

**GRANDVIEW CITY COUNCIL  
COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE MEETING MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 25, 2020**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Gloria Mendoza called the Committee-of-the-Whole meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

**2. ROLL CALL**

Present were: Mayor Mendoza and Councilmembers Gay Brewer, Mike Everett, Diana Jennings, Bill Moore, Javier Rodriguez and Joan Souders

Absent was: Councilmember David Diaz.

Staff present were: City Administrator/Public Works Director Cus Arteaga, City Attorney Quinn Plant, City Treasurer Matt Cordray, Parks & Recreation Director Gretchen Chronis, Assistant Police Chief Mike Hopp, Fire Chief Pat Mason, Assistant Public Works Director Todd Dorsett and City Clerk Anita Palacios.

**3. PUBLIC COMMENT – None**

**4. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign a Recreational Use Permit by and between the City of Grandview and the Lower Valley Cal Ripken League**

Parks & Recreation Director Chronis explained that the Washington Cities Insurance Authority recommends the City enter into Recreational Use Permits between those athletic organizations that utilize City owned recreational facilities to conduct their respective programs. She presented a Recreational Use Permit between the City and the Lower Valley Cal Ripken League for the 2020 season. Baseball League Coordinator Alicia Trevino of the Lower Valley Cal Ripken League reviewed and signed the agreement.

Discussion took place.

**On motion by Councilmember Everett, second by Councilmember Moore, the C.O.W. moved a resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign a Recreational Use Permit by and between the City of Grandview and the Lower Valley Cal Ripken League to the February 25, 2020 regular Council meeting for consideration.**

**B. Resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign a Recreational Use Permit by and between the City of Grandview and the Grandview Neptune Rotary Swim Team for the use of the swimming pool – 2020 Swim Team Program**

Parks & Recreation Director Chronis explained that the Washington Cities Insurance Authority recommends the City enter into Recreational Use Permits between those athletic organizations that utilize City owned recreational facilities to conduct their respective programs. She presented a Recreational Use Permit between the City and the Grandview Neptune Rotary Swim Team for the 2020 season. Swim Team President Nick Trevino reviewed and signed the agreement.

Discussion took place.

**On motion by Councilmember Moore, second by Councilmember Rodriguez, the C.O.W. moved a resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign a Recreational Use Permit by and between the City of Grandview and the Grandview Neptune Rotary Swim Team for the use of the swimming pool – 2020 Swim Team Program to the March 10, 2020 regular Council meeting for consideration.**

**C. Ordinance amending Grandview Municipal Code Section 10.24.025 Speed Limit-Wine Country Road**

At the February 11, 2020 C.O.W. meeting, Police Chief Fuller explained that on April 9, 2019, Council unanimously passed Ordinance No. 2019-4 amending Grandview Municipal Code Section 10.24.025 Speed Limit-Wine Country Road. That ordinance placed the 25 mph to 35 mph transition point at about Higgins Way on West Wine Country Road. Public comments on the ordinance have questioned the change and requests have been made to undo it. To lessen the perceived impact of the change, the 25/35 mph transition point could be moved from Higgins Way back eastward to the Stover Road intersection on West Wine Country Road. The current ordinance read: “The maximum speed for travel by vehicles on West Wine Country Road from the west city limits to 2,500 feet east of the west city limits shall be 35 miles per hour . . . .” The proposed ordinance read: “The maximum speed for travel by vehicles on West Wine Country Road from the west city limits to the Stover Road intersection shall be 35 miles per hour . . . .”

Following discussion at the February 11, 2020 C.O.W. meeting, the C.O.W. tabled an ordinance amending Grandview Municipal Code Section 10.24.025 Speed Limit-Wine Country Road to the February 25, 2020 C.O.W. meeting for further consideration.

Discussion took place.

On motion by Councilmember Everett, second by Councilmember Jennings, the C.O.W. moved an ordinance amending Grandview Municipal Code Section 10.24.025 Speed Limit-Wine Country Road to the March 10, 2020 regular Council meeting for consideration.

The motion failed with Councilmembers Brewer and Souders voting in favor and Councilmembers Everett, Jennings, Moore and Rodriguez voting in opposition.

**On motion by Councilmember Everett, second by Councilmember Brewer, the C.O.W. moved an ordinance to repeal Grandview Municipal Code Section 10.24.025 Speed Limit-Wine Country Road to the March 10, 2020 Council meeting for consideration.**

**D. Ambulance Service Information**

At the February 11, 2020 C.O.W. meeting, Fire Chief Mason distributed information regarding the ambulance service for discussion at the February 25, 2020 C.O.W. meeting.

Fire Chief Mason explained that in 2018, the City started the process of evaluating alternatives to ensure ambulance services were available to the citizens of Grandview through a financial agreement with a local ambulance provider. Council chose to partner with the City of Sunnyside for ambulance services. An Interlocal Agreement (ILA) was finalized with the City of Sunnyside in July 2019 and the Sunnyside Fire Department started providing ambulance service in October

2019. The ILA showed the first year total cost to provide ambulance services would be \$368,439 with the City's share to be \$163,439. The ILA showed the second year projected total cost to provide the service would be \$392,562 with the City's share to be \$187,562. This service was currently funded from the existing EMS budget. The EMS funding source would be completely exhausted by the end of 2020, therefore, a new alternative funding source would need to be established in order to fund this service. He summarized the cost of providing the ambulance service by the City, the cost to continue to partner with the Sunnyside Fire Department, a comparison of the two, a potential ambulance utility revenue source and his recommendation, as follows:

**The Cost to Own/Operate a City Owned Ambulance Service:**

• Initial cost to purchase and outfit (2) ambulances	2/\$280,000	\$560,000
• Initial cost for housing the new staff		<u>\$500,000</u>
<b>Initial Start Up Costs</b>		<b>\$1,060,000</b>

• Annual FTE Staffing payroll and benefits	10 FTE/\$70,000	\$700,000
• Unforeseen overtime	10 FTE/\$1,500	\$15,000
• EMS Billing fees	550/\$25	\$13,750
• Vehicle maintenance fees	2/\$2,500	\$5,000
• Annual DOT physicals	10 FTE/\$200	\$2,000
• Personnel clothing and uniforms	10 FTE/\$1,500	\$15,000
• Annual NFPA/OSHA/EMS training and continuing education	10 FTE/\$1,200	\$12,000
• Medical equipment maintenance fees	2/\$1,100	\$2,200
• Fuel and oil		\$9,500
• EMS disposable equipment		<u>\$3,000</u>
<b>Annual Operating Costs</b>		<b>\$777,450</b>

**Partnership with the Sunnyside Fire Department:**

• Annual contract cost	1st YR - \$163,500	2nd YR - \$187,600
• Initial cost to purchase equipment		No additional cost
• Annual FTE Staffing payroll and benefits		No additional cost
• Unforeseen overtime		No additional cost
• EMS Billing fees		No additional cost
• Vehicle maintenance fees		No additional cost
• Annual DOT physicals		No additional cost
• Personnel clothing and uniforms		No additional cost
• Annual NFPA/OSHA/EMS training and continuing education		No additional cost
• Medical equipment maintenance fees		No additional cost
• Fuel and oil		No additional cost
• EMS disposable equipment		No additional cost

**Annual Cost of Sunnyside Fire Department (SSFD) Contract Versus Owning Our Own Ambulance Service**

- 1st YEAR - \$163,500 (SSFD) Versus \$1,837,450 (Ownership/Start Up & Annual Operating Costs)
- 2nd YEAR - \$187,600 (SSFD) Versus \$777,450 (Ownership/Annual Operating Costs)

**Revenue/Ambulance Utility Fee**

1. Council would need to identify how many water accounts we have.
2. Council would need to implement a method for accessing commercial/industrial/government accounts.
3. Council would need to establish a monthly rate to be collected.
4. Council would need to identify ways to educate the citizens.
5. Council would need to approve and enact the Ambulance Utility Fee. For example: 3,500 water accounts (estimated) at \$10 per month would generate \$420,000 per year.
6. If the City continues with Sunnyside at \$187,000 per year, the City would bank \$233,000 per year to help support this program.
7. The surplus could be used to construct a building in the future to house the crew/equipment for 24/7 service.

He recommended Council support and enact an ambulance utility fee by July 1, 2020, that would be sufficient to cover the estimated \$400,000 cost of providing the service annually. To do so, Council would need to incorporate an Ambulance Utility Chapter into the Grandview Municipal Code and establish how many water accounts the City would have in order to set a rate.

Councilmember Brewer recused himself from the discussion due to a conflict of interest.

Discussion took place. No action was taken.

City Administrator Arteaga recommended that a special meeting be scheduled in the near future for further discussion.

5. **OTHER BUSINESS** – None

6. **ADJOURNMENT**

The C.O.W. meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

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Mayor Gloria Mendoza

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Anita Palacios, City Clerk