

**APPROVED MINUTES
OF THE CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF EAST GRAND FORKS
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2018 – 5:00 PM**

CALL TO ORDER:

The Council Meeting of the East Grand Forks City Council for Tuesday, October 16, 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 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; Keith Mykleseth, Water & Light Manager; 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 Council Meeting” for the East Grand Forks Minnesota City Council of October 16, 2018.
2. Consider approving the minutes of the “Work Session” for the East Grand Forks Minnesota City Council of October 23, 2018.

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

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

Voting Nay: None.

SCHEDULED BID LETTINGS: NONE

SCHEDULED PUBLIC HEARINGS:

3. Public Hearing to consider granting property tax abatements for residential homes under the New Construction Housing Projects program.

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

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

Voting Nay: None.

Mr. Murphy stated this had gone through the Economic Development which recommended approval for these homes that have met the criteria of the program and he also recommends approval. There were no other questions or comments.

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

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

Voting Nay: 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.

4. Consider adopting Resolution No. 18-11-69 authorizing the City Administrator/Clerk Treasurer to certify the listed accounts for mowing to the County Auditor for collection with the 2019 real estate taxes.
5. Consider adopting Resolution No. 18-11-70 authorizing the City Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer to certify the listed accounts for snow removal to the County Auditor for collection with the 2019 real estate taxes.
6. Consider adopting Resolution No. 18-11-71 authorizing the interest amount of \$1,111.04 from special assessments to be waived in 2019 for the property owned by the Department of Natural Resources.
7. Consider adopting Resolution No. 18-11-72 authorizing the City Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer to certify the listed accounts for delinquent utilities to the Count Auditor for collection with the 2019 real estate taxes.
8. Consider adopting Resolution No. 18-11-73 approving the request to utilize the Metropolitan Planning Organization's assistance in updating the East Grand Forks Land Use Plan in 2020 with the use of in-house staff and consultants.

9. Consider approving the Special Event Application for the Holly Dazzle Event on Sunday, November 25, 2018 including the closure of the parking lot by restaurant row contingent upon the Administration Office receiving the insurance and fee for the event.
10. Consider approving the Fireworks Application for RES Specialty Pyrotechnics for the Holly Dazzle Event taking place on Sunday, November 25, 2018.
11. Consider approving the Parade Application for the Holly Dazzle Parade contingent upon the approval from MNDOT for the closure of the Sorlie Bridge.
12. Consider approving an Exempt Gambling Permit for the J&H Nunn Sports Foundation to hold a raffle on November 10, 2018 at the American Legion Post 157 located at 1009 Central Ave NW East Grand Forks, MN 56721.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER DEMERS, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER POKRZYWINSKI, TO APPROVE ITEMS FOUR (4) THROUGH TWELVE (12).

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

Voting Nay: None.

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

13. Regular meeting minutes of the Water, Light, Power, and Building Commission for October 4, 2018 and special meeting minutes for October 11, 2018.

COMMUNICATIONS: NONE

OLD BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

14. Consider approving the agreement between the City of East Grand Forks and Countrywide Sanitation Company for the extension of refuse, garbage, and recycle services from July 1, 2019 until June 30, 2024.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER DEMERS, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER TWETEN, TO APPROVE THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF EAST GRAND FORKS AND COUNTRYWIDE SANITATION COMPANY FOR THE EXTENSION OF REFUSE, GARBAGE, AND RECYCLE SERVICES FROM JULY 1, 2019 UNTIL JUNE 30, 2024.

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

Voting Nay: None.

15. Consider awarding the carpet job to Norby's Work Perks for a total amount of \$69,859 and the painting job to Caya Painting for a total of \$33,770 for updates to the Campbell Library.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER DEMERS, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER RIOPELLE, TO AWARD THE CARPET JOB TO NORBY'S WORK PERKS FOR A

TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$69,859 AND THE PAINTING JOB TO CAYA PAINTING FOR A TOTAL OF \$33,770 FOR UPDATES TO THE CAMPBELL LIBRARY.

Mayor Gander stated he appreciates the buildings are being kept up, how there is a separate fund for building maintenance, and these dollars were not coming out of the general fund. He commented how projects are prioritized for the funding that is available.

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

Voting Nay: None.

16. Consider declaring the listed firearms as surplus property which will be sold and use the funds from the sale towards purchase of equipment for an East Grand Forks Police Department SWAT officer.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER GRASSEL, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER DEMERS, TO DECLARE THE LISTED FIREARMS AS SURPLUS PROPERTY WHICH WILL BE SOLD AND USE THE FUNDS FROM THE SALE TOWARDS PURCHASE OF EQUIPMENT FOR AN EAST GRAND FORKS POLICE DEPARTMENT SWAT OFFICER.

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

Voting Nay: None.

17. Consider adopting Resolution No. 18-11-74 authorizing a two year tax abatement for homes that qualified under the New Home Construction Program.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER RIOPELLE, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER DEMERS, TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 18-11-74 AUTHORIZING A TWO YEAR TAX ABATEMENT FOR HOMES THAT QUALIFIED UNDER THE NEW HOME CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM.

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

Voting Nay: None.

CLAIMS:

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

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

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

Voting Nay: None.

COUNCIL/STAFF REPORTS:

Mayor Gander thanked all of those who were helping run the elections and how the system was working well. He commented how there is a good system in America and that is not the case in other countries.

Council Member Pokrzywinski said he was an election judge during the last election cycle, how it was an eye opening experience because of everything that is involved, and thanked those that always sign up to work elections for all of their hard work.

ADJOURN:

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER GRASSEL, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER DEMERS, TO ADJOURN THE NOVEMBER 6, 2018 COUNCIL MEETING OF THE EAST GRAND FORKS, MINNESOTA CITY COUNCIL AT 5:09 P.M.

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

Voting Nay: None.

David Murphy, City Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer