

**APPROVED MINUTES
OF THE CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF EAST GRAND FORKS
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2020 – 5:00 PM**

CALL TO ORDER:

The Council Meeting of the East Grand Forks City Council for Tuesday, September 1, 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 August 12, 2020.
2. Consider approving the minutes of the “Regular Council Meeting” for the East Grand Forks Minnesota City Council from August 18, 2020.

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

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

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.

3. Consider approving the Agreement for Professional Services between the City of East Grand Forks and AE2S for the repairs and rehabilitation of manholes 1-246 and 1-247 for a total of \$7,260.

4. Consider approving the service agreement between the City of East Grand Forks and the Minnesota Municipal Utilities Association for the Safety Management Program split 50/50 between the City and the Water and Light Department for October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER DEMERS, TO APPROVE ITEMS THREE (3) AND FOUR (4).

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

Voting Nay: None.

ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF REPORTS OF OFFICERS, BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:

5. Regular meeting minutes of the Water, Light, Power, and Building Commission for August 5, 2020 and closed minute summary for August 12, 2020.

COMMUNICATIONS: NONE

OLD BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

6. Consider awarding the French Drain project to RJ Zavoral and Sons for a total of \$41,415.70.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER HELMS, TO AWARD THE FRENCH DRAIN PROJECT TO RJ ZAVORAL AND SONS FOR A TOTAL OF \$41,415.70.

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

Voting Nay: None.

Abstain: DeMers.

7. Consider adopting Resolution No. 20-09-54 approving the agreement between the City of East Grand Forks and Polk County allowing the City to be eligible for CARES Act funding for elections.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER DEMERS, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER RIOPELLE, TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 20-09-54 APPROVING THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF EAST GRAND FORKS AND POLK COUNTY ALLOWING THE CITY TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR CARES ACT FUNDING FOR ELECTIONS.

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

Voting Nay: None.

8. Consider adopting Resolution No. 20-09-55 approving the promotion of Josh Krostue to Lead Equipment Operator at a salary of \$27.28 per hour.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER DEMERS, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON, TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 20-09-55 APPROVING THE PROMOTION OF JOSH KROSTUE TO LEAD EQUIPMENT OPERATOR AT A SALARY OF \$27.28 PER HOUR.

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

Voting Nay: None.

9. Consider adopting Resolution No. 20-09-56 approving the promotion of Travis Rambel to Equipment Operator at a salary of \$22.34 per hour.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER DEMERS, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER RIOPELLE, TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 20-09-56 APPROVING THE PROMOTION OF TRAVIS RAMBEL TO EQUIPMENT OPERATOR AT A SALARY OF \$22.34 PER HOUR.

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

Voting Nay: None.

10. Consider approving the request to start a new hiring register for the position of Police Officer.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER DEMERS, TO APPROVE THE REQUEST TO START A NEW HIRING REGISTER FOR THE POSITION OF POLICE OFFICER.

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

Voting Nay: None.

11. Consider approving the Facility Use Agreement between the City of East Grand Forks and the Arts and Crafts Council for the use of the Civic Center for the Arts and Crafts Show for October 2-4, 2020.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER DEMERS, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER HELMS, TO APPROVE THE FACILITY USE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF EAST GRAND FORKS AND THE ARTS AND CRAFTS COUNCIL FOR THE USE OF THE CIVIC CENTER FOR THE ARTS AND CRAFTS SHOW FOR OCTOBER 2-4, 2020.

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

Voting Nay: None.

CLAIMS:

12. 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 HELMS, TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR/CLERK-TREASURER

TO ISSUE PAYMENT OF RECOMMENDED BILLS AND PAYROLL.

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

Voting Nay: None.

COUNCIL/STAFF REPORTS:

Mayor Gander thanked the Grand Forks Herald for the article on what the City had done for the COVID preparedness and how the City has maintained and continued to provide services. He thanked department heads, commented how they met often by phone to organize, and thanked them for their professionalism during this time. He also thanked Mr. Murphy and staff for all they had done. He continued saying school was going start and he wanted everyone to know from faculty, support staff, students, and families they are in his thoughts and prayers for a great school year and for safety. He also thanked everyone that voted over the weekend for the Kraft Hockeyville grant and congratulated those that made it happen.

Council Member Helms thanked Mr. Stordahl for making sure the patch got done on 5th Avenue NE, there had been many complaints, and it was good to have this done.

Council Member Johnson said he was thankful they were finishing up the watermain project along 4th Avenue NW.

Council Vice-President Grassel thanked Mr. Huttunen and his staff for pushing out the Kraft Hockeyville information along with the alumni that had videos. He commented how they did put a good run against a large community, even though they don't know what the results were the City was represented well, there was great pride in the facilities, and it showed they would go above and beyond to make things better. He added he appreciated all of the effort.

Council President Olstad thanked Mr. Huttunen, Mr. Dragich, Mrs. Boespflug, and all of the others in the community that pushed this on social media for people to get out and vote. He said they should be proud.

Mr. Huttunen thanked everyone for the support and effort put in on the Kraft Hockeyville grant and how this was a community effort. He stated he has been asked what the final results were, how much the City lost by, and he has not been able to get an answer at this time. He added he asked for a map showing where people were voting from for East Grand Forks and if he received that information he would be sharing it. He thanked everyone again for their participation and support.

ADJOURN:

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER HELMS, TO ADJOURN THE SEPTEMBER 1, 2020 COUNCIL MEETING OF THE EAST GRAND FORKS, MINNESOTA CITY COUNCIL AT 5:09 P.M.

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

Voting Nay: None.

David Murphy, City Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer