

**APPROVED MINUTES
OF THE CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF EAST GRAND FORKS
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2018 – 5:00 PM**

CALL TO ORDER:

The Council Meeting of the East Grand Forks City Council for Tuesday, February 20, 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 (5:03pm), Council President Mark Olstad, Council Vice President Chad Grassel, Council Members Clarence Vetter, Mike Pokrzywinski, Tim Riopelle, Henry Tweten, and Marc DeMers.

Karla Anderson, Finance Director; Nancy Ellis, City Planner; Steve Emery, City Engineer; Ron Galstad, City Attorney; Paul Gorte, Economic Development Director; Mike Hedlund, Police Chief; Charlotte Helgeson, Library Director; Reid Huttunen, Parks and Recreation Superintendent; Gary Larson, Fire Chief; David Murphy, City Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer; Megan Nelson, City Clerk; and Jason Stordahl, Public Works Director.

DETERMINATION OF QUORUM:

The Council President Determined a Quorum was present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

OPEN FORUM:

“An opportunity for members of the public to address the City Council on items not on the current Agenda. Items requiring Council action maybe deferred to staff or Boards and Commissions for research and future Council Agendas if appropriate.” If you would like to address the City Council, please come up to the podium to do so.”

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

1. Consider approving the minutes of the “Regular Meeting” for the East Grand Forks Minnesota City Council of February 6, 2018.
2. Consider approving the minutes of the “Work Session” for the East Grand Forks Minnesota City Council of February 13, 2018.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER DEMERS, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER RIOPELLE, TO APPROVE ITEMS ONE (1) AND TWO (2).

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

Voting Nay: None.

SCHEDULED BID LETTINGS: NONE

SCHEDULED PUBLIC HEARINGS: NONE

CONSENT AGENDA:

Items under the “Consent Agenda” will be adopted with one motion; however, council members may request individual items to be pulled from the consent agenda for discussion and action if they choose.

3. Consider approving the purchase of a Toro Groundsmaster model 4100 D Mower for a total amount of \$63,760.54 from MTI Distributing and declare Unit 355 the 2000 Toro 455D mower as surplus.
4. Consider approving the purchase of a Toolcat 5610 and attachments of a 66 inch snowblower and 68 inch angle broom for a total amount of \$55,719.50 from Clark Equipment Company.
5. Consider approving the exempt gambling permit application for the East Grand Forks Chapter of Ducks Unlimited to hold a raffle on April 7, 2018 at the American Legion Club located at 1009 Central Ave NW East Grand Forks, MN 56721 and waive the 30 day period.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER DEMERS, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER TWETEN, TO APPROVE ITEMS THREE (3) THROUGH FIVE (5).

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

Voting Nay: None.

ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF REPORTS OF OFFICERS, BOARDS, AND COMMISSIONS:

6. Regular meeting minutes of the Water, Light, Power, and Building Commission for January 18, 2018 and for February 1, 2018.

COMMUNICATIONS: NONE

OLD BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

7. Consider approving the request to start the promotional hiring process to fill the Park Foreman position.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER DEMERS, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER GRASSEL, TO APPROVE THE REQUEST TO START THE PROMOTIONAL HIRING PROCESS TO FILL THE PARK FOREMAN POSITION.

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

Voting Nay: None.

CLAIMS:

8. Consider authorizing the City Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer to issue payment of recommended bills and payroll.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER DEMERS, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER RIOPELLE, TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR/CLERK-TREASURER TO ISSUE PAYMENT OF RECOMMENDED BILLS AND PAYROLL.

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

Voting Nay: None.

COUNCIL/STAFF REPORTS:

Mayor Gander stated he would let others speak about the tri-city meeting and how the focal point lately for the Council has been boards and commissions with setting up a new park and recreation commission, he thanked those you had already sent in information stating their interest in serving, continued mentioning the charter commission, and how this will also be a focus at the State of the City address on April 25th. He commented how the board and commission members are unsung heroes of the city, they advise the department heads and council, and it is a way to gather input from the community on how things should be done at the city to best serve the people.

Mayor Gander continued saying how Mr. Mike Powers was one of these individuals. He reviewed how Mr. Powers serves on the county planning commission, he has served and chaired the City's planning commission for the last several years, and also served on the Metropolitan Planning Organization as well as serving as the chair of that board. He commented how Mr. Powers has served on other boards at St. Michael's and also use to chair the board of directors of the St. Anne's home. He stated how Mr. Powers comes in and helps make decisions that affect many in the community. He commented when he shows up he had done his homework and is ready to make good, quality decisions on behalf of the city which is why Mr. Powers had received a grinder award.

Council Member Riopelle reminded everyone of the fish fry that will be taking place on Friday nights at Sacred Heart and how they have now added a drive thru lane, how they served about 150 meals that way, and suggested to try it out because it could be easier than going inside.

Council Member Tweten stated he ate at the fish fry but inside because he wanted to say hello to lots of friends.

Council President Olstad said how the tri-city meeting was held last Thursday with council members, mayors, city administrators, Senator Mark Johnson, and Representative Deb Kiel had joined through a conference call. He commented how there was good discussion about what each city was going through and how it had been suggested to meet more than once a year. He added how it had been suggested for the mayors to possibly meet a few times a year as well. Mr. Murphy told the Council he had received a phone call from Thief River Falls asking to meet twice a year.

Mr. Murphy reminded the Council about the base tour on Thursday, he would be checking with the Air Base to see when they should be arriving, and email out when they will be leaving from City Hall. He added that he would be out of the office on Friday because of a funeral.

ADJOURN:

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER DEMERS, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER RIOPELLE, TO ADJOURN THE FEBRUARY 20, 2018 COUNCIL MEETING OF THE EAST GRAND FORKS, MINNESOTA CITY COUNCIL AT 5:09 P.M.

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

Voting Nay: None.

David Murphy, City Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer