

**APPROVED MINUTES
OF THE CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF EAST GRAND FORKS
TUESDAY, MAY 5, 2020 – 5:00 PM**

CALL TO ORDER:

The Council Meeting of the East Grand Forks City Council for Tuesday, May 5, 2020 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, Dale Helms, Tim Riopelle, Tim Johnson, and Marc DeMers.

DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM:

The Council President Determined a Quorum was present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

1. Consider approving the minutes of the “Work Session” for the East Grand Forks, Minnesota City Council from April 14, 2020.
2. Consider approving the minutes of the “Regular Council Meeting” for the East Grand Forks, Minnesota City Council from April 21, 2020.
3. Consider approving the minutes of the “Work Session” for the East Grand Forks, Minnesota City Council from April 28, 2020.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER GRASSEL, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER DEMERS, TO APPROVE ITEMS ONE (1) THROUGH THREE (3).

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

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.

Council member Helms asked to pull items five and seven.

4. Consider approval of the scope of work for the Request for Proposal for the 2050 Land Use Plan update for the City of East Grand Forks.
5. Consider declaring Unit 129 644J John Deere loader and the used 14 foot push plow as surplus and trade them in for \$54,500 to be used for the purchase of a new 644L John Deere loader with the plow and wing for a total amount of \$297,813 from RDO Equipment.
6. Consider approving the purchase of a Henke REL 12 foot Push Plow from RDO Equipment for the total amount of \$24,725.
7. Consider approving the purchase of two Chevy Silverado 3500 Pickups from Karl Chevrolet for a total amount of \$64,717.48.
8. Consider approving the Special Event Application for Sacred Heart School requiring road closures for the 2020 graduation ceremony contingent upon this event not violating any additional orders that may be issued up to the day of the graduation ceremony.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER GRASSEL, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER DEMERS, TO APPROVE ITEMS FOUR (4), SIX (6), AND EIGHT (8).

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

Voting Nay: None.

5. Consider declaring Unit 129 644J John Deere loader and the used 14 foot push plow as surplus and trade them in for \$54,500 to be used for the purchase of a new 644L John Deere loader with the plow and wing for a total amount of \$297,813 from RDO Equipment.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER GRASSEL, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON, TO DECLARE UNIT 129 644J JOHN DEERE LOADER AND THE USED 14 FOOT PUSH PLOW AS SURPLUS AND TRADE THEM IN FOR \$54,500 TO BE USED FOR THE PURCHASE OF A NEW 644L JOHN DEERE LOADER WITH THE PLOW AND WING FOR A TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$297,813 FROM RDO EQUIPMENT.

Council member Helms stated he had received a phone call from a resident concerned about the City spending money with the State has a 2.4 billion dollar deficit. He asked how this will affect the budget and if it will affect the City getting funding. Mr. Murphy said he also received a phone call from a resident about this, he explained this would not have an affect on the local government aid the City was supposed to be receiving, and how the funds for this purchase were in the capital improvement plan which was set aside for capital purchases. He added if this purchase was not made the funds would remain in this fund, if funding was cut it the Council might consider using some of these funds to cover expenses, but normally these funds were set aside for capital purchases. Council member Helms said he wanted to know if things were going to be affected down the road or not.

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

Voting Nay: None.

7. Consider approving the purchase of two Chevy Silverado 3500 Pickups from Karl Chevrolet for a total amount of \$64,717.48.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER RIOPELLE, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON, TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF TWO CHEVY SILVERADO 3500 PICKUPS FROM KARL CHEVROLET FOR A TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$64,717.48.

Council President Olstad asked Council member Helms if this was pulled for the same reason. Council member Helms said this was pulled for the same reason and it was answered.

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

Voting Nay: None.

ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF REPORTS OF OFFICERS, BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:

NONE

COMMUNICATIONS: NONE

OLD BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

9. Consider adopting Resolution No. 20-05-29 approving the change of location of the Ward 5 polling location from Good Samaritan Heritage Grove to the Nash Park Warming House located at 915 22nd St NW.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER GRASSEL, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER HELMS, TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 20-05-29 APPROVING THE CHANGE OF LOCATION OF THE WARD 5 POLLING LOCATION FROM GOOD SAMARITAN HERITAGE GROVE TO THE NASH PARK WARMING HOUSE LOCATED AT 915 22ND ST NW.

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

Voting Nay: None.

10. Consider adopting Resolution No. 20-05-30 authorizing a 25% reduction in city licensing for the specified licenses of Dance, Massage, On-Sale Liquor, Second Hand Dealer, and Show and the fee will be reduced when the next license is issued.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER RIOPELLE, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER DEMERS, TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 20-05-30 AUTHORIZING A 25% REDUCTION IN CITY LICENSING FOR THE SPECIFIED LICENSES OF DANCE, MASSAGE, ON-SALE LIQUOR, SECOND HAND DEALER, AND SHOW AND THE FEE WILL BE REDUCED WHEN THE NEXT LICENSE IS ISSUED.

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

Voting Nay: None.

CLAIMS:

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

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

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

Voting Nay: None.

COUNCIL/STAFF REPORTS:

Mayor Gander stated how the Stay At Home ordered had been extended until May 18th but the governor has started to relax some restrictions of what is allowed while monitoring what is happening with these new relaxed rules when it comes to COVID cases. He said it is up to the people to do things responsibly, follow the CDC guidelines like continuing to social distance, and other things to help get back to normal life. He commented if the numbers stay lower then people will be getting back more of their freedoms. He added he has spent a lot of time on the trails, how more people are enjoying the trails than ever, and he wanted to bring it to staff's attention there was one area where there is bank slippage between the Sorlie bridge and the campground they might want to look into. He stated he will be going back to work on Monday to see patients which is another indication that other sectors will start opening back up, they are starting in the medical field, and reminded everyone to use their freedoms responsibly.

Council Member Riopelle said Mr. Murphy and department heads probably have been working on budgets and how there might need to be a 10% to 15% cut from what he is seeing with what is going on with the State so they need to be prepared. He added that his business will be moving over into East Grand Forks after June 1st and he will be working with Mr. Gorte to get details taken care of.

Mr. Murphy commented that he was on the trails last night in the rain and there were still quite a few people using the trails. He continued saying staff usually starts looking at the budget in May but with the changes this year the audit is a little behind schedule and they will be taking into account for what the potential cuts would be including local government aid cut. He added they will be working on contingency plans.

Mr. Emery told the Council he confirmed with the Minnesota Department of Transportation any revisions made to the State Aid system will need to be submitted to the State by August 1st so they will need to keep working on that. He informed the Council that Mr. Stordahl had met with a contractor and received pricing to fix the issue with the bike trail.

ADJOURN:

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON, SECONDED BY COUNCIL

MEMBER HELMS, TO ADJOURN THE MAY 5, 2020 COUNCIL MEETING OF THE EAST GRAND FORKS, MINNESOTA CITY COUNCIL AT 5:16 P.M.

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

Voting Nay: None.

David Murphy, City Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer