

**Minutes
City of Griswold
Regular Council Meeting
Council Chambers, October 5, 2009 6:00 p.m.**

The Griswold City Council met in regular session at City Hall. Mayor Putnam called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Council present: Shields, Rink, Bergstrom, Wyman and Carlisle.

Motion by Wyman to approve the agenda; second by Shields. Approved 5-0.

Public Meeting-City Administrator. Mayor Putnam opened a public meeting on an Administrator for the City. Rink stated he was originally against the idea, but after talking with Clint Fichter the Administrator for Avoca, he thinks this is a good idea because what the city is doing now is not working. Rink further stated he sees three areas for an administrator, those being – supervision, grant writing and City finances. Sandy Tye asked how this was going to affect the City Clerks job, the council stated it is the thought that when an administrator is hired then that person will take a look at all positions and see what needs to be done. Also, an administrator will be able to apply for grants and know how to handle the city finances. Vernon Brawdy can see communication improve with an administrator. Jerry Kline made comment about lack of communication possibly between the council and employees. Shields stated the committee system currently used does not work and by having an administrator this person will have direct oversight 40 hours a week on all employees. There being no other comments, Mayor Putnam closed the public meeting.

Motion by Shields to approve the following items under the Consent Agenda:

- a. Minutes of the September 21 regular meeting with the following changes made to the minutes:
Council discussed up to 10 hrs a month to possibly hire Clint Fichter, and the grant from I-JOBS includes terraces and grassed waterways.
- b. Claims.

Second by Wyman. Approved 5-0.

Reports:

Community Building. Written report submitted by Community Building Manager Shiona Putnam.

Public Works. Written report submitted by Street Superintendent Landon Preston. Shields wants to see a hole dug and a post put in the ground so when the sign comes in it can be bolted to the post. A request to purchase a used tailgate for \$200.00 was denied.

City Hall. Written report submitted by Interim City Clerk Marylyne Dickinson.

Library. Library Board President Robin Drake reported to the council of the meeting she will have with Chuck Edwards on Wednesday Oct. 7th at 8:30 am., to discuss the transfer of the bank building.

Committee Reports:

Safe Routes to School. Shields reported the Grant Application has been submitted and will be happy with anything the city might receive.

Old Business:

MSA-Sidewalk Project and Sewer Improvements. Justin with MSA Professional Services informed the council of needing 79 more income surveys to be turned in to proceed with the grant application for improvements to the City's Wastewater Collection System. This grant could award the City up to \$500,000 in funding.

New Business:

Tree Stump- Helen Pont. Carole Schuler submitted a letter to the council on behalf of her mother Helen Pont, requesting for the city to pay for the removal of the stump in the yard. Motion by Shields to have the city pay for the removal of stump at 601 1st St. Second by Wyman. Rink stated the practice has been in the past - the stump is the homeowner's responsibility. Approved 4-1 Rink dissenting.

Set Date for Public Hearings. Motion by Wyman to set the date of October 19th for the Public Hearings on The Housing Rehabilitation Program Funding, Improvements to the City's Wastewater Collection System Funding Application, and a Tax Abatement. Second by Rink. Approved 5-0

Appraisal – 69315 540th St. Motion by Shields to approve \$375 to get a certified appraisal on the property. Second by Wyman. Approved 5-0

Alley Behind 906 Whitney. Motion by Shields to set matter aside until more information is acquired. Second by Wyman. Approved 5-0

Union Street Maintenance & Usage. Motion by Wyman to maintain Union St. as a city Street. Second by Carlisle. Approved 5-0

Public Comments. Janet Reed asked if the council would reconsider the hours for Halloween to be from 5-8 instead of 5-9. Council wants this put on the next agenda to talk about.

Sandy Tye suggested the possibility of the City purchasing the golf course and pool.

Robin Drake commented on the noise level with the bars being loud past midnight. Mayor Putnam is to send Dusty's and Legends a letter reminding them to keep the noise level down after midnight.

Messages and Papers from the Mayor. Mayor Putnam informed the council that the inspection at 307 Main St. did not happen. The city will get an administrative warrant.

Council Remarks. Shields made comment of Iowa West Foundations Annual Report; many cities around us received grants for various things.

Motion by Rink to adjourn; second by Wyman. Approved 5-0; 7:28 p.m.

Jerry Putnam
Mayor

Marylynn Dickinson
Interim City Clerk