

A regular session of the Grundy Center City Council was called to order at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, August 17, 2026, in the Council Chambers by Mayor Eberline. Present: McDonald, Stensland, Smith, Kuester, and Lamp. Absent: None. Visitors: Leonard Stephens, Frank Lamp, Rich Ahlberg, Jacob & Emma Spangenburg, Katie Rasmussen.

Smith moved and McDonald seconded the approval of the meeting agenda with McDonald having conflict of interest for items 13. No discussion, motion carried five ayes.

Kuester moved and Lamp seconded action for approval of the minutes of the regular meeting held Monday, August 3, 2026; and approval of the July 2026 Treasurers Report; and approval of Trick or Treating for Saturday, October 31, 2026, 5-7pm. No further discussion, motion carried five ayes. July 2026 Expenditures per fund: General: \$196592; Cultural Scientific Fund: \$6911; Road Use Tax: \$54733; Employee Benefits: \$35749; Local Option Sales Tax Fund: \$34582; Library Gift Trust: \$1543; Debt Service Fund: \$920; Continuing Projects Fund: \$30110; Water Fund: \$55227; Water Reserves Fund: \$4600; Sanitary Sewer Fund: \$25587; Sanitary Sewer Reserve Fund: \$15750; Sanitation Fund: \$37097; Ambulance Fund: \$57318; Storm Sewer Fund: \$2306. Total: \$559024. July 2026 Revenues per fund: General: \$64880; Road Use Tax: \$32959; Local Option Sales Tax: \$34582; Hotel Motel Tax Fund: \$3434; Community Betterment Fund: \$17291; Fire Equipment Reserve Fund: \$7061; Fire Dept Gift Trust: \$300; Library Gift Trust: \$1675; Park Board Gift Trust: \$2633; Continuing Projects Fund: \$575360; Water Fund: \$64582; Water Reserve Sinking Fund: \$4600; Sanitary Sewer Fund: \$43984; Sewer Sinking fund: \$15750; Sanitation Fund: \$35688; Ambulance Fund: \$69327; Ambulance Equipment Reserve Fund: \$7120; Storm Sewer Fund: \$4287; Total: \$985513.

Mayor Eberline acknowledged Katie Rasmussen, Chamber Main Street Director, for a recap on the Ragbrai Event that came through the city on July 23, 2026. She spoke about the two main goals that steering committee had of creating a safe location for the cyclists to gather and travel through and showcase all the positive things the city has to offer. Both goals were met with 70+ volunteers and 27 vendors. The steering committee also met to recap the event and spoke on key successes; changes that could be made for future events; vendor and rider feedback and community highlights. Highlights including the map where riders signed their location, all ages of volunteers working together, high school drum line receiving national attention, and the community school raised \$7511 for the sale of two outdated buses. Rasmussen thanked the council for all their support and praised the volunteers that made the vision come true.

Stensland moved and Smith seconded action to open a public hearing at 6:46pm on the proposed disposition of 1208 J Avenue property. Rich Ahlberg questioned the purchase price plus the legal fees and Eberline mentioned purchase cost was \$9753. Smith commented that the city is working to clean up the blighted property to improve the valuation for increased tax revenues, not to make a direct profit from the sale of the parcel. Smith moved and Kuester seconded action to close the public hearing at 6:51pm. No further discussions, motions carried five ayes.

McDonald moved and Lamp seconded action on Resolution 2026-47, a resolution to accept a bid on 1208 J Avenue property. Jacob Spangenburg asked about the necessary setback for a new home on this parcel, items stored on/in the garage. City attorney has communication from the previous owners' legal teams about removing items. Bangasser confirmed that setbacks could remain as is or line up with the houses on either side of this parcel. Ahlberg asked what the purchase price was, Smith commented \$10,000 plus closing costs. No further discussion, motion carried five ayes.

Smith moved and Stensland seconded action on Resolution 2026-48, a resolution authorizing Mayor Eberline to sign quit claim deed and necessary documents to dispose of 1208 J Avenue. No further discussion, motion carried five ayes.

McDonald moved and Lamp seconded action on Resolution 2026-49, a resolution authorizing Mayor Eberline to sign a development agreement with 1208 J Avenue developer. Stensland commented the agreement is written for complete demolition within six months; new residential home started within eighteen months; and completion of new home within three years of the closing date. No further discussion, motion carried five ayes.

Smith moved and McDonald seconded action on Resolution 2026-50, a resolution to authorize Mayor Eberline to sign the intergovernmental Cooperative Agreement with INRCOG for assistance in administering a low-to-moderate income policy. Eberline explained that the Finance Committee met with INRCOG to discuss the creation of an LMI policy and procedures for a housing rehab assistance program.

This agreement provides the scope of services for INRCOG to assist the council in writing this type of program. Cost would be \$3000. Kuester commented a couple years ago that the council attempted to qualify for a neighborhood revitalization grant, however, was unsuccessful with meeting the LMI household percentage. This program/procedure would all be administered by INRCOG, with names and addresses being completely anonymous. No further discussion, motion carried five ayes.

Kuester moved and Lamp seconded action on Resolution 2026-51, a resolution authorizing Mayor Eberline to sign a contract for services with INRCOG to complete income verification process for a low-to-moderate income program for housing repairs program. Costs in this agreement are \$500 per application that is submitted. Applicant information will be completely anonymous to anyone within the city due to the sensitivity of income verification necessary to qualify for the program. Stensland commented the housing rehab assistance program will be for owner occupied properties only. No further discussion, motion carried five ayes.

Lamp moved and Smith seconded action on Resolution 2026-52, a resolution to authorize Clerk to reimburse training fees for lifeguard employees. No discussion, motion carried five ayes.

Mayor Eberline opened the discussion Ordinance 596, an ordinance to add Chapter 78 for Motorized Scooters, Electric Bicycles and other personal transport vehicles to the Code of Ordinances. Officer McCormack was acknowledged and commented on currently there are many children within the city that are not obeying stop signs, basic traffic rules, speeds and multiple people riding on the motorized scooters, electric bicycles and other electric personal transport vehicles. Currently the police department is stopping as many of these violators as possible and educating them with what the proper usage is. However, many continue to violate. McCormack continued to state this ordinance is to protect and encourage safer environment for the children in the community. Stensland commented that this draft seems too complicated if the State of Iowa laws already cover most of this and this draft needs to be simpler to assist the officers with enforcement. This is to be a behavior correction not so much an equipment issue. Further discussion that this ordinance is to give our police department tools to protect the children and encourage a change in behavior without a fine at the state level for children. Smith moved and Stensland seconded a motion to schedule a work session with city attorney to discuss further. Motion carried five ayes.

Mayor Eberline opened the discussion on the request for bids for the sanitation contract and possible action to proceed to publish. Bangasser explained the request for bids and due date will be September 25, 2026, before 4:00 pm. Lamp moved and Stensland seconded a motion to proceed with publishing the request for bids as presented. No further discussions, motion carried five ayes.

Smith moved and McDonald seconded approval of Mayor Eberline's appointment of Steven Martens to the Utility Board with the term ending June 30, 2027, to fill the vacancy with the resignation from Emily Hendricks. No further discussions, motion carried five ayes.

Mayor Eberline presented a letter with four requests from a local citizen. Discussions were on a city-owned golf cart and motorcycle to be used for community outreach, parades and funerals. Main concern by council members is the utilization, necessary trainings, and costs. With the budget limitations coming in the next few years, due to property tax reductions, these items would be considered a luxury. Next request for consideration is for blacktop versus gravel of 235th Street. Council commented that this is a county owned road, and this request would need to be discussed with the County Board of Supervisors. Final request is to move the water filing station currently located at 2nd Street and C Avenue for commercial use to the North Business Park instead of in a residential district. Explanation as to why this filing station was moved to this location was to direct traffic from the same location as a competitor in proximity both using water. This request will be looked at again next spring with other possible locations considered.

Mayor Eberline opened the public forum at 7:33pm. Ahlberg questioned when bills are approved. Frank Lamp commented on motorized/electric bicycles and vehicles about needing a sticker with adult contact information. Stephens asked about junk letters. No further comments, public forum closed at 7:39pm.

Finance Committee/Clerk commented on cybersecurity CIME training on August 25, 2026; copier leases; building inspector ordinances and procedures; and upcoming webinar on "The ROI of Revitalization: Main Street Iowa Data".

Public Safety Committee commented on two new officers attending academy at the end of August.

Public Works Committee commented that pool is now closed for the season and repairs to storm water

intakes and a water main leak.

Smith moved and Lamp seconded adjournment of the meeting at 7:50pm. Motion carried five ayes.
Next regular meeting will be Tuesday, September 8, 2026, at 6:30pm.

Attest: Kristy Sawyer, City Clerk

Dr. Paul Eberline, Mayor