

CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Tuesday, August 10, 2010
Grimes City Hall 5:30 P.M.

The regular meeting of the Grimes City Council was called to order by Mayor Thomas M. Armstrong on Tuesday, August 10, 2010 at 5:30 P.M. at the Grimes City Hall.
Roll Call: Present: Evans, Patterson, Tapper, Shatava and Via teleconference: Altringer

GENERAL AGENDA ITEMS.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Moved by Patterson, Seconded by Shatava; the agenda shall be approved.

Roll Call: Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion passes: 5 to 0.

Approval of the Consent Agenda

A. Minutes from the July 22, 2010 B. Alcohol License Renewal for Fareway Stores Class E Liquor License –effective 10/1/10 C. Change Order #6 to Central Iowa Mechanical for the Grimes Community HVAC Renovation Decreasing the contract -\$1,332 D. Acceptance of HVAC Grimes Community Complex 2009 HVAC Renovation E. Pay Request #5 Revised to Central Iowa Mechanical for the Grimes Community Complex HVAC Renovation retainage \$19,560.20 F. Engineer’s Letter Accepting the Grimes Concession Stand G. Pay Request Final #6 to Premier Construction Service for the Grimes Concession Stand retainage \$12,265 H. Pay Request #1 to Grimes Asphalt & Paving for the Grimes Cemetery Expansion in the amount of \$38,868.21 I. Pay Request #1 to Echo Electric Supply for the Hwy 44 St Lighting in the amount of \$375,357.24 J. Change Order 1 for IA 44 Project S James Street Storm Sewer Plan Revision in the amount of \$239 K. Change Order 2 IA 44 Project for Water Main in the amount of \$13,128 L. Pay Request #5 to Reilly Construction for the IA44 Improvements in the amount of \$170,819.57 M. Pay Request #2 to Alliance Construction Group for the Grimes Business Park RISE Improvement in the amount of \$71,793.70 N. Pay Request #1 to Quality Site Works for the S James St Tile in the amount of \$6,154.50 O. Pay Request #1 to Construction Products Distributors, LLC for the Hwy 44 St Light in the amount of \$53,605.63 P. Pay Request #1 to Iowa Signal Inc. for the Grimes Business Park Rise Improvements the amount of \$104,106.22 Q. Finance Report for July. R. Claims date August 10, 2010 \$1,165,384.81, bank 22 \$66,634.08 bank 99 \$189.01

Moved by Patterson, Seconded by Evans; the consent agenda shall be approved.

Roll Call: Ayes: All, Nays: None. Motion passes: 5 to 0.

Fire Chief Report

Fire Chief Krohse advised that the Grimes Fire Department had participated in the Muscular Dystrophy Associations “Fill The Boot Program” again this year. Chief Krohse advised that their goal was to raise \$4,000 and thanks to the generosity of the community they were able to raise \$8,000. He advised that his department had been very busy over the past few days due to the weather.

Patrol Report

No report was given

PeopleService Report

Bob Sellner from PeopleService updated the Council on the effects of the rainfall on the treatment plant. Sellner stated that it has been a big issue with residents having flooded basements with the sanitary sewer backing up. He advised that the treatment plant is at full capacity with taking in 3 millions gallons of water per day. Sellner stated that there are two overflow ponds which are full. He advised that the DNR was contacted to obtain permission to bypass the plant with the overflow and to disperse it directly into the creek. He stated that two additional pumps are in place to pump out of the sanitary system into the creek. Sellner told the Council that crews would be running around the clock to monitor they system and to make sure the pumps are running. Sellner stated that two of the City wells that were hit by lightning are back on line and the third one should be fixed by Friday. Council Member Shatava asked if there were any more pumps available if they were needed. Sellner stated that PeopleService had two more pumps available if needed. Mayor Armstrong stated that almost every City in the Metro is running at capacity.

Presentation by Library Board

Kendall Meyer, President of the Board of Trustee for the Library presented to the Council. Meyer stated that on the Comprehensive Plan the library was slated to stay in the same location. He stated that the library has hired George Lawson Library Planning as a consultant for a space needs assessment. Meyers stated that demographics along with growth of the community were reviewed. He stated that the space needs assessment showed that currently the library is 6439 square feet but according to population we should have a facility 12,500 square feet. Meyers stated according to projection for population growth over the next 15 to 20 years that need will increase to 35,000 square feet. He advised that the idea is to remodel the existing building and to add on to it. Meyer stated that George Lawson had supplied them with a list of architects who the board will interview on September 2, 2010. He stated that input has come from the Comprehensive Plan, demographic and needs assessment, planning for results assessment, which included business people, parents, Board of Trustees and employees at the library. Meyers stated know they would like to have some input from the City Council and want to continue to keep them informed. Council Member Shatava asked if this was part of the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). Mayor Armstrong advised that there are no buildings as part of the CIP. He has continued to look for volunteers to form a committee to service on the facilities planning committee to review these needs. Meyer stated that he was hearing from the Council that they are in favor of them moving forward on this project. Council Member Evans asked if there were funds in place for the architect and they were advised that the library had funds available. Library Director, Karla Pfaff advised that this would be a multiple step process that will be worked through. Council Member Altringer wanted to commend the Library Board on the time they have spent on getting this project started. Council Member Patterson also thanked the Library Board for them taking the lead on this project.

PUBLIC AGENDA ITEMS AND COUNCIL ACTION

A. Grimes Cemetery Overview with Landscape Buffer Options.

Joe McAreavy, Public Works Director reviewed several options to provide a buffer at the south portion of the cemetery. McAreavy advised that option one was a landscape buffer that would have trees, bushes, and grasses at a cost of \$7,230.40. Option two would be a 6 foot black chain link fence at a cost of \$6,990 and option three would be a 4 foot black chain link fence at a cost of \$5,740. Mayor Armstrong stated that a buffer was being looked at to shield the cemetery from the green space. Mayor Armstrong advised that signs have been placed in the cemetery stating that parking is limited to those who are visiting the cemetery. Council Member Patterson asked how high this buffer would be. McAreavy advised that the berm, which is a part of the original plan, is approximately 3 feet high and the landscaping material would be 3 to 4 feet high for a total of 6 to 7 feet. McAreavy stated that if the fence option was chosen it would be placed on the outside of the berm. McAreavy advised that the current plan provided had a break in the middle of the landscape buffer. Council Member Evans and Council Member Patterson stated that they preferred the landscape option but a continuous buffer with no break. Council Member Evans stated that she did realize this would increase the cost of the project. Moved by Evans, Seconded by Patterson; Option one shall be approved using a landscape buffer with no breaks and at a cost not to exceed \$10,000 and that this area is monitored closely to see if the fence needs to be added at another time.

Roll Call: Ayes: All, Nays: None. Motion passes: 5 to 0.

G. Public Forum

Rob Croushore of 507 NW 3rd Street addressed the Council. He addressed his concerns over lack of pedestrian crossings along Hwy 44, especially on the west end of town. Croushore stated that his son had been hit recently by a car while trying to cross Hwy 44. He stated that there is a four way stop at Casey's but then no other safe pedestrian crossing on the west end of town. Croushore suggested that a four way stop be placed at Maplewood Street, which he feels is a dangerous intersection both by car and foot. He stated that a considerable amount of construction equipment is also along this intersection. Mayor Armstrong advised that they are continuing to monitor situations as the construction continues. Mayor Armstrong stated that when the construction is complete a stoplight will be placed at the intersection of Main and James Street and possibly at the completion of the new retirement home, a light may go in at Brookside Drive. Croushore stated that a construction sign along with equipment makes it difficult to see to the east. Mayor Armstrong stated that the project engineer, Jerry Byg will review this area. Byg stated that at the intersection of James Street a sign will be placed that advises motorist that by state law they are to stop for pedestrians in the crosswalk. Mayor Armstrong asked that this information also be placed on the City's Mediacom channel and the website to help inform the public. Croushore asked where there is a good place to cross Hwy 44 is at this time. Mayor Armstrong stated the James Street is the designated crosswalk but that every intersection is a crosswalk. Council Member Evans thanked Croushore for coming to voice his concerns.

Scott Almeida 605 NE 13th Street addressed the Council. He stated that he had the sanitary sewer backup into his basement and had four recommendations to stop this from happening again. The following were his recommendations. 1. Ask the DNR to allow release sooner that would allow only slightly contaminated water to be release and stop backup into basements. 2. Fix the infiltration problems and look at putting this into the City's CIP. 3. Widen the creek north of Taylor Estates as the area by the housing development was widened but then on to the north it goes back to a very narrow creek so it causes the water to back up. He stated that the City is growing and this will happen again so maybe a detention pond needs to be put in north of town. 4. Place a black flow preventer in the City code. Almeida stated that the cost of one would be around \$1,100 and asked if the City could assist homeowners with this cost. He advised that he would be unable to finish his basement until this issue is addressed.

Lisa Mawdsley 505 NE 12th Street. Mawdsley stated that she had two concerns, one regarding the flooding and the other regarding the emergency sirens. She stated that she had made a call to the City office and stated that she had been unable to hear the tornado siren in her home. Mawdsley stated that she was advised that these sirens were intended to alert people who are outside of severe weather in the area. She also asked that the storm drain between NE 12th and NE 13th be cleared of the trees and brush. Mawdsley stated that with the rains, these were piled up and caused a logjam that caused the water to back up. She stated in the past this drain area was kept clear. Mawdsley stated that she feels this flooding could have been prevented.

Fire Chief Krohse addressed the emergency sirens. He advised that these sirens are considered outdoor warning sirens and are designed to alert people that are outdoors of severe weather is possible in the area. He stated sirens are to alert people outside to possible tornadoes and now are expanded to alert to severe thunderstorms where wind speeds could be in the excess of 70 mph. Chief Krohse stated that weather service recommend that people obtain a weather radio for their homes to alert them. He stated that weather radios are tied directly the National Weather Service. Council Member Evans asked that information regarding the weather radios be placed on our website.

COUNCIL DISCUSSIONS

1. Mayor's Report

Mayor Armstrong advised that the Iowa State Fair begins this week.

2. City Attorney's Report

City Attorney Sinnard had nothing new to report.

3. City Engineer's Report

Jerry Byg, Project Manager for the Hwy 44 project, provided an update. Byg stated that paving will start depending on the weather. He advised that Gateway Drive would be paved tomorrow depending on the weather. Byg stated that pavement removal and grading will begin on north James Street again subject to weather. He stated that they had considered starting the area between James Street and North Circle Drive but feels

that this is not a good choice at this time with the time of the year and the current weather conditions. He stated at the north end by the park and NW 3rd a section of sidewalk is missing and that will be filled in with rock to accommodate children and bikes going to school. He advised that pedestrian crossing signs and painting will be placed at the intersection of James Street and Hwy 44 in preparation for school beginning along with a crossing guard. Byg will also be present at an upcoming open house at the school to talk to parents about children traveling back and forth from school. Council Member Shatava thanked the Health and Safety Board for assisting with getting things in place for safety concerns with the beginning of school. Byg stated that he appreciated their input.

4. City Staff Report

City Administrator Brown stated that staff is rotating to monitor any issues from the rainfall. Brown stated that they have tried to contact Waste Connections to see about getting trash picked up from the flooding but since it is metro wide have not been able to make contact. She advised that residents can turn in their losses to their insurance and to the City but that to caution people that routinely the City's insurance company does not pay for acts of nature. Brown stated that the City does routine maintenance on sewer systems and does not want residents to expend funds and then find out they will not be reimbursed. Brown advised that sandbags are available at the City shop for any resident. Brown also stated that the audit begins August 23rd.

5. Old Business

Council Member Evans thanked whoever put the signs up along the trail.

6. New Business

Council Member Patterson stated that the Hwy 44 Project is the biggest project that the City of Grimes has taken on and he appreciates everyone's patience given these extenuating weather conditions. Patterson stated that he was so happy that the boy who was hit by the car was not seriously injured. He also knows that the businesses along this area have suffered from this project and encourages everyone to support them. Moved by Shatava, Seconded by Evans; there being no further business, this meeting shall be adjourned at 6:48 p.m.

ATTEST:

Rochelle Williams, City Clerk

Thomas M. Armstrong, Mayor