

**GRANDVIEW CITY COUNCIL
STUDY SESSION MINUTES
MARCH 17, 2008**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Norm Childress called the study session to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

Present were: Mayor Norm Childress and Councilmembers Mike Bren, Pam Horner, Jan McDonald, Bill Moore, Jesse Palacios and Joan Souders. Councilmember Robert Morales was absent.

Staff present were: City Administrator Scott Staples, City Attorney Jack Maxwell, Public Works Director Cus Arteaga, Deputy City Clerk/Treasurer Elizabeth Alba, and Code Enforcement Officer Cory Taylor.

2. PUBLIC INFORMATION PROGRAM FOR MAY 20TH PRIVATE UTILITY TAX INCREASE BALLOT ISSUE

City Administrator Staples presented information regarding the activity guidelines for local government agencies in election campaigns. Discussion ensued regarding the type of information necessary to inform the public of the ballot issue. City Administrator Staples suggested a question and answer fact sheet be distributed by mail in early May and the information be included on the City's website. Mayor Childress encouraged Councilmembers to present information at local community groups during the month of May to further promote the ballot issue.

3. CODE ENFORCEMENT

Councilmember Bren asked to discuss information he received from a citizen concerning a person living in a garage. He felt the information was not acted on by the City in a timely manner. Public Works Director Arteaga responded that as soon as the information was brought to his attention, a letter was sent to the property owner in question and follow-up at the residence with the property owner was made by Code Enforcement Officer Taylor.

Nuisance properties around the City were discussed. City Attorney Maxwell indicated that the City could clean-up the properties, but lacks the recourse to recover the costs associated with clean-up because most problem properties have multiple mortgages or a bankruptcy court has jurisdiction. The City could easily use the entire 2008 budget appropriation for abatements at one location.

City Administrator Staples noted that there was \$10,000 appropriated in the 2008 budget for abatement and that money could be spent cleaning up properties. He added that changes to the zoning code as part of the code review process would clarify permitted use standards for residential zoning districts.

4. ADJOURNMENT

The study session adjourned at 6:54 p.m.

Mayor Norm Childress

Elizabeth Alba, Deputy City Clerk/Treasurer