

**GRANDVIEW CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 24, 2012**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Norm Childress called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

Present were: Mayor Childress and Councilmembers Mike Bren, Pam Horner, Diana Jennings, Bill Moore, Jesse Palacios, Javier Rodriguez and Joan Souders.

Staff present were: City Administrator/Public Works Director Cus Arteaga, City Attorney Quinn Plant, Parks & Recreation Director Mike Carpenter, City Treasurer John Myers and City Clerk Anita Palacios.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Pro Tem Horner led the pledge of allegiance.

3. PRESENTATIONS

A. Catholic Charities Housing Services Single Family Housing Project Proposal at Carriage Court - Isabel Garcia, Single Family Housing Program Manager

Isabel Garcia, Single Family Housing Program Manager with the Catholic Charities Housing Services, explained the Catholic Housing Services innovative New Life Homes (NLH) single family housing program. Catholic Charities Housing Services was providing lower income, first-time homebuyers the chance of a lifetime to own their own home at an affordable cost. NLH offers families a way to purchase their own home with financing that was commensurate with their income, as well as become educated on all the elements of homeownership such as credit repair, financial literacy, budgeting, mortgage affordability and home maintenance. Families also work on their own homes investing a minimum of 250 "sweat equity" work hours that further helps them buy their home at an affordable cost with zero out of pocket expenses. To date, NLH was building 18 homes at Meadowlark Estates in Grandview and was in the process of purchasing seven build ready lots at Carriage Court in Grandview.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT – None

5. CONSENT AGENDA

On motion by Councilmember Rodriguez, second by Councilmember Souders, Council unanimously approved the Consent Agenda consisting of the following:

- A. Minutes of the January 10, 2012 regular meeting
- B. Electronic Fund Transfers (EFT) Nos. 4766-4770 in the amount of \$58,819.67
- C. Claim and Payroll Check Nos. 100401-100524 in the amount of \$505,240.15
- D. Payroll Direct Deposit 1/1/12 - 1/15/12 in the amount of \$90,080.09

6. ACTIVE AGENDA

A. Public Hearing Utility/Irrigation Easement Vacation - Leon Darby, Wyant Way

Mayor Childress opened the public hearing to receive comments on a petition to vacate a 10' utility/irrigation easement through Parcel Nos. 230922-24509, 230922-24514 and 230922-24513 owned by Leon Darby and located on Wyant Way in the City of Grandview by reading the public hearing procedure.

Mayor Childress placed on the record that he resides on Wyant Way and asked if anyone objected to him conducting the public hearing. There were no objections.

City Administrator Arteaga reiterated from the last meeting that in 2004, Leon Darby converted his orchard, which was located at what was now known as the Westridge subdivision and constructed a residential neighborhood. As part of the development improvements, he installed new utilities including water, sewer, irrigation and streets. The improvements called for new utility easements to accommodate the new infrastructure. Currently, there was an old abandoned utility easement located through Parcel Nos. 230922-24509, 24513 and 24514 owned by Mr. Darby. The abandoned utility easement was no longer of any value or use to the City because of the new easements incorporated into the subdivision during construction. The old easement hinders the development of the three lots and Mr. Darby requested that the City consider vacating the old easement. City Administrator Arteaga concurred with his request to vacate the easement because the City does not use the easement, the easement had been abandoned, and it was in the City's best interest to vacate the easement, as doing so would rid the City of a property right it had no need for. He recommended the City not require any compensation from Mr. Darby for the easement because he relocated the easement with a new utility easement during the construction of his subdivision.

No comments were received during the public hearing or by mail and the hearing was closed.

B. Resolution No. 2012-7 declaring a utility/irrigation easement located on Wyant Way as surplus and authorizing its disposition

On motion by Councilmember Palacios, second by Councilmember Moore, Council unanimously approved Resolution No. 2012-7 declaring a utility/irrigation easement located on Wyant Way as surplus and authorizing its disposition.

C. Resolution No. 2012-8 authorizing the Mayor to sign a Service Agreement with the Howell Group, LLC. DBA Telecommunications Consulting Associates

City Treasurer Myers explained the City was contacted by John Howell, Telecommunications Consulting Associates, offering to perform an audit of the franchise agreement between Charter Communications and the City. The audit would include the fees and taxes paid by Charter to the City over recent years. Compensation for the audit work would be 50% of any funds that were recovered by the City as a result of the audit. Future fees and taxes were solely the City's. As requested by Mayor Childress and City Administrator Arteaga, some of the cities that have availed themselves of Mr. Howell's services were contacted and asked about their experiences with a similar audit. The cities of Klamath Falls, Lincoln City, The Dalles and Dallas, Oregon

were contacted by phone or email. In all cases, the person responding spoke of a positive and low impact process. They indicated that after providing a copy of the current franchise agreement, the audit was performed off site and with minimal staff involvement. With minimal City resources, an audit could be performed for the City. The City would pay 50% of any funds that were recovered and then receive all future fees and taxes.

On motion by Councilmember Horner, second by Councilmember Jennings, Council unanimously approved Resolution No. 2012-8 authorizing the Mayor to sign a Service Agreement with the Howell Group, LLC. DBA Telecommunications Consulting Associates.

D. Wastewater Treatment Plant Future Improvements Report – City Engineer Ted Pooler

City Engineer Pooler distributed a treatment capacity update for the Wastewater Treatment Facilities, copy attached.

This documentation was provided for Council information only. No action was required. Further review by Council would be forthcoming at a later date.

7. UNFINISHED AND NEW BUSINESS

A. 2012 Community Center Advisory Committee Re-Appointments

At the May 10, 2011 meeting, Council appointed the Community Center Advisory Committee. Per GMC 2.38 their terms expired December 31, 2011. Mayor Childress recommended the following individuals be re-appointed to the Grandview Community Center Advisory Committee for 2012:

- Middle School Representative – Rafael Magana
- High School Representative – Jose Ramos
- Senior Citizen Representative – Don Thomas
- American Legion/Auxiliary Representative – Nancy Davidson
- At-Large Representative – Dave Copeland
- At-Large Representative – Nancy Hultberg
- City Council Representative – Joan Souders

On motion by Councilmember Horner, second by Councilmember Moore, Council unanimously confirmed re-appointments of the 2012 Grandview Community Center Advisory Committee as recommended by Mayor Childress.

8. CITY ADMINISTRATOR AND/OR STAFF REPORTS

Year-End Reports – City Treasurer Myers reported that year-end 2011 reports were distributed and the City ended the year financially healthy.

9. MAYOR & COUNCILMEMBER MEETING REPORTS

DRYVE Meeting – The DRYVE Committee would be meeting on Thursday, January 26th at the Grandview Library.

Blood Drive – The American Red Cross would be conducting a blood drive at YVCC Grandview Campus on February 2nd.

David Martinez Memorial Service – On January 21st, a memorial service was held for Public Works Water Plant Operator David Martinez who passed away on January 16th.

YVCOG General Membership Meeting – Mayor Childress, Councilmembers Moore, Palacios, Souders, City Administrator Arteaga and Assistant Public Works Director Santos Trevino attended the YVCOG General Membership meeting on January 18th in Toppenish.

10. ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Councilmember Moore, second by Councilmember Rodriguez, Council unanimously adjourned the regular meeting at 8:30 p.m.

Mayor Norm Childress

Anita Palacios, City Clerk