

**By Jan Rahn**

*Managing Editor*

Voters will have an opportunity at election time to approve a sales and use tax in the amount of 1 percent that can be used for improvements within city limits.

City council passed a resolution at their regular meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 14 that will place the proposition on the May 15 Primary Election ballot.

The proposition to impose a sales and use tax of 1 percent upon transactions within the City of Grant would allow for the increase of budgeted restricted funds for the upcoming budget year that could be used for capital improvements, or replacement or updates of the city's infrastructure, such as streets, water, sewer, and parks and rec—such as the swimming pool.

Patrons who attended a meeting of council in January gave favorable comments and input on a proposed sales tax that would go toward community betterment.

Examples of what such a tax can do for a community have been pointed out in the surrounding towns of Imperial and Ogallala which have generated thousands of dollars put toward large projects in their communities.

If approved by voters in the primary, sales tax in Grant will become 6.5 percent, the same as Imperial, but less than tax in Ogallala or North Platte which is currently at 7 percent, the same as larger Nebraska towns of Kearney and Lincoln. Sidney's sales tax is 7.5 percent; Denver's is 7.72 percent.

**In Other Business**

- The council was presented figures for water use, law enforcement, and lottery sales.
- A presentation to council members by the city's auditor, Terry Galloway, indicated no major issues needed to be dealt with on the city's books. Galloway is a member of the Certified Public Accountant group of Almquist, Maltzahn, Galloway and Luth of Grand Island.
- Council member Tim Pofahl was appointed as the representative to West Central Nebraska Development District which administers grants and takes care of such projects as nuisance abatement. Councilman Wayne Pick is the alternate for the City of Grant.
- Council tabled a potential airport hangar project to await recommendation from the Airport Advisory Committee following their next meeting.
- Discussion was held and action will be taken to let bids on a maintenance contract for the park and ballfields to replace a contract upon Uehling's Total Turf going out of business.