

**APPROVED MINUTES
OF THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF EAST GRAND FORKS
TUESDAY, MAY 7, 2019**

CALL TO ORDER:

The Council Meeting of the East Grand Forks City Council for May 7, 2019 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, Members Clarence Vetter, Dale Helms, Tim Riopelle, Tim Johnson, and Marc DeMers.

Karla Anderson, Finance Director; Nancy Ellis, City Planner; Steve Emery, City Engineer; Ron Galstad, City Attorney; Rod Hajicek, Police Lieutenant; 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; and Jason Stordahl, Public Works Director.

DETERMINATION OF QUORUM:

The Council President Determined a Quorum was present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

OPEN FORUM:

Council President Olstad stated the open forum was an opportunity for members of the public to address the City Council on items not on the current agenda and items requiring Council action may be deferred to staff or Boards and Commissions for research and future Council Agendas if appropriate. He asked if anyone who would like to address the City Council would step up to the podium. No one came forward.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

1. Consider approving the minutes of the "Council Meeting" for the East Grand Forks Minnesota City Council of April 16, 2019.
2. Consider approving the minutes of the "Work Session" for the East Grand Forks Minnesota City Council of April 23, 2019.

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

Voting Aye: Vetter, Helms, Riopelle, Johnson, Olstad, and DeMers.

Voting Nay: None.

Absent: Grassel

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 request to start a hiring process to fill a fire fighter position in the Fire Department.
4. Consider adopting resolution No. 19-05-25 authorizing the hiring of the seasonal/temporary positions for the 2019 summer season.
5. Consider approving the Special Event Application for Frandsen Bank for the closure of the alley by their property from 5pm to 7pm on Thursday, May 16th for an event they will be hosting in their parking lot.

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

Voting Aye: Vetter, Helms, Riopelle, Johnson, Olstad, and DeMers.

Voting Nay: None.

Absent: Grassel.

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

6. Regular meeting minutes of the Water, Light, Power, and Building Commission for April 3, 2019 and April 17, 2019.
7. Regular meeting minutes of the Park and Recreation Commission for September 19, 2018, October 17, 2018, December 19, 2018, February 27, 2019, and March 27, 2019.
8. Regular meeting minutes of the Resurrection Cemetery Commission for November 7, 2018.

COMMUNICATIONS:

9. The East Grand Forks Fire Department has been making strides over the last four years to improve the City’s fire protection rating and as of July 1, 2019 the City will have a rating of 3 instead of 4. The Fire Department is very proud of this achievement and will continue working hard on making improvements.

OLD BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

10. Consider approving the following On-sale Weekday & On-sale Sunday Liquor License Applicant Renewals: - All businesses are in good standing with the City.

- a. Blue Moose Bar & Grill located at 507 2nd St NW East Grand Forks, MN 56721.
- b. Sickies Garage located at 121 Demers Ave East Grand Forks, MN 56721.
- c. Boardwalk Bar & Grill located at 415 2nd St NW Suite 2 East Grand Forks, MN 56721

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER HELMS, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER DEMERS, TO APPROVE THE LISTED ON-SALE WEEKDAY & ON-SALE SUNDAY LIQUOR LICENSE APPLICANT RENEWALS FOR BLUE MOOSE BAR & GRILL, SICKIES GARAGE, AND BOARDWALK BAR & GRILL.

Voting Aye: Vetter, Helms, Riopelle, Johnson, Olstad, and DeMers.

Voting Nay: None.

Absent: Grassel.

11. Consider approving the following Off-sale Intoxicating Liquor License renewals for the following applicants: - All businesses are in good standing with the City.

- a. Pop’s Liquor located at 122 4th St NE East Grand Forks, MN 56721.
- b. Hugo’s Wine & Spirits located at 310 14th St NE East Grand Forks, MN 56721.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER RIOPELLE, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER HELMS, TO APPROVE THE LISTED OFF-SALE INTOXICATING LIQUOR LICENSE RENEWALS FOR POP’S LIQUOR AND HUGO’S WINE AND SPIRITS.

Voting Aye: Vetter, Helms, Riopelle, Johnson, Olstad, and DeMers.

Voting Nay: None.

Absent: Grassel.

12. Consider approving the Off-sale Non-Intoxicating Malt Liquor License Renewal for East Side Travel Plaza located at 607 Gateway Dr. NE East Grand Forks, MN 56721. – This business is in good standing with the City.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER RIOPELLE, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER HELMS, TO APPROVE THE LISTED OFF-SALE NON-INTOXICATING MALT LIQUOR LICENSE RENEWAL FOR EAST SIDE TRAVEL PLAZA.

Voting Aye: Vetter, Helms, Riopelle, Johnson, Olstad, and DeMers.

Voting Nay: None.

Absent: Grassel.

13. Consider approving the On-sale Weekday & On-sale Sunday Liquor License for Forever Young LLC dba Mamma Marias locating at 211 Demers Ave Suite 16 East Grand Forks, MN. – This business is in good standing with the city.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER VETTER, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER DEMERS, TO APPROVE THE LISTED ON-SALE WEEKDAY & ON-SALE SUNDAY LIQUOR LICENSE FOR FOREVER YOUNG LLC DBA MAMMA MARIAS.

Voting Aye: Vetter, Helms, Riopelle, Johnson, Olstad, and DeMers.

Voting Nay: None.

Absent: Grassel.

14. Consider adopting Resolution No. 19-05-26 approving the hiring of Katie Boespflug as a Park and Recreation Specialist and place her at a salary of \$19.31 per hour.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER RIOPELLE, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER HELMS, TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 19-05-26 APPROVING THE HIRING OF KATIE BOESPFLUG AS A PARK AND RECREATION SPECIALIST AND PLACE HER AT A SALARY OF \$19.31 PER HOUR.

Voting Aye: Vetter, Helms, Riopelle, Johnson, Olstad, and DeMers.

Voting Nay: None.

Absent: Grassel.

15. Consider adopting Resolution No. 19-05-27 approving the promotions of Officers Nick Gunderson, Jake Thompson, Alex Schilke, Nick Anderson, and Ryan Douglas to Corporal.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER VETTER, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER RIOPELLE, TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 19-05-27 APPROVING THE PROMOTIONS OF OFFICERS NICK GUNDERSON, JAKE THOMPSON, ALEX SCHILKE, NICK ANDERSON, AND RYAN DOUGLAS TO CORPORAL.

Council Member Helms commented he used to know all of the officers in the department but he doesn't know. He asked how long they had been with the department. Lieutenant Rod Hajicek said their service ranged between three years and ten years. No more discussion followed.

Voting Aye: Vetter, Helms, Riopelle, Johnson, Olstad, and DeMers.

Voting Nay: None.

Absent: Grassel.

CLAIMS:

16. 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: Vetter, Helms, Riopelle, Johnson, Olstad, and DeMers.

Voting Nay: None.

Absent: Grassel.

COUNCIL/STAFF REPORTS:

Mayor Gander began by thanking everyone who provided information to share at the State of the City address; he said it was a lot of information but very important to share. Mayor Gander thank all of those

who participated in putting the event together and he appreciate all those who attended. He stated that he had a challenge for the group on finalizing a street replacement policy this year. He added that it will be difficult and something to consider is what percentage will carry to adjacent property owners, what percentage will be going to others, and how they will need to compromise. He continued saying LGA needs to be stabilized, this process includes the Governor and legislators so there are unknowns, but the Council will continue to engage in this process. He said the next item is for a south end neighborhood bridge, how they will continue to work with all of the parties involved, and following close behind that a bypass bridge to the south. He stated a fourth item to consider is Grigg's Park development, which could carry over into a bonus of the Governor's fishing opener. He said a fifth item which has not been mentioned much is in regards to the retail environment of the City, to try and figure out the demand of these spaces, and how the City might be able to create a possibility to help property owners fill their spaces as well as bare land. He thanked everyone again, commented there is still a lot of work to do, and thanked the press for their coverage of the event so the community is aware of what is going on.

Council Member Vetter said in the past the Council has worked together setting goals for the City, he asked to get back to that, and just because the Mayor has stated something a few times doesn't make it a goal of the Council. He asked to revisit the goals set by the Council.

Council Member Helms said he spoke with many individuals after the State of the City address and they were quite impressed with Mayor Gander. He said he wanted to pass that along to the Mayor to which Mayor Gander expressed his thanks.

Council Member Riopelle reminded everyone of the Senior Center annual meeting and luncheon at noon the next day, invited all to attend, and especially extending an invitation to the Council and Mayor.

Council President Olstad extended his thanks to the Public Works, Water & Light, and any other staff that for their work during the flooding in East Grand Forks. He said everyone he has spoken to appreciated the work and effort from everyone involved in getting the bridges back open. He thanked Chief Gary Larson for his great work and asked the department heads to let their staff know.

City Administrator David Murphy said he had one personal item about how he was out of the office last week due to chaperoning his son's class trip to Wolf Ridge. He noted what a great opportunity this was for the seventh graders, was a lot of fun, and he had a blast. He said he found himself smiling on the drive back from enjoying the trip so much.

City Attorney Ron Galstad said he attended a meeting with Mr. Murphy, Ms. Ellis, Mr. Mykleseth, and Verizon about small cell facilities. He explained information would be coming forward because they are looking at a right-of-way ordinance modification as well as a co-location agreement regarding the placement of these facilities because both the State and the FCC has statutes that makes this a requirement. He added the City was working currently working with Verizon on this. He continued saying since the last work session he had been in contact with the State regarding UTVs and the possibility to drive them on Demers Avenue. He stated at this point no one was able to give him an answer but he wasn't sure if anyone had the ability to exempt the City from a State statute allowing UTVs on a highway. He added he had more phone calls to make and he was working on the map that would show what roads would be prohibited for UTVs to drive on. He added he still needed some clarification on UTVs coming across the Sorlie Bridge.

Council President Olstad stated that in the future US Highway 2 could convert back to the City, which then would no longer require a prohibition of that roadway. Mr. Emery stated they were set to have a meeting with MNDOT on Thursday to continue those discussions and those meetings information would be brought forward to a work session.

Mr. Emery informed the Council that construction has resumed and the sidewalk work on Greenway Boulevard had continued. He said it should be completed in about three weeks. He added there was a pre-construction meeting about the 2019 water main replacement project and that it would start up in a couple weeks.

ADJOURN:

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER RIOPELLE, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON, TO ADJOURN THE MAY 7, 2019 REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING OF THE EAST GRAND FORKS, MINNESOTA CITY COUNCIL AT 5:18 P.M.

Voting Aye: Vetter, Helms, Riopelle, Johnson, Olstad, and DeMers.

Voting Nay: None.

Absent: Grassel.

David Murphy, City Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer