

**APPROVED MINUTES  
OF THE CITY  
COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING  
CITY OF EAST GRAND FORKS  
TUESDAY, JULY 23, 2019 – 5:00 PM**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

*The Special Meeting of the East Grand Forks City Council for July 23, 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, Council 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; 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 A QUORUM:**

*The Council President Determined a Quorum was present.*

**SCHEDULED PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

1. Public Hearing to consider the paving and storm water improvements to 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE.

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

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

*Voting Nay: None.*

*Absent: Grassel.*

Mr. Emery stated this was the improvement hearing for the 2019 Assessment Job No. 1 for 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE street improvements. He explained this project would consist of drainage improvements and street improvements; the proposed street width is 34 feet from back of curb to back of curb, and the plan is to complete the storm water work this fall along with the gravel section allowing it to go through a freeze/thaw cycle. He added the paving would be completed the next summer. He stated the estimate for the drainage improvements was \$47,826.75, the estimate for paving was \$399,592.98, and the total estimate for this project is \$447,419.39, which would be 100%, assessed since this is new construction. He said the estimated assessment rates for this project are 29 cents per square foot for drainage improvements and \$262.53 per lineal foot for street improvements. He reminded everyone a final hearing would need to be held, the information would be filed with the County, and because this is new

construction it would be a 20-year assessment, and asked if there were any questions.

Mr. Randy Boushey said he did not have any questions. He added that he had talked with the MGI Grain since they had been recently bought out and the new owners are okay with this project as long as it can be assessed. He added that the other landowner wanted his sewer hooked up prior to the street constructed but he would be able to get the permits to get that done since it is his responsibility. Mr. Emery said there was already sanitary sewer in the area so they would need to connect to it. Mr. Kevin Marcott said this would work well for them. Council member DeMers asked if the same terms were used for assessments on commercial or industrial properties compared to residential properties. Discussion followed about waiting to see what the bond rates are to determine the interest rates, maintenance work has typically been assessed for seven years, and new construction is assessed over a 20 year period. Council member DeMers asked if there was a higher risk for the city when the improvements are done in a commercial area. Mr. Murphy stated the tax law is different for commercial property, the property is still owned, and the payments would be received when the property tax is paid. He added if the property goes into tax forfeiture, the property tax and specials would be paid for when it is sold. Council President Olstad asked if there were any more questions. There was none.

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

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

*Voting Nay: None.*

*Absent: Grassel.*

**NEW BUSINESS:**

2. Consider adopting Resolution No. 19-07-50 ordering improvement and preparation of plans and specifications for 2019 Assessment Job No. 1 – Street Improvements for 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE.

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER RIOPELLE, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON, TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 19-07-50 ORDERING IMPROVEMENT AND PREPARATION OF PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS FOR 2019 ASSESSMENT JOB NO. 1 – STREET IMPROVEMENTS FOR 6<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE NE.**

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

*Voting Nay: None.*

*Absent: Grassel.*

**ADJOURN:**

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER VETTER, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER HELMS, TO ADJOURN THE JULY 23, 2019 SPECIAL MEETING OF THE EAST GRAND FORKS, MINNESOTA CITY COUNCIL AT 5:09 P.M.**

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

*Voting Nay: None.*

*Absent: Grassel.*

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David Murphy, City Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer