

Minutes
City of Griswold
Regular Council Meeting
Council Chambers, March 16, 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: Rink, Bergstrom, Wyman, Shields. Absent: Carlisle.

Motion by Wyman to approve the agenda after moving item 5c to after the consent agenda; seconded by Bergstrom. Approved 4-0.

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

- a. Claims
- b. February Treasurer's financial report.

Seconded by Bergstrom. Approved 4-0.

Appointment of City Attorney. Mayor Putnam said the committee had reviewed the letters of interest from two Attorney's interested in the City Attorney position. The committee was recommending that Matt Woods of Peters Law Firm be appointed as the City Attorney. Mr. Woods said he represents four other communities and works out of the Glenwood office. Motion by Shields to accept the recommendation from the committee and approve the appointment of Matt Woods as City Attorney; seconded by Wyman. Approved 4-0.

Water Department. Written report submitted by Water Supt. Jipsen. Estimates were presented for new fencing at the Sewer plant and for grading of the alleys. Fencing at the Sewer plant will be done with donated materials and is to be completed as soon as possible. Two bids for grading of the alleys were received from Dale Weirich for \$3400 and Kirchhoff Land Improvements for 40-50 hours at \$100 per hour. Motion by Wyman to accept the bid from Dale Weirich in the amount of \$3400; seconded by Shields. Approved 4-0.

Community Building. Written report submitted by Building Manager Shiona Putnam. Quote from Bob's Mowing in the amount of \$270 for two sprayings at the Community Building and playground was presented. Motion by Shields to accept the quote from Bob's Mowing; seconded by Wyman. Approved 4-0.

City Yard Waste Site. Council discussed how to proceed with the yard waste site. At this time the city cannot burn the tree waste pile, but can open the site up for compost materials. Having someone come in to mulch the tree waste was discussed. Shields said he would like to see the council seriously consider moving the site to the west & north of the lagoon. Council agreed to look into the matter, but to keep operating the current site for the time being. Council directed Kevin & Landon to get the fence installed as soon as possible so the site can be re-opened. It was agreed to have the site open every Saturday from 1-5 p.m. beginning April 4th. Wyman suggested allowing residents to burn their yard waste every weekend in April from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. He will check with the Fire Chief on this.

307 Main St.-Davies Property. City Clerk Ridlen said the owner of the tax certificate for the property at 307 Main St. has filed the 90-day redemption notice for the property. If Mr. Davies does not redeem the certificate, the city may be able to purchase the property from the owner of the certificate. Council requested to have the City Attorney look into the matter and make a recommendation on the best way to proceed.

Approval of Fire Department by-laws. Wyman stated the document being approved is not the by-laws but the department constitution. Motion by Rink to approve the changes made to the Fire Department Constitution; seconded by Bergstrom. Approved 4-0.

Agreement with SWIPCO for building inspections. Mayor Putnam presented an agreement with SWIPCO for building inspections. Cost for the inspections would be \$35/hour plus mileage and is only charged when services are requested. Motion by Shields to authorize the Mayor to sign the agreement with SWIPCO; seconded by Bergstrom. Approved 4-0.

Utility Billing – Bad Debt. City Clerk reported that over \$2,500 in bad utility debt has been filed with the State Income/Offset program. The city has already had a hit on an account, which has been taken care of. There is \$955.73 in bad debt that does not meet the requirements to be filed with the State. Clerk Ridlen requested council approval to remove the \$955.73 of bad debt from the books. Motion by Rink to authorize the City Clerk to remove \$955.73 of bad debt from the Utility Billing books; seconded by Bergstrom. Approved 4-0.

Public Comments: Vernon Brawdy asked when the alley work would begin. Council said the contractor requested two weeks notice before beginning the work.

Messages and Papers from the Mayor. Mayor said the State Auditor was here last Friday and has completed the audit. Their report and recommendations should be complete in about two weeks.

Propositions and Remarks from Council Members. Wyman asked who would be in charge of lining up the volunteers for the yard waste site. Mayor Putnam said there would be something in the paper. Wyman also asked if the smoke testing produced any major problems. Landon said there was nothing he knew of.

Shields reported that after speaking with committee members, it was agreed that the supervision of the Deputy Clerk would fall under the same committee as City Hall.

Motion by Wyman to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Bergstrom. Approved 4-0 7:04 p.m.

Jerry Putnam
Mayor

Dawn Ridlen
City Clerk