

Grow Grand Island Incentive Fund Committee

January 11, 2016 @ 1:30 pm

State Fair Offices – Nebraska Building

1. Introduction of new members
2. Update on Occupation Tax – City Council Approved – (Below)
3. Input from the Executive Committee with regard to GGI/Incentive Committee.
4. Discussion of this committee assuming responsibility for Grow Grand Island Initiative 5.6 which states: Continue to advance the development and utilization of facilities in and around Fonner Park, as well as other unique assets in the community such as the Heartland Public Shooting Park, Husker Harvest Days, Hike & Bike Trails, etc.
5. Discussion of potential scoring system to be used by this committee on the following traits:
6. Score the following:
 - 1) Economic Impact
 - 2) Capacity/Sustainability/Fiscal Responsibility “Skin in the Game”
 - 3) Branding/Notoriety
 - 4) Quality of Life
 - 5) Compliments Grow Grand Island initiatives
7. Further discussion and/or refinement of the Top Ten reasons GI voters should vote for the continuation of the occupation tax:
 - 1) To secure activities that currently cannot/do not come to town
 - 2) Financial Commitments to NSF – (By State Law)
 - 3) Support Recreational Activities
 - 4) Real Estate Taxes are kept low or at a minimum
 - 5) Quality of Life
 - 6) Hike and Bike Trails
 - 7) Community Development/Progress
 - 8) Share what these funds have accomplished in the past

- 9) It is a shared tax with non-Grand island residents
 - 10) Make Grand Island a destination/hot spot on a map
 - 11) Brighter future for youth/workforce retention
8. Establish next meeting date
 9. Other Business
 10. Adjourn

Committee Objective:

Develop a local incentive fund to support the attraction of large livestock shows, trade shows, and other events to Grand Island based on their potential economic impact, as well as to ensure existing events/sites are continuously maintained, improved and upgraded.

Approved by the Grand Island City Council on December 22, 2015.

FOOD AND BEVERAGE TAX BALLOT LANGUAGE

Shall the City of Grand Island impose an occupation tax of one and one half percent (1 ½%) on the sale of all food and beverages presently subject to sales tax in commercial establishments in the City of Grand Island, which occupation tax shall be imposed pursuant to Nebraska Statutes Sections 16-205 and 18-1208?

Additional information about the proposed Occupation Tax:

The proceeds from this tax shall be used for the following community enhancements:

The annual financial commitment to the Nebraska State Fair as required by state law;

Promote entertainment, agricultural and livestock shows, trade shows and similar events that will attract visitors to Grand Island;

Ongoing enhancement and development of recreation and athletic facilities such as hike, bike and recreational trails, ball fields and other community activity needs;

Invest in community development projects and activities that stimulate progress and growth for Grand Island.

The City of Grand Island shall be authorized to impose the occupation tax until the voters approve termination of such occupation tax, which termination may only be authorized if the City has not pledged such occupation tax to payment of debt service on bonds of the City payable from any source, or other long-term financings payable from the City's general fund.

FOR said proposal

AGAINST said proposal