

A regular session of the Grundy Center City Council was called to order at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, February 20, 2017, in the Council Chambers by Mayor Buhrow via speakerphone. Present: Ammerman, Stefl, and Kiewiet. Absent: Miller and Hamann.

Stefl moved and Kiewiet seconded the approval of the meeting agenda as written. Motion carried three ayes.

Kiewiet moved and Ammerman seconded the consent agenda consisting of: approval of the minutes of the work session and regular session held February 6, 2017. Motion carried three ayes.

Mayor Buhrow opened the public forum at 6:32 p.m. No public comments.

Janis Slater, Auditor with Dennis P. Donovan, P.C., presented the Fiscal Year 2016 City Audit. Kiewiet questioned the debt schedule and Slater explained that the schedule did not include TIF payments and only payments made from debt service fund. No further discussion.

Kiewiet moved and Ammerman seconded action on the Third and Final Reading of Ordinance 531- Parking Regulations, an ordinance updating the parking regulations in regards to several no parking areas throughout the city limits. Stefl commented that he drove down I Avenue from 4th to 8th Street and there would be four vehicles that would need to be moved. Mayor Buhrow commented that citizens were asking for the no parking to be returned in this area. Motion carried two ayes (Kiewiet and Ammerman) and one nay (Stefl).

Stefl moved and Kiewiet seconded action to approve the publishing for a public hearing on the Fiscal Year 2017 Budget Amendments for March 6, 2017. Clerk Sawyer mentioned that amounts were added for a potentially new furnace for the Library and the new wastewater pump. Motion carried three ayes.

Discussion on the Fiscal Year 2018 City Budget began with Clerk Sawyer explaining the increase in overall city property valuations, hence the increase in the property tax revenue the City will see. Sawyer then discussed the employee benefits levy as to why it is lower than the previous year. The debt service portion of the levy is increased slightly due to the refinancing of the 2008 GO Bond for the Aquatic Center which will hit the call date in FY2017. Stefl mentioned his concerns about the need to leave the levy as is to cover for future potential rollbacks. Kiewiet asked if it was possible to impose our own rollback for commercial properties since the State of Iowa is leaving the rollback at 90%. Concern is if come 2024, will our levy need to be increased significantly if these rollbacks decrease much more in the future. Sawyer was asked to contact the State of Iowa to see if possible and how this would affect the bottom line.

Stefl moved and Kiewiet seconded action on Resolution 2017-09, approval to publish for a public hearing for FY2018 City Budget for March 6, 2017. Stefl instructed Sawyer to publish three different budgets if State of Iowa will allow the rollback of commercial to be adjusted by the City. Motion carried three ayes.

Stefl moved and Ammerman seconded approval to publish the request for proposals for the Sports Complex Property Management duties. Kiewiet suggestion we add more details to the bid packet such as grass length for soccer fields, etc. Stefl acknowledged Pat Brown Sr, owner of Tender Lawn Care, to express some concerns he has with current processes at the George E Wilhelm Sports Complex. Brown suggested that the City create a policy to enforce a rental fee on events held at the facility that are hosted outside the school district and the City Recreation teams. In the past there have been other outside teams wishing to host tournaments and no fees have been paid to cover utilities and property management time and equipment. Motion carried three ayes.

Finance Committee commented that the Ambulance Department did add a new ambulance into their FY2018 budget. Dwight Gliem, Ambulance Chief, made comment on the age and mileage of the current ambulances. With the potential increase of number of calls, our ambulances need to be functional and have the ability to keep up. The Ambulance Department has the funds in their Reserves account, if the need arises.

Public Safety Committee made no comment.

Public Works Committee made no comment.

Stefl moved and Ammerman seconded adjournment of the meeting at 8:04pm. Motion carried three ayes. Next regular meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 6, 2017 at 6:30pm.

Brian Buhrow, Mayor

Attest: Kristy Sawyer, City Clerk