

A regular session of the Grundy Center City Council was called to order at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, May 19, 2025, in the Council Chambers by Mayor Eberline. Present: McDonald, Kuester, Smith, Lamp and Rasmussen. Absent: None. Visitors: Rich Ahlberg.

Smith moved and Rasmussen seconded the approval of the meeting agenda with Lamp conflict of interest for item #4. No discussion, motion carried five ayes.

Mayor Eberline acknowledged Collin Conger, Police Officer, to congratulate him for his graduation from the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy at the end of April. Council thanked Conger for his service to our city and asked him about this experience at the academy.

Kuester moved and Smith seconded action for approval of the minutes of the regular session held Monday, May 5, 2025; approval to close 7th Street from G to H Avenue for the Chamber Main Street Dinner on the Bricks event, Thursday, June 19, 2025, from 7AM to 10PM; and approval of Scotty's Saloon, 806 G Avenue, for a five-day liquor license for the Chamber Main Street Dinner on the Bricks event, Thursday, June 19, 2025. No further discussion, motion carried four ayes (Kuester, Smith, Rasmussen, and McDonald) and one abstain (Lamp).

Rasmussen moved and Lamp seconded action to open the public hearing at 6:38pm on Ordinances 582, 583 & 584 – Water Rates, Sewer Rates and Parking Regulations. Mayor Eberline explained the ordinances are to enforce the 2% rate increase for water and sewer rates and to add no parking on the north side 235th Street along the sports complex. No public comments, Smith moved and Kuester seconded action to close this public hearing at 6:39pm. No further discussions, motions carried five ayes.

Rasmussen moved and McDonald seconded action on the First Reading on Ordinance 582, an ordinance amending Chapter 92.02 Water Rates for a 2% rate increase effective July 1, 2025. No further discussions, motion carried five ayes.

Lamp moved and McDonald seconded action on the First Reading on Ordinance 583, an ordinance amending Chapter 99.07 Sewer Rates for a 2% rate increase effective July 1, 2025. No further discussion, motion carried five ayes.

Smith moved and Kuester seconded action on the First Reading on Ordinance 584, an ordinance amending Chapter 69.08 Parking Regulations to add no parking along the north side of 235th Street along the Sports Complex. Kuester commented on parents' complaints and encouraged them to use the Sports Complex parking lot. Rasmussen commented that reminding parents golf carts are also not allowed inside the Sports Complex. No further discussion, motion carried five ayes. Smith moved and Kuester seconded action to suspend the rules to move to the third reading of this ordinance on June 2, 2025, meeting. No further discussion, motion carried five ayes.

Lamp moved and McDonald seconded action to open the public hearing at 6:43pm on the fiscal year 2025 budget amendment. Sawyer explained the revenue and expenses increases. No public comments. Smith moved and Rasmussen seconded action to close the public hearing at 6:45pm. No further discussions, motions carried five ayes.

Rasmussen moved and McDonald seconded action on Resolution 2025-17, a resolution to approve a budget amendment for fiscal year 2025. No further discussions, motion carried five ayes.

Lamp moved and Rasmussen seconded action on Resolution 2025-18, a resolution to authorize use of the Community Center Parking Lot to Steph Larson, BarLea Roots, for the Felix Grundy Festival, July 11-12th, 2025. No changes from last year, the Felix Committee gave approval. No further discussions, motion carried five ayes.

Lamp moved and Kuester seconded action on Resolution 2025-19, resolution to approve wages for the Aquatic Center and Sports Complex employees for the 2025 summer season. Kuester commented that he was pleased with the number of returning employees from previous years. No further discussion, motion carried five ayes.

McDonald moved and Rasmussen seconded action on Resolution 2025-20, a resolution to authorize Mayor Eberline to sign an updated employee agreement for the Dwight Gliem, EMS Director. Kuester asked why this increase in vacation days is more than what the employee handbook currently says for other employees who work full time. Rasmussen commented that he would like to see a plan/format the Ambulance Board used for this recommendation. Mayor Eberline asked that the Ambulance Board present this plan/format for future consideration. No further discussion, motion carried four ayes (McDonald, Rasmussen, Smith, and Lamp) and one nay (Kuester).

Smith moved and McDonald seconded action on Resolution 2025-21, a resolution to set a public hearing to dispose of 401 I Avenue parcel for June 16, 2025. Discussion held on the costs the city has incurred to clean up the parcel. No further discussion, motion carried five ayes.

Rasmussen moved and Lamp seconded action to approve the publishing of a notice to accept bids on the 1989 GMC 7000 Dump Truck with bids due on Friday, May 30, 2025. No further discussion, motion carried five ayes.

Mayor Eberline opened the discussion on the request from Heart of Iowa, LLC request to rezone 709 E Avenue, and the Planning & Zoning meeting held May 7, 2025. Eberline commented that the Planning & Zoning Commission met along with Jay Duncan, Heart of Iowa, and several neighbors in the location of this parcel. Each neighbor was allowed time to ask questions and voice opinions on the request to rezone this parcel. Planning & Zoning Commission ruled not to recommend this ordinance change to rezone 709 E Avenue parcel from a residential parcel to a commercial parcel. Smith explained that according to the ordinances, Council could overrule the commission, however strongly urged not to do so based on the neighborhood consensus against the project. No further discussions were held; no action was taken.

Mayor Eberline opened the public forum at 7:09pm. Rich Ahlberg, 408 G Avenue, commented on post office lawn mowing needs completed, nuisance properties, and treatment by city employee at the May 5, 2025, meeting. No further comments, public forum closed at 7:18pm.

Finance Committee/Clerk made comments on FY2026 wage increases; cigarette licenses; lease with Cedar Valley Soccer Club; request from GCDC for continued support; and training will begin next week for new financial software.

Public Safety Committee made comments on current state law on texting and driving and filling schedule for Felix Grundy weekend.

Public Works Committee made comments on pool is filled and opening day will be June 2, 2025.

Kuester commented on being a judge for the 6th grade class projects and Rasmussen commented on the request being submitted by GC Development Corporation on next phase for housing addition.

Smith moved and Rasmussen seconded adjournment of the meeting at 7:30pm. Motion carried five ayes. Next meeting will be Monday, June 2, 2025, at 6:30pm.

Attest: Kristy Sawyer, City Clerk

Dr. Paul Eberline, Mayor