

**APPROVED MINUTES
OF THE CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF EAST GRAND FORKS
TUESDAY, AUGUST 18, 2020 – 5:00 PM**

CALL TO ORDER:

The Council Meeting of the East Grand Forks City Council for Tuesday, August 18, 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 City of East Grand Forks, Minnesota City Council from July 28, 2020.
2. Consider approving the minutes of the “Regular Council Meeting” for the East Grand Forks, Minnesota City Council from August 4, 2020.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER HELMS, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER RIOPELLE, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE “WORK SESSION” FOR THE CITY COUNCIL OF EAST GRAND FORKS OF JULY 28, 2020.

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

Voting Nay: None.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER GRASSEL, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON, TO APPROVE THE “REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING” FOR THE EAST GRAND FORKS, MINNESOTA CITY COUNCIL FROM AUGUST 4, 2020.

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

Voting Nay: None.

SCHEDULED BID LETTINGS: NONE.

SCHEDULED PUBLIC HEARINGS: NONE

CONSENT AGENDA: NONE

ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF REPORTS OF OFFICERS, BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:

3. Regular meeting minutes of the Water, Light, Power and Building Commission for July 15, 2020.
4. Regular meeting minutes of the Cemetery Commission for October 30, 2019.

COMMUNICATIONS: NONE

OLD BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

5. Consider adopting Resolution No. 20-08-50 approving the hiring of Denise Adams as Administrative Assistant/Dispatcher/Jailer position at a salary of \$20.98 per hour.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER VETTER, TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 20-08-50 APPROVING THE HIRING OF DENISE ADAMS AS ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT/DISPATCHER/JAILER POSITION AT A SALARY OF \$20.98 PER HOUR.

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

Voting Nay: None.

6. Consider adopting Resolution No. 20-08-51 approving the hiring of Jake Schiller as a Police Officer at a salary of \$28.75 per hour contingent upon the condition he successfully complete the final steps of the hiring process which includes the background investigation, psychological evaluation, medical evaluation and successfully passing the MN POST Reciprocity Exam.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER GRASSEL, TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 20-08-51 APPROVING JAKE SCHILLER AS A POLICE OFFICER AT A SALARY OF \$28.75 PER HOUR.

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

Voting Nay: None.

7. Consider adopting Resolution No. 20-08-52 approving the hiring of Brittney Neil as a Police Officer at a salary of \$26.48 per hour contingent upon the condition that she successfully complete the final steps of the hiring process which includes the background investigation, psychological evaluation, medical evaluation and successfully passing the MN POST Exam.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER GRASSEL, TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 20-08-52 APPROVING BRITTNEY NEIL AS A POLICE OFFICER AT A SALARY OF \$26.48 PER HOUR.

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

Voting Nay: None.

8. Consider awarding the 20th Street NW Repair project to RJ Zavoral and Sons for a total of \$12,750.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER RIOPELLE, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER HELMS, TO AWARD THE 20TH STREET NW REPAIR PROJECT TO RJ ZAVORAL AND SONS FOR A TOTAL OF \$12,750.

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

Voting Nay: None.

Abstain: DeMers.

9. Consider awarding the total project with all three options for the Rhinehart Drive SE Repair to RJ Zavoral and Sons for a total of \$36,500 and enter into an agreement between the City of East Grand Forks and Rhinehart Township to pay for this project with the City paying \$21,892.50 and Rhinehart Township paying \$14,607.50 for their portion of the roadway.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER GRASSEL, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER HELMS, TO AWARD THE TOTAL PROJECT WITH ALL THREE OPTIONS FOR THE RHINEHART DRIVE SE REPAIR TO RJ ZAVORAL AND SONS FOR A TOTAL OF \$36,500 AND ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF EAST GRAND FORKS AND RHINEHART TOWNSHIP TO PAY FOR THIS PROJECT WITH THE CITY PAYING \$21,892.50 AND RHINEHART TOWNSHIP PAYING \$14,607.50 FOR THEIR PORTION OF THE ROADWAY.

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

Voting Nay: None.

Abstain: DeMers.

10. Consider approving the Facility Use Agreement between the City of East Grand Forks and the East Grand Forks Blue Line Club for use of the VFW Arena from September 14th to October 9th for a rental fee of \$9,250.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER GRASSEL, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER RIOPELLE, TO APPROVE THE FACILITY USE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF EAST GRAND FORKS AND THE EAST GRAND FORKS BLUE LINE CLUB FOR USE OF THE VFW ARENA FROM SEPTEMBER 14TH TO OCTOBER 9TH FOR A RENTAL FEE OF \$9,250.

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

Voting Nay: None.

11. Consider approving the replacement of both compressor control panels at the VFW Arena by Johnson Controls for a total of \$40,690.00 with the electrical work to be completed by Eagle Electric for a total of \$1,428.00 with the funds for this project coming from the Building Maintenance Fund.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER RIOPELLE, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER HELMS, TO APPROVE THE REPLACEMENT OF BOTH COMPRESSOR

CONTROL PANELS AT THE VFW ARENA BY JOHNSON CONTROLS FOR A TOTAL OF \$40,690.00 WITH THE ELECTRICAL WORK TO BE COMPLETED BY EAGLE ELECTRIC FOR A TOTAL OF \$1,428.00 WITH THE FUNDS FOR THIS PROJECT COMING FROM THE BUILDING MAINTENANCE FUND.

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

Voting Nay: None.

12. Consider approving the Amended Use Agreement between the City of East Grand Forks and the Independent School District 595 for the use of the parks and outdoor facilities.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER RIOPELLE, TO APPROVE THE AMENDED USE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF EAST GRAND FORKS AND THE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 595 FOR THE USE OF THE PARKS AND OUTDOOR FACILITIES.

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

Voting Nay: None.

13. Consider adopting Resolution No. 20-08-53 approving the hiring of Benjamin Staska as a Firefighter at a salary of \$45,819.66 per year contingent upon the condition that he successfully complete the final steps of the hiring process which includes the psychological evaluation, medical evaluation and successfully passing the physical agility test.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER GRASSEL, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON, TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 20-08-53 APPROVING BENJAMIN STASKA AS A FIREFIGHTER AT A SALARY OF \$45,819.66 PER YEAR.

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

Voting Nay: None.

CLAIMS:

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

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER HELMS, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER RIOPELLE, 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 said during the last week he along with Mr. Gorte had met with some people regarding retail in the community and there were some promising signs in that area. He informed the Council he

had met with Sheriff Tadman, they had a good visit, and he was thankful for all of the coordination between the City and the County when it came to emergency management, law enforcement, and now with the health department. He said he is proud of all departments that coordinate with the County and how they are getting ready to start up the court system again. He added he had kayaked the Red Lake River and how the City will soon be getting a kayak launch.

Mr. Huttunen informed the Council there was a site visit with representatives from the Greater Minnesota Bikes and Trails Commission because of the grant application that had been submitted in July. He stated Council member DeMers was able to join them at this meeting along with a couple community members, he thought the meeting was positive, they were able to hear from the City directly regarding what was had been planned, and currently it is unknown how much will be available for this grant process. He said the DNR will provide a priority list to the State and see how far they can get with funding. He added East Grand Forks was named as a top four finalist for the Kraft Hockeyville USA which is a national campaign mainly done through social media, the grand prize is \$150,000, and they will start promoting and asking people to vote August 29th and 30th for East Grand Forks for Civic Center upgrades. He added how this typically includes an NHL exhibition game, it is unclear if this will happen, and at the very least the City has already won \$10,000 for being named a finalist and the city could be listed on national tv with the NHL playoffs going on. He asked them to have everyone they know to vote for East Grand Forks.

ADJOURN:

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER HELMS, TO ADJOURN THE AUGUST 18, 2020 COUNCIL MEETING OF THE EAST GRAND FORKS, MINNESOTA CITY COUNCIL AT 5:15 P.M.

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

Voting Nay: None.

David Murphy, City Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer