

A regular session of the Grundy Center City Council was called to order at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, January 5, 2026, in the Council Chambers by Mayor Eberline. Present: Mcdonald, Stensland, Smith, Lamp, and Kuester. Absent: None. Visitors: Connor and Lee Koch, Dwight Gliem, Nathan Kappel, Rich Ahlberg.

Smith moved and Mcdonald seconded the approval of the meeting agenda with no conflicts of interest. No discussion, motion carried five ayes.

Lamp moved and Kuester seconded action for approval of the minutes of the regular session held Monday, December 15, 2025; and approval of the December 2025 bills list, and approval of an annual liquor licenses for Dollar General, 2009 Commerce Drive; and Simply Iowa Market, 612 G Avenue. No further discussion, motion carried five ayes.

Name	Description	Amount
A CUT ABOVE	TIRES	2000.00
ADVANTAGE ADMINISTRATORS	SELF FUND	8863.42
AFLAC	PREMIUMS	316.71
	WASTEWATER/ROUTE	
AG SOURCE COOP SERVICES	CHARGE	1168.90
AIRGAS USA	OXYGEN	415.78
ALLIANT ENERGY	UTILITIES	271.02
AT&T MOBILITY	CELL PHONES	247.41
AVESIS - FIDELITY SECURITY	PREMIUMS	246.40
AXON ENTERPRISE INC.	SUPPLIES	510.25
BLACK HILLS ENERGY	UTILITIES	2220.07
BOULDER CONTRACTING, LLC	SERVICES	1374.50
BOUND TREE MEDICAL LLC	MEDS	420.13
BRANDON BUNKERS	REIMBURSEMENT	233.87
BUSINESS FORMS DIVERSIFIED	SUPPLIES	158.00
CENTER THEATRE	DONATION	100.00
COLLECTION SERVICES CENTER	GARNISHMENT	463.42
DANIEL BANGASSER	CELL PHONE	39.95
DAVE BROWN HEATING AND COOL	SERVICES	692.95
DEAN SHUEY	WAGES	600.00
GNB BANK	SUPPLIES	1430.56
GORDON FLESCH COMPANY INC	COPIER EXPENSES	327.16
GRUNDY CENTER FIRE DEPT	SERVICES	8296.00
GRUNDY CENTER HISTORICAL SO	LEVY REQUEST	4195.11
GRUNDY CENTER UTILITIES	UTILITIES	8546.37
GRUNDY COUNTY AUDITOR	FEES	799.38
GRUNDY COUNTY ENGINEER	SUPPLIES	2049.30
GRUNDY COUNTY MEM HOSPITAL	MEDS	291.71
HEARTLAND CO-OP	FUEL	4326.38
HSA - ABBAS, KENNETH	HEALTH SAVING	310.00
HSA - APPEL, TANNER	HEALTH SAVING	1225.00
HSA - BAGENSTOS, BROOKE	HEALTH SAVING	562.50
HSA - BANGASSER, DAN	HEALTH SAVING	380.00
HSA - BOWEN, MEL	HEALTH SAVING	200.00
HSA - CARSON, KODI	HEALTH SAVING	1155.00
HSA - FLATER, BRAD	HEALTH SAVING	100.00

HSA - GLIEM, DWIGHT	HEALTH SAVING	200.00
HSA - LUFKIN, KENDRA	HEALTH SAVING	311.50
HSA - MEESTER, SHANNON	HEALTH SAVING	662.50
HSA - OBERLE, JACOB	HEALTH SAVING	1125.00
HSA - RASMUSSEN, KATIE A	HEALTH SAVING	310.00
HSA - SAWYER, KRISTY	HEALTH SAVING	300.00
HSA - SCHMIDT, BRADLEY	HEALTH SAVING	310.00
HSA - WILSON, JASON	HEALTH SAVING	120.00
HSA-NATVIG, JAMES A	HEALTH SAVING	40.00
IMPACT MARKETING	SERVICES	1900.00
INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE	FED/FICA TAXES	29361.27
IOWA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY	FEES	300.00
IOWA FINANCE AUTHORITY	INTEREST	26948.75
IOWA GEMT PAYMENT PROGRAM	SERVICES	422.65
IOWA LAW ENFORCEMENT ACADEMY	SERVICES	150.00
IOWA ONE CALL	LOCATES	83.70
IOWA REGIONAL UTILITIES	WATER	24081.69
IPERS	IPERS REGULAR	17086.07
JAMES NATVIG	REIMBURSEMENT	21.34
JESCO WELDING & MACHINE LLC	REPAIRS	1369.00
JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL	SUPPLIES	504.99
KENDRA LUFKIN	JANITORIAL	450.00
MACQUEEN	HELMETS	14527.46
MARTINSON CONSTRUCTION CO INC	SERVICES	6120.00
MICROBAC LABORATORIES INC	SERVICES	52.50
MSA SAFETY SALES LLC	SENSOR	438.00
NAPA AUTO PARTS	PARTS	515.76
PANELESS WINDOWS & MORE	SERVICES	56.25
PHYSICIANS CLAIMS CO	SERVICES	4263.09
PLUNKETT'S PEST CONTROL	SERVICES	59.60
PRECISION LAWN CARE	SERVICES	6661.66
RACOM CORPORATION	SERVICES	495.00
RC SYSTEMS	SUPPLIES	1274.02
REC GRUNDY COUNTY	UTILITIES	120.23
RELIANCE STANDARD LIFE	PREMIUMS	1287.88
RITE ENVIRONMENTAL INC	SERVICES	27276.44
ROB'S HEATING AND COOLING	PARTS	241.39
SAM'S CLUB	SUPPLIES	17.72
SECTOR LLC	SERVICES	305.00
SHANE OLTMAN	WAGES	600.00
SHIELD PEST CONTROL	SERVICES	80.00
STANARD & ASSOCIATES INC	SUPPLIES	46.50
STATE WITHHOLDING	STATE W/H TAXES	2842.26
STRYKER SALES CORPORATION	BATTERY PACK	1626.63
T&T COMPUTERS	SERVICES	120.50

TELEFLEX LLC	SUPPLIES	1100.00
TITAN MACHINERY - GC	PARTS	327.97
TORNEY'S ELECTRIC MOTOR SERVICE	SERVICES	60.00
TREASURER-STATE OF IA	WET TAX	3819.18
UMB BANK NA	FEES	850.00
UNIFIRST CORPORATION	RUGS	155.36
UPPER ELEMENTARY	RENT	3757.00
US CELLULAR	CELL PHONES	181.98
VAN HAUEN AUTO & TRUCK INC	REPAIRS	727.69
VAN WALL EQUIPMENT GC	PARTS	104.61
WELLMARK BLUE CROSS BS	PREMIUMS	25958.30
WELLMARK DENTAL	DENTAL INS PREMIUMS	867.32
WENDLING QUARRIES INC	ROADSTONE	137.28
TOTAL		267670.29

Mcdonald moved and Lamp seconded approval of the annual appointments for one-year terms ending December 31, 2026: Dan Bangasser, Public Works Director; Kristy Sawyer, City Clerk/Treasurer; James Natvig, Police Chief; Nathan Kappel, Fire Chief; Seth Schroeder, City Attorney; Dean and Darrel Shuey, Zoning Administrator/Building Inspectors; and Rick Smith, Mayor Protem. No further discussion, motion carried five ayes.

Mayor Eberline opened the annual department updates with Dwight Gliem, EMS Director. Gliem provided calls of services statistics of 1074 calls for 2025 and averaging \$637 per call for revenue. Gliem mentioned the contracted services with Gladbrook and Aplington will remain the same. Gliem is requesting a cost-of-living wage increase of 3% for his employees; explained switching cell phone provider and canceling fax lines for cost savings for fiscal year 2027; and planning for the four 26-year-old furnaces need replacing in current EMS building. Chief James Natvig, Police Chief, provided annual department update including calls for service stats, tickets/warnings, accidents, complaints, and miles driven on vehicles. Natvig is requesting a cost-of-living wage increase of 3% for employees; increase in firearm expense line to plan for firearm replacements in July 2027; an increase to the telephone expenses for the officer cell phones; and increase to computer expense line used for camera, tasers, air cards, state system, Lexipol contract, shared Tac10 software, and copier expenses. Nathan Kappel, Fire Chief, provided annual department update for the fire department. Kappel discussed increasing the building maintenance line item for the furnace replacement project in the EMS building. The furnace replacements would be split between the ambulance and fire department budgets equally. Kappel discussed the Length Of Service Awards Program (LOSAP) bill passed by the State of Iowa in July 2025. This program allows volunteer fire departments to offer a financial incentive to volunteer firefighters for their service to the community and department. Each department has the ability to structure their own program, most of which are using a points system. The State of Iowa will then match the financial incentive up to \$500 annually per firefighter. Kappel is working on details of the program and will return with more information. No further discussions or action taken.

Smith moved and Lamp seconded action on the Second Reading of Ordinance 588, an ordinance to amend Chapter 51 Junk and Junk Vehicles by adding definition and rules on hobby vehicles, right of entry, ability to dispose and nuisance procedures. Stensland provided a "revised" ordinance to include a definition for "active progress;" addition of new sections for specialty/racing vehicle registry and an observation task force. Discussions on adding registration fees for those wishing to have their race cars on their property; however, need to be covered with tarp or inside a building. Connor Koch mentioned that the Grundy County Fair Board recently received an award for being the "Figure 8 Track of the Year" and asked if council understand what it takes to build a race car to participate in the local racing events. Smith mentioned the addition of a "racing season" would not be helpful because a season could be nine months out of a year. Lamp commented that originally reviewing Chapter 51 Junk and Junk Vehicles, this was to remove vehicles that are potentially junk vehicles and not just race cars, which this ordinance has resulted in being completely about race cars. There are many other issues than race cars that need to be addressed.

Kuester mentioned why not leave the ordinance as it is or not have it at all, then see what feedback is received. No further discussions, motion carried five nays, Ordinance 588 failed.

Mcdonald moved and Smith seconded action on the Second Reading of Ordinance 589, an ordinance to amend Chapter 92.02 Water Rates due to the 14% increase notice from IRUA. This ordinance is increasing rates by 10% for residents. Stensland asked Bangasser how to sustain the water rates for potential future rate increases and if City could request financial information from IRUA. No further discussions, motion carried four ayes (Mcdonald, Smith, Lamp, and Kuester) and one nay (Stensland).

Lamp moved and Stensland seconded action on Resolution 2026-01, a resolution to a resolution approving the appointments of our Fire Department personnel and roster. Lamp complimented Chief Kappel for the junior firefighters listed on the roster. No further discussion, motion carried five ayes.

Smith moved and Mcdonald seconded action on Resolution 2026-02, a resolution designating The Grundy Register as the official newspaper for 2026. Stensland asked what the cost is to publish in the newspaper. Sawyer explained that the State of Iowa has passed new legislation to allow creation of a website for local governments to publish minutes and notices, however not complete at this time. No further discussion, motion carried five ayes.

Kuester moved and Mcdonald seconded action on Resolution 2026-03, a resolution approving the investment policy for 2026. No further discussions, motion carried five ayes.

Lamp moved and Smith seconded action on Resolution 2026-04, a resolution naming the depositories for 2026. No discussions, motion carried five ayes.

Mcdonald moved and Lamp seconded action on Resolution 2026-05, a resolution approving the credit card policy for 2026. No discussions, motion carried five ayes.

Smith moved and Lamp seconded action on Resolution 2026-06, a resolution approving the hire of a full-time police officer and set the wage. Chief Natvig explained this hire is to fill the vacant full-time officer position. No further discussions, motion carried five ayes.

Mayor Eberline opened the public forum at 7:58pm. Connor Koch asked Council to keep in mind that when rewriting Chapter 51 – Junk and Junk Vehicles, to define scrap metal used for commercial business somehow. No further comments were made, public forum closed at 8:05pm.

Finance Committee/Clerk commented on year-end processes in new software; upcoming annual department updates; and starting fiscal year 2027 city budget discussions.

Public Safety Committee commented on Chief Natvig during vacation week of January 19, 2026.

Public Works Committee commented on sewer crew investigating for upcoming projects and tree removal has started.

Council Member Stensland commented on updating city website proposal; other options for zoom for council meetings; and utility board discussions on both city and state code violations.

Smith moved and Mcdonald seconded adjournment of the meeting at 8:16pm. Motion carried five ayes. Next meeting will be Monday, January 19, 2026, at 6:30pm.

Attest: Kristy Sawyer, City Clerk

Dr. Paul Eberline, Mayor