

A regular session of the Grundy Center City Council was called to order at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, December 15, 2025, in the Council Chambers by Mayor Eberline. Present: Mcdonald, Rasmussen, Smith, Lamp, and Kuester. Absent: None. Visitors: Lee Koch, Rich Ahlberg, Erik Stensland, and Leonard Stephens.

Rasmussen moved and Smith seconded the approval of the meeting agenda with a conflict of interest with Kuester on item 12. No discussions, motion carried five ayes.

Lamp moved and Mcdonald seconded action for approval of the minutes of the regular session held Monday, December 1, 2025; and approval of the November 2025 Treasurers Report. No further discussions, motion carried five ayes.

November 2025 Expenditures per fund: General: \$114132; Road Use Tax: \$14762; Employee Benefits: \$29408; Library Gift Trust: \$1349; Economic Development Fund: \$700; Debt Service Fund: \$7795; Water Fund: \$53158; Water Reserves Fund: \$4700; Sanitary Sewer Fund: \$18727; Sanitary Sewer Reserve Fund: \$15875; Sanitation Fund: \$30538; Ambulance Fund: \$40425; Storm Sewer Fund: \$4570; Total: \$336139. November 2025 Revenues per fund: General: \$47804; Road Use Tax: \$33268; Employee Benefits Fund: \$13169; TIF Fund: \$4420; PW Equipment Reserve Fund: \$5000; Fire Equipment Reserve Fund: \$18137; Library Gift Trust: \$648; Economic Development Gift Fund: \$700; Debt Service Fund: \$5004; Water Fund: \$53624; Water Reserve Sinking Fund: \$4700; Sanitary Sewer Fund: \$42468; Sewer Sinking fund: \$15875; Sanitation Fund: \$32736; Ambulance Fund: \$56334; Ambulance Equipment Reserve Fund: \$4235; Storm Sewer Fund: \$4154; Total: \$342276.

Rasmussen moved and Lamp seconded action to open a public hearing on Ordinance 588 – Chapter 51 Junk and Junk Vehicles. Ahlberg asked what the changes were being made. Stephens asked why is this draft different than what is current in the code and enforcement needs to follow through for it to be effective. Stensland asked what the current process and procedures are. Lamp commented that this draft adds a clearer definition of a hobby vehicle, allows the police department the right of entry onto property to investigate junk and junk vehicles, adds the option for disposal of junk and junk vehicles, and confirms these issues are covered under Chapter 50 Nuisance Abatement. Koch asked why there is no racing season defined as that is his business and hobby. Lamp answered the draft allows 14 days and either in a building out of sight or disposed of. Bangasser commented that this chapter is usually complaint driven and the quantity tends to be more noticeable. Rasmussen asked if this new draft is strong enough and council needs to stay consistent with enforcement. No further discussion, Smith moved and Mcdonald seconded action to close the public hearing at 6:57pm. Motions carried five ayes.

Smith moved and Rasmussen seconded action on the First 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. Rasmussen asked about a permit option, Smith commented that the committee felt a permit option would be unenforceable. Lamp commented consistent enforcement will be the key to new code. No further discussions, motion carried five ayes.

Lamp moved and Rasmussen seconded action to open a public hearing at 6:59pm on fiscal year 2026 city budget amendments. Ahlberg asked what the amendments were, Sawyer explained each one on the notice. Smith moved and Lamp seconded action to close the public hearing at 7:05pm. No further discussions, motion carried five ayes.

Kuester moved and Rasmussen seconded action on Resolution 2025-53, a resolution to approve fiscal year 2026 city budget amendments. No further discussion, motion carried five ayes.

Rasmussen moved and Lamp seconded action to open a public hearing at 7:06pm on Ordinance 589, an ordinance to amend Chapter 92.02 Water Rates for a 10% rate increase effective as soon as possible. This rate increase is due to a 14% increase from Iowa Regional Utilities Association for the city cost. Stephens commented that anyone trying to survive on social security may not be able to sustain with this large of an increase. Bangasser commented that options the city limited due to decisions made years ago with closing open wells and not having a treatment facility. Smith moved and Mcdonald seconded action to close the public hearing at 7:13pm. No further discussions, motions carried five ayes.

Rasmussen moved and Kuester seconded action on the First Reading of Ordinance 589, an ordinance to amend Chapter 92.02 Water Rates for a 10% increase. No further discussion, motion carried five ayes.

Mcdonald moved and Lamp seconded action on Resolution 2025-54, a resolution to accept a bid for the next two years of annual auditing services from Rachelle Thompson, CPA. Sawyer commented that the

request for bids was sent out to ten different auditing firms throughout the state of Iowa and received two responses back. Bid received from Rachelle Thompson, CPA, for two-year contract only due to her plans to retire, fiscal year 2026 - \$16,675 and fiscal year 2027 - \$17,200. Second response was from Cornwell, Fideres, Maher & Associates saying their schedule is full at this time. Eberline explained that the City has been pleased with the work of Rachelle Thompson over the past several years. No further discussion, motion carried five ayes.

Smith moved and Rasmussen seconded action on Resolution 2025-55, a resolution to authorize Mayor Eberline to sign the exhibit to extend the lease agreement with Maroon & White, Inc for space at Kids' Campus, 1001 8th Street. No further discussion, motion carried five ayes.

Mayor Eberline opened the public forum at 7:18pm. Leonard Stephens mentioned a consideration to pave 235th Street to the tree dump due to the abundance of dust. Rich Ahlberg requested the public forum be moved back to the beginning of the council meetings. Erik Stensland asked about how to support the current businesses struggling right now to make ends meet. No further public comments, public forum closed at 7:29pm.

Finance Committee/Clerk commented on fiscal year 2027 budget worksheets have been distributed to all department heads and annual updates will start at next meeting

Public Safety Committee commented on fiscal year 2027 preparations; taser training; and Officer McCormack will be starting full time December 29, 2025.

Public Works Committee commented on snow removal and water leaks.

Mayor Eberline expressed gratitude to Rasmussen for his years of service to the City as a council member.

Rasmussen moved and Lamp seconded adjournment of the meeting at 7:40pm. Motion carried five ayes. Next meeting will be Monday, January 5, 2026, at 6:30pm.

Attest: Kristy Sawyer, City Clerk

Dr. Paul Eberline, Mayor