

A regular session of the Grundy Center City Council was called to order at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, January 20, 2025, in the Council Chambers by Mayor ProTem Smith. Present: Smith, McDonald, Kuester, Rasmussen and Lamp. Absent: Eberline. Visitors: Kendra Lufkin, Lindsey Freese, Cindy Freese, Jerry Zeiner, Darrel Shuey, Katie Rasmussen.

Rasmussen moved and Kuester seconded the approval of the meeting agenda striking item #7 and with no conflicts of interest. No discussion, motion carried five ayes.

Lamp moved and McDonald seconded action for approval of the minutes of the regular session held Monday, January 6, 2025, and the work session on Wednesday, January 15, 2025. No further discussion, motion carried five ayes.

Mayor ProTem Smith opened the discussion and annual updates. Lindsey Freese, Library Director, presented annual numbers for services offered at the Kling Memorial Library. Freese reviewed fiscal year budget requests from the Library Board including a 5% wage increase for library employees; planning for upgrade to the children's area of the Library; reclassifying Hoopla revenue and expenditures to the general operating budget from the gift trust fund; and applying for grants and asking for gifts/donations for the building upgrade of the children's area. Katie Rasmussen, Chamber Main Street Director, presented 2024 year end review of projects and events. Rasmussen discussed that Grundy Center reached the third million-dollar benchmark since becoming a Main Street Community in 2015 and planning a 10-year anniversary celebration event in June 2025. Rasmussen distributed the Small Business Support Guide which was created to help business and building owners know expectations, contact information, ordinances, etc. Rasmussen requested a 5% wage increase due to starting her fifth year of employment in this position and provided a wage survey of Main Street communities within our population for Council to consider. Darrel Shuey, Park Board Chairman, presented the budget requests for the Parks and Sports Complex. Projects discussed were the tennis and pickleball completion and sunshade addition to the Sports Complex. Shuey mentioned Park Board is looking for grant funds to assist with replacing all the bathroom facilities in all city parks. Kendra Lufkin, Community Center Director, presented an annual update and Board requests. Board recently implemented rate increases to the Wilts Room is \$125/day; Legion Room is \$75/day and wedding receptions for GC residents are \$400 per event and non-GC residents is \$500. Lufkin completed a Community Foundation Grant application to replace TV's and carts; City Public Works is upgrading all light fixtures to LED bulbs and ceiling tiles; and Board is requesting an inventory list of all equipment and its age. No further discussion or formal action taken.

Mayor ProTem Smith opened the discussion with Alex Tungland, Rite Environmental, Inc regarding rate increase for solid waste collection. City will see a \$1 increase per residence for residential trash; a \$1 increase per tip for commercial trash; a \$10 increase on residential dumpster deliveries and no changes to the recycling rate per residence effective January 2025. Last increase in rates was 2022 and City will need to consider an ordinance to amend rates as well. No further discussion, no formal action taken.

Mayor ProTem Smith opened the public forum at 7:27pm. No public comments, public forum closed at 7:28pm.

Finance Committee/Clerk commented on upcoming franchise agreement with Black Hills Energy due in April 2025; Personnel Committee is meeting next week; and continuing to work on FY2026 annual budget.

Public Safety Committee made no comments.

Public Works Committee commented on the FY2026 annual budget and department has been working in the Community Center converting to LED fixtures, bulbs and new ceiling tiles.

Rasmussen moved and Lamp seconded adjournment of the meeting at 7:30pm. Motion carried five ayes. Next meeting will be Monday, February 3, 2025, at 6:30pm.

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Attest: Kristy Sawyer, City Clerk

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Dr. Paul Eberline, Mayor