

**Minutes
City of Griswold
Regular Council Meeting
Community Building, March 15, 2010, 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: Adams, Rink, Bergstrom, Wyman and Carlisle.

Motion by Rink to approve the agenda. Seconded by Wyman. Approved 5-0.

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

- a. Minutes of the March 1st regular meeting.
- b. Claims.

Second by Rink. Approved 5-0.

PUBLIC HEARING: Mayor Putnam opened the Public Hearing on the proposed budget for fiscal year ending June 30, 2011. Lew Boucher asked the Council not to pass the budget as proposed or as amended. He would like the city to look into other sources of income like the City's reserves, Local Option Sales Tax or even Debt Service. If the city wants to keep businesses and attract businesses, raising the taxes will be a bad thing. Lee Wyman noticed 30% of the taxes are going toward Capital Projects and wanted to know what kind of projects are planned. He also questioned the use of the Local Option Sales Tax and using fund balance from that fund to avoid a tax increase and whether or not the insurance levy was covering insurance expenses in the Water and Sewer funds. Jim Ridlen asked about the amount of money proposed for flood control and how that related to the proposed property tax increase. He also questioned why the information presented on the current year budget showed a deficit when the budget for the current year was passed with a small surplus. Cory Feltner asked if the Council had considered freezing wages for fiscal years 2011 and 2012 given that State and County workers were having their wages frozen. Lee Wyman also asked if the water and sewer rates were going to increase along with taxes for the next fiscal year. There being no more written or oral comments, Mayor Putnam closed the Public Hearing at 6:19 p.m.

Reports:

Public Works. Written report submitted.

Library. Library Board President, Robin Drake, thanked the council members for coming to their Library meeting. Robin also wanted the council to know they have contacted Paul Stein to visit with them and MSA about the building next door to the Library. The furnace in the library building broke down and the City Manager authorized them to do what was needed to fix it.

Old Business:

Rescue Copier. Motion by Adams for the Rescue Department to lease a copier from JQ Office Equipment in the amount of \$82 per month as long as it comes out of the Rescue budget. Second by Wyman. Approved 5-0.

I-DRIVE/Secure IT – Back up. Item tabled until Jessica can talk to Rich Mortensen about any other options available.

New Business:

Resolution 12-2010 adopting the budget for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2011. Motion by Rink to approve Resolution 12-2010 adopting the proposed budget for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2011 with the following changes:

- The total tax levy rate per \$1,000 valuation on regular property is decreased to 14.99999
- The total Public Safety expenditures are amended to \$146,150
- The total Public Works expenditures are amended to \$102,809
- The total Culture and Recreation expenditures are amended to \$112,542
- The total Community and Economic Development expenditures are amended to \$12,184
- The total General Government expenditures are amended to \$103,130
- The total Debt Service expenditures are amended to \$200,022
- The total Capital Projects expenditures are amended to \$130,000
- The total Business Type/Enterprise expenditures are amended to \$234,996
- The total Transfers Out are amended to \$299,407

totaling \$1,341,240 for ALL expenditures, or \$82,314 less than the proposed budget for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2011.

Second by Adams. Roll Call vote ayes: Adams, Rink, Bergstrom, Wyman and Carlisle. Nays: None.

Ball fields – Jody Rossell. Dan and Jody Rossell presented to the council, information on different lighting proposals for the Ball Fields. Council would like to see them again when they have the basic electrical costs and word from the grant that has been applied for.

Welcome Signs for P.E.O. – Julie Adams. Motion by Carlisle to let P.E.O. Chapter GL put up their sign by the Griswold welcome signs at the entrances into town, with the understanding if the city were to get new welcome signs the P.E.O. signs may need to be moved. Seconded by Bergstrom. Approved 5-0.

Appointment of City Clerk. Mayor Putnam appointed Marylynne Dickinson as City Clerk. Motion by Wyman approving the appointment of Marylynne Dickinson as City Clerk. Second by Adams. Approved 5-0.

Appointment of Personnel Committee. Mayor Putnam appointed Adams and Rink to the Personnel Committee. Motion by Bergstrom approving Adams and Rink as the Personnel Committee. Second by Carlisle. Approved 3-0. Adams and Rink abstained.

Re-Appointment of Water and Sewer Committee. Mayor Putnam appointed Wyman and Carlisle to the Water and Sewer Committee. Motion by Rink approving Wyman and Carlisle to the Water and Sewer Committee. Seconded by Bergstrom. Approved 5-0.

City Manager Request for Financial Audit. Kinser stated to the council it is a League “Best Practice” to have a financial audit performed for any one taking over the financial affairs of a city. She is waiting for a cost estimate from the State. Council would like to see a couple of cost estimates before they make a decision.

Public Comments:

Lew Boucher recommends using the State Auditor for the financial audit.

Lee Wyman thanked the council for tabling the audit until costs can be obtained. He also has concerns on how the health benefits are currently structured.

Motion by Carlisle to adjourn. Second by Wyman. Approved 5-0. 7:35 p.m.

Jerry Putnam
Mayor

Marylynne Dickinson
City Clerk