City Council was called to order at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, March 20, 2023, in the Council Chambers by Mayor Eberline. Present: Smith, Kuester, Lamp, Rasmussen, and McDonald. Absent: None. The City of Grundy Center held this regular city council meeting in person and electronically via an online meeting or conference call. Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet, or smartphone. <https://meet.goto.com/470338805> You can also dial in using your phone. Access Code: 470-338-805 United States: +1 (224) 501-3412 .

Kuester moved and Smith seconded the approval of the meeting agenda with no conflicts of interest with one amendment on item 5 to read FY2022 Annual City Audit. Motion carried five ayes.

Smith moved and Rasmussen seconded the consent agenda consisting of approval of the minutes of the regular session held Monday, Monday, March 3, 2023; approval of the 2022 Certified Local Government Annual Report and to be submitted to the State of Iowa; and approval of the request to flash red lights at 6th Street and G Avenue on Saturday April 8, 2023 from 7:30AM to 10:00AM for the Chris Fleshner, representative of Pony Express Riders of Iowa, for their pony ride through Grundy Center as a fundraiser for Easter Seals. No further discussion, motion carried five ayes.

Mayor Eberline acknowledged Rachele Thompson, CPA, for a presentation on the fiscal year 2022 annual audit. Thompson presented her review of the accounts payables, cash receipts, payroll, budget, and compliance areas. Thompson issued a modified opinion of the audit, which is the highest opinion a City can receive. Audit address same as previous years such as a lack of segregation of duties, controls over utility billings, reconciliation of utility billings, expenditures over budget, and business transactions. Recommendations were provided to address each of the findings.

Mayor Eberline opened the discussion on the FY2024 annual city budget. Sawyer explained new city property tax assessment valuations with the new rollback being assessed. The City lost \$3mil in assessment valuation which lowers the City General Fund property taxes by \$24,000 for FY2024. Sawyer present three options showing the absolute most the City could levy is \$16.48922/\$1000 assessed value; middle levy option is \$16.20097/\$1000 assessed value; and to the absolute lowest levy at \$16.01071/\$1000 assessed value. Sawyer recommended approval to publish for a public hearing for the lowest levy at \$16.01071/\$1000 assessed value, explaining this is an increase of \$0.31473/\$1000 assessed value however \$0.27/\$1000 assessed value is to create the new Cultural & Scientific Levy which residents voted to support on the last election. Smith and Eberline asked if the lowest levy would cut the City too short for FY2024. Sawyer explained that a few reserve funds may needs to be used if the self-fund portion of the health insurance plan comes in higher than budgeted. Smith moved and McDonald seconded action to publish for a public hearing on April 3, 2023 for the lowest levy at \$16.01071/\$1000 assessed value. No further discussion, motion carried five ayes.

McDonald moved and Lamp seconded action to approve Mayor Eberline to sign a letter of support for the Grundy County Board of Supervisors application for a broadband grant through the Office of the Chief Information Officer. No further discussion, motion carried five ayes.

Mayor Eberline opened the public forum at 7:17pm. Jake Ryder, The Grundy Register, offered an apology for articles written in last week edition regarding Felix Grundy Days. Public forum closed at 7:19pm.

Finance Committee/ Clerk commented upcoming comprehensive task force meeting March 29, 2023; invitation for tour of the Kids' Campus on March 22, 2023; BIG Grant applications due March 31, 2023; and Richelieu Foods planning career fair on April 4, 2023.

Public Safety Committee commented on upcoming training for current officers.

Public Works Committee commented on request for stop signs at K Avenue & 1st Street and East J Avenue & 1st Street; and request from resident for an ordinance change regarding the garbage/recycling canisters still sitting at the street days after collection day.

Rasmussen moved and McDonald seconded adjournment of the meeting at 7:45pm. Motion carried five ayes. Next meeting will be Monday, April 3, 2023, at 6:30pm.

Attest: Kristy Sawyer, City Clerk

Dr. Paul Eberline, Mayor