

A work session of the Grundy Center City Council was called to order at 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 28, 2026, in the Council Chambers by Mayor Eberline. Present: Smith, Kuester, McDonald, Lamp and Stensland. Absent: None. Visitors: Dan Bangasser, James Natvig, Seth Schroeder, Leonard Stephens.

Mayor Eberline opened the discussion on Chapter 51 Junk and Junk Vehicles. Lamp commented that her reasoning for voting against Ordinance 588 was due to Section 51.04 Exceptions (2), for business enterprises having a limited number of days and nothing said about residential properties. Kuester commented that whatever amendments are made to Chapter 51, enforcement needs to be followed through on by the council. Stensland recommended defining a racing season, which could allow junk vehicles on properties from April 1 through September 30 potentially covered when not in use with a fire extinguisher within a reasonable distance. Then after the season, these vehicles would need to be removed from the property or placed inside a building. Dates could be a way to clear up confusion for enforcement. Schroeder commented that by adding this allowable time, it could remove any enforcement during that time period. He explained that the current code states that enforcement is done using Chapter 50, Nuisance Abatement Procedures and not as a citation. Discussion was on the amount of properties where junk is sitting and not removed and enforcement of those said properties. Stensland commented that once an amendment is passed to clean up the language, then council needs to put a plan in place to contact all at once. No further discussion held, an ordinance amendment will be drafted by city attorney and further action taken at a later date.

Mayor Eberline opened the discussion on the fiscal year 2027 annual budget preparation and procedures. Sawyer distributed calendar from the Iowa Department of Management showing the steps Council will walk through on the annual city budget. No further discussions or actions at this time.

Smith moved and Lamp seconded adjournment of the meeting at 6:15pm. Motion carried five ayes.

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Attest: Kristy Sawyer, City Clerk

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Dr. Paul Eberline, Mayor