

**APPROVED MINUTES
OF THE CITY
COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING
CITY OF EAST GRAND FORKS
TUESDAY, JANUARY 9, 2018 – 5:00 PM**

CALL TO ORDER:

The Special Meeting of the East Grand Forks City Council for January 9, 2018 was called to order by Council President Olstad at 5:00 P.M.

CALL OF ROLL:

On a Call of Roll the following members of the East Grand Forks City Council were present: Mayor Steve Gander, Council President Mark Olstad, Council Members Clarence Vetter, Mike Pokrzywinski, Henry Tweten, and Marc DeMers.

Jeff Anderson, Assistant Fire Chief; Karla Anderson, Finance Director; Nancy Ellis, City Planner; Steve Emery, City Engineer; Ron Galstad, City Attorney; Mike Hedlund, Police Chief; Charlotte Helgeson, Library Director; Reid Huttunen, Parks and Recreation Superintendent; David Murphy, City Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer; Keith Mykleseth, Water & Light Manager; and Megan Nelson, City Clerk.

DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM:

The Council President Determined a Quorum was present.

SCHEDULED PUBLIC HEARINGS:

1. Public hearing allowing for public comment on the proposed policy of in-car and body worn cameras by the East Grand Forks Police Department.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER POKRZYWINSKI, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER DEMERS, TO OPEN THE PUBLIC HEARING.

Voting Aye: Pokrzywinski, Tweten, Olstad, DeMers, and Vetter.

Voting Nay: None.

Absent: Riopelle and Grassel.

Chief Hedlund explained to the Council a public hearing a part of the process in setting a policy for the use of body and car cameras prior to even purchasing these items. He stated that he was going to be pulling the request to purchase the cameras from the work session because of financial issues that needed to be figured out and hoped it would be back on the agenda by the next work session. He added that at this point he still had not received any comments about the proposed policy from the public. Mayor Gander stated he appreciated that this process was moving forward, that the officers are credible and trustworthy, and how this will give them another tool to use.

Council member DeMers stated he also appreciated the effort that was being made but he did have two questions. He asked about the portion of the policy that states the cameras cannot be used for disciplinary action but it was allowed if there was a complaint against the officer. Chief Hedlund explained that it could be used if there was wrong doing found on the film but it is not the intent to use these cameras to conduct surveillance on the officers themselves. Council member DeMers asked to have that looked into before the next meeting and maybe include something along the lines of how it can be used to monitor staff but that it is not the primary purpose. Chief Hedlund stated the majority of the policy is from the League of Minnesota Cities example along with State statute and other departments who have had their policy in place for some time but that can be reviewed. Council member DeMers also suggested adding language in section 16 so it was not just covering employees but to include those that may be on the recording.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER DEMERS, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER VETTER, TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING.

Voting Aye: Pokrzywinski, Tweten, Olstad, DeMers, and Vetter.

Voting Nay: None.

Absent: Riopelle and Grassel.

ADJOURN:

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER VETTER, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER POKRZYWINSKI, TO ADJOURN THE JANUARY 9, 2018 SPECIAL MEETING OF THE EAST GRAND FORKS, MINNESOTA CITY COUNCIL AT 5:08 P.M.

Voting Aye: Pokrzywinski, Tweten, Olstad, DeMers, and Vetter.

Voting Nay: None.

Absent: Riopelle and Grassel.

David Murphy, City Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer