

A regular session of the Grundy Center City Council was called to order at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, July 20, 2026, in the Council Chambers by Mayor Eberline. Present: Mcdonald, Stensland, Smith, Lamp, and Kuester arrived at 6:35pm. Absent: None. Visitors: Katie Rasmussen, Kelly & David Brown, Leonard Stephens, Dwight & Randi Gliem, Josh Tovar, Alex Tungland, and Mel Bowen.

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

Smith moved and Stensland seconded action for approval of the minutes of the regular meeting held Monday, July 6, 2026; and approval of the June 2026 Treasurers Report. No further discussion, motion carried five ayes. Stensland moved and Mcdonald seconded approval of the annual liquor licenses for Scotty's Saloon, 806 G Avenue; and Crystal Bowl, LLC., 1602 G Avenue. No further discussion, motion carried four ayes (Stensland, Smith, Mcdonald, and Kuester) and one abstain (Lamp).

June 2026 Expenditures per fund: General: \$243478; Road Use Tax: \$39878; Employee Benefits: \$31058; Local Option Sales Tax Fund: \$27477; TIF Fund: \$144912; Community Betterment Fund: \$29811; Library Gift Trust: \$47264; Economic Development Gift Fund: \$8000; Debt Service Fund: \$250; Water Fund: \$71057; Water Reserves Fund: \$4700; Sanitary Sewer Fund: \$52227; Sanitary Sewer Reserve Fund: \$15875; Sanitation Fund: \$33036; Ambulance Fund: \$71840; Storm Sewer Fund: \$11088. Total: \$827249. June 2026 Revenues per fund: General: \$126753; Road Use Tax: \$39029; Employee Benefits Fund: \$5226; Local Option Sales Tax: \$27477; Hotel Motel Tax Fund: \$376; TIF Fund: \$1959; Community Betterment Fund: \$13738; Swimming Pool Reserve Fund: \$6000; PW Equipment Reserve Fund: \$20000; Fire Equipment Reserve Fund: \$34773; Police Reserve Fund: \$30,000; Library Gift Trust: \$1646; Community Center Gift Fund: \$23000; Ambulance Gift Trust Fund: \$700; Economic Development Gift Fund: \$8000; Debt Service Fund: \$986447; Continuing Projects Fund: \$26000; Water Fund: \$57996; Water Reserve Sinking Fund: \$4700; Sanitary Sewer Fund: \$44253; Sanitary Sewer Reserves Fund: \$10000; Sewer Sinking fund: \$15875; Sanitation Fund: \$33708; Ambulance Fund: \$45569; Ambulance Equipment Reserve Fund: \$50; Storm Sewer Fund: \$4329; Total: \$679799.

Mayor Eberline acknowledged Dwight Gliem, EMS Director, for an end of fiscal year update on stats. Fiscal year end calls for service was 1157, which is 148 more than last fiscal year. Year end budget report was 99.5% expended; and incoming revenues based on call volume averaged \$644 per call. Ambulance department utilized three rigs with 5 full-time paramedics and 24 volunteers. Further discussion on increase to Gladbrook Lincoln contract for services; Tama County essential services revenue; GEMT program for collection purposes. Smith asked what the recruitment and requirement processes are for the department. No further discussion or action taken.

Smith moved and Stensland seconded action to open the public hearing on the 2026 Urban Renewal Area amendment at 6:45pm. Leonard Stephens questions what the amendment was for. Mayor Eberline explained this amendment is to add the Prairie Ridge Phase 2 to the urban renewal area. Smith moved and Stensland seconded action to close the public hearing at 6:47pm. No further discussions, motion carried five ayes.

Lamp moved and Kuester seconded action on Resolution 2026-39, a resolution to approve an urban renewal plan amendment for the Grundy Center Urban Renewal Area. No further discussions, motion carried five ayes.

Lamp moved and Mcdonald seconded action on Resolution 2026-40, a resolution to set a public hearing for August 3, 2026, at which it is proposed to approve a development agreement with Grundy Center Development Corporation, including annual appropriation tax increment rebate payments. No further discussion, motion carried five ayes.

Mayor Eberline acknowledged Alex Tungland, Rite Environmental, Inc., for a discussion on upcoming contract requests with the sanitation contract term expiring December 31, 2026. Tungland requested a three-year contract extension, with a cost-of-living increase annually. No further discussion or action taken.

Mayor Eberline opened a discussion on a citizen request to add a prayer to the agenda of the council meetings. Eberline commented that other city/state governments have implemented a prayer or a moment of silence into their public meetings. Leonard Stephens was acknowledged by Stensland and commented that 250 years ago the forefather's included prayer and asks Council to consider it carefully. Kuester and Smith voiced concerns that no one should be singled out, and no one should feel excluded

based on religious beliefs. Stensland moved and Smith seconded a motion to add a moment of silence to the agendas for the city council meetings. No further discussion, motion carried four ayes (Stensland, Smith, McDonald, Kuester) and one nay (Lamp).

Mayor Eberline opened the discussion on Chapter 126 Special Events code amendment and possible action to proceed with a public hearing. Eberline explained after the last council meeting with action taken to send an invoice to the Grundy County Fair Board should be discussed further and he ask Clerk to delay sending the invoice. Eberline recommended amending the ordinance to include an annual fee of \$500 per year for those organizations that host two or more events. Smith commented the main objective of this ordinance was to cover additional EMS services needed for the large events and permitting of mobile food truck vendors involved. This fee also protects our local businesses that could potentially lose business based on the mobile trucks coming to the city limits. Stensland commented that the problem arose when an exception was given for the Ag Safety Day event to the Iowa State Extension and now a precedence has been set. Kuester asked why have the ordinance if many exceptions are given. Lamp commented the ordinance was written with a purpose and leave as is. Eberline instructed invoice to be sent out. No further discussions or action taken.

Mayor Eberline acknowledged Katie Rasmussen, Chamber Main Street Director, for an update on the Ragbrai update. Rasmussen commented that the volunteer training had 40 volunteers in attendance, with close to 65 registered to assist with the event. She stated the event is coming together with setup beginning on Wednesday, July 22nd and cleanup should be completed on Friday, July 24th. This is a very large event and will take some time and ask residents for their patience. Rasmussen commented that several notifications have been sent out by the Iowa State Extension office to their fair families and attendees to plan for street closures and extra visitors in the city. Rasmussen mentioned that a recap of the event will come in August. No further discussions or action taken.

Mayor Eberline opened the discussion on expired notices on nuisance properties and action to proceed. Sawyer stated seven letters have been sent out and three of them have expired with little to no action taken by the property owners. Sawyer asked what action steps council wants to take next. City attorney stated the city can hire a contractor to clean up the properties; however, the city will need to store the items removed for a period to ensure litigation is not taken. Kuester commented he would like to offer a dumpster to these residents to clean up their items themselves before paying for a contractor or storage fees. Sawyer presented Chapter 657 Nuisance Abatement information where a local government could receive title to an abandoned property. Eberline asked for a work session with City Attorney for further discussions and options on how to proceed. No further discussion or action taken.

Mayor Eberline opened the public forum at 7:32pm. Leonard Stephens asked about junk/junk vehicle letters and his concerns about property on D Avenue. Josh Tovar commented on his interest in assisting residents with yard clean up. No further comments, public forum closed at 7:40pm.

Finance Committee/Clerk commented large item/appliance pickup is July 29, 2026; request for bids is due by July 24, 2026; and webinar hosted by Caselle Software on assisting local municipalities with filling in gaps in job duties such as payroll processing, utility billing processing, and other financial functions.

Public Safety Committee commented that Felix Grundy Days went well and Officer Lampson has begun riding with other officers.

Public Works Committee commented on Ragbrai preparations; CIT sewer cleaning/televising; Blacktop Services coming July 27 for street work; and additional discussions on truck wash business.

Smith moved and Lamp seconded adjournment of the meeting at 7:55pm. Motion carried five ayes. Next meeting will be Monday, August 3, 2026, at 6:30pm.

Attest: Kristy Sawyer, City Clerk

Dr. Paul Eberline, Mayor