

**Minutes
City of Griswold
Regular Council Meeting
Community Building, April 6, 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, Wyman, Carlisle, Bergstrom.

Motion by Shields to approve the agenda, with the exception of moving items 6D and 6B to follow the consent agenda. Seconded by Bergstrom. Approved 5-0.

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

- a. Minutes of the March 2 & 16 regular meetings.
- b. Claims.
- c. Employees overtime report.

Rink wondered if the city could hold the check to the city's past attorney, Brian Daiker, until all the city files are turned over to the current attorney. After discussion it was determined to go ahead and pay Mr. Daiker. Wyman questioned whether the bill for Peck is for past or current work, and also stated that in the future any work needing done in that amount should go before the council prior to the work starting.

Motion by Wyman to pay all bills as is with a letter sent to our former attorney from the mayor stating that we want all the material turned over to our new attorney by April 15th. Second by Shields. Approved 5-0.

6D. Approval of Class C Liquor License, Outdoor Service Area, Sunday Sales permit – Nancy Putnam. Mayor Putnam would like to consult with the city attorney to see if any restrictions need to be made to the outdoor service area. Nancy stated that in Oakland she has to have approval by the council to have live music and her beer garden is open regular hours. Rink questioned if her customers would be able to purchase the alcohol outside or could have to pay for it inside and then take it to the garden. Nancy said the customers would pay inside. Shields asked what type of fence she would be putting up. Nancy stated that Iowa Law requires a 6-foot privacy fence. Rink wanted to know if the beer garden is part of the property. She answered that it is a separate lease with Wyman's.

Motion by Shields to approve the Class C Liquor License pending final review from our attorney by Friday April 10th. Seconded by Rink. Approved 5-0.

6B Jon Bruning – city matters. Jon questioned if anything was being done with the audit report. Mayor Putnam stated that we should have the report sometime this week, and when the city gets it, a special meeting will be scheduled for review. Jon asked if the meeting will be open to the public, Mayor Putnam replied that it would be an open meeting with a portion of the meeting going into closed session.

Jon then asked what the council thought about getting another city police officer. Mayor Putnam is pleased with our coverage now. Rink stated the city cannot afford another police officer and although the contract we have with Cass County can be canceled given 30 days notice, he would like to go for at least a year. Rink is also pleased with the coverage we have now.

Rink wanted to make sure that the audit report is a public document, at which time Mayor Putnam said after the council reviews the report, it will then become accessible to the public.

Jon also is concerned with the drainage on 2nd St.. Kevin and Landon is to take a look at it. Rink informed Jon that once the televising is complete, and then a plan of action can be taken.

Jon's last question was about the mayor counter signing all checks. Things were being done the same way for a long time and changes have been made was Mayor Putnam's response.

Reports:

Public Works. Written report submitted. Grading on the alleys will begin April 8th or 9th.

City Hall. Written report submitted.

Library. Cindy Miller wanted to let the council know the Library will be open every Tuesday until 8:00 pm, for a 6-month trial period, starting April 7th. There will be an open house April 14th from 6:00 to 8:00 pm and everyone is welcome. She also said she has talked to the attorney and thinks he will be able to get the files needed. Mayor Putnam then said he will hold off on sending Mr. Daiker the letter requesting the files.

Committee Reports. The Griswold Youth Sports Complex Baseball Association will be on the next agenda to discuss assistance the city might be able to give them.

Old Business:

Review of sealed bids for sale of City Property. There were no sealed bids, after some discussion Shields made motion to re-advertise for bids with the starting bid being open and a closing date of May 15th with advertisement being in the paper. Second by Wyman. Approved 5-0.

New Business:

Verizon Wireless – Facility changes. Motion by Wyman to approve facility changes and authorize the Mayor to sign the agreement amendment, seconded by Carlisle. Approved 5-0.

Southwest Iowa Housing Trust Fund membership renewal. Tabled to the next meeting.

Change date of April 20th regular meeting. Bergstrom wanted the April 20th council meeting changed to a different day due to a track meet being on the same night. Shields disagreed that meetings should not be changed for a sports event. Wyman mentioned that if the audit report is back then the whole council should be at the meeting. Motion by Wyman to move the meeting to the 21st with the stipulation that the audit report will be on that agenda, seconded by Rink. Approved 4-1 with Shields dissenting.

Todd Pratt – Farmers Market/ Outdoor seating.

Motion by Carlisle to approve the outdoor seating, second by Bergstrom. Approved 5-0. Motion by Rink to approve closing Montgomery St. from Main St. South to the alley on Thursday evenings from 4:30 to 6:30 pm, June 18th through September 24th for a Farmers Market, second by Wyman. Approved 5-0.

Public Comments. Brian Leaming had 2 comments. 1) He wanted to publicly state that the council did not represent him when the council chose to retain Dawn in her position. He opposes that decision. 2) He wanted to state to the council that they represent Griswold 24 hours, 7 days a week and getting intoxicated at establishments is not how he wants to see his council members act. He opposes these actions as well.

Jon Bruning stated that when council is voted in they have responsibility for the good of the city and the good of the people, not for the city employees or other volunteers at the time.

Tom Sandbothe asked about where the city was with the sidewalks from the high school to the ball fields. Shields answered that there is an October 1st deadline for a Federal Grant Program, and Tom is welcome to become part of that committee. Tom also asked about the Chuck Wagon. Mayor Putnam stated that the city will be in possession of it June 1st and there are interested parties interested already.

Kim Kemp asked in reference to a January meeting with an April 1st deadline for flooding, was the deadline met? Mayor Putnam stated that 'yes' the deadline was met and that will cover some of the work the city is doing. There will be more grants to come.

Delores Kirk wants to see signs that say Slow Down by highway 48 by the school, Shields responded by saying that this is something that can be covered under the Federal Grant Program.

Vernon Brawdy wanted a waste site update. Mayor Putnam informed Vernon that the site is open every Saturday from 1:00 – 5:00 pm. Tree limbs are not being accepted at this time. Property owners are allowed to burn on their own property, not in the alleys or on the sidewalks, every weekend in April from 8:00am – 6:00pm.

Rainey Anderson wanted to know if there was anything that could be done about people leaving garbage and trash all over their yard. Mayor Putnam responded by telling her that she may file a complaint at the City Hall, the property owners will then receive a letter with a fine attached to it if they do not comply with the city's ordinance. Rainey stated that she would be interested in putting together a 'Beautify Griswold' team.

Cindy Miller extended an invitation to everyone to attend the Library's Open House April 14th from 6:00-8:00pm and a reminder that April 13th – 18th is a Fine Free week.

Council Remarks:

Carlisle mentioned that the Friends of the Fish Farm met April 5th and set a clean up date for April 19th at 10:00am. Canoyers are donating several trees and money that has been donated is going to help replace shingles and grills.

Shields wanted to make sure the Deputy Clerk would be attending the meeting given by ECI, and also wanted to invite the public to the Spaghetti Supper hosted by the Masons, April 18th at the Community Building.

Wyman wanted to know if there was anything new with the flood committee. Mayor Putnam stated NRCS had met mainly with land owners, and only one person signed up, some said they had to think about it and the majority said 'no'. They will meet again to discuss alternative measures. Wyman wanted to know if the city could buy the land from the owners? After some discussion Wyman suggested that the city discuss our alternatives with the attorney.

Motion by Rink to adjourn; second by Wyman. Approved 5-0; 7:35 p.m.

Jerry Putnam
Mayor

Marylynne Dickinson
Deputy Clerk