

**APPROVED MINUTES
OF THE CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF EAST GRAND FORKS
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2020 – 5:00 PM**

CALL TO ORDER:

The Council Meeting of the East Grand Forks City Council for Wednesday, November 4, 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 “Regular Council Meeting” for the East Grand Forks Minnesota City Council from October 20, 2020.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER RIOPELLE, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE “REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING” FOR THE EAST GRAND FORKS MINNESOTA CITY COUNCIL FROM OCTOBER 20, 2020.

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.

2. Consider adopting Resolution No. 20-11-70 authorizing Widseth, Smith & Nolting to prepare the Plans/Specifications for the 2021 ADA Improvement Project.
3. Consider approving request to install radiant heating at the Blue Line Arena with Johnson Controls for a total of \$28,200.

4. Consider authorizing the purchase of impellers, associated parts and labor for lift stations 1, 5 and Interconnect from MN Pump Works at a cost of \$132,025.95.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER HELMS, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER VETTER, TO APPROVE ITEMS TWO (2) THROUGH FOUR (4).

Council member Johnson asked for a clarification item three on why they are using gas instead of electric since the City has an electric company. Mr. Huttunen stated the cost of natural gas was significantly lower than electric at this time as well as the cost for the install and utility costs. He added the second reason was because it would provide heat much more quickly than an electric heater.

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 October 7, 2020.

COMMUNICATIONS: NONE

OLD BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS: NONE

CLAIMS:

6. 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 JOHNSON, 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 residents for the confidence they have placed in him to serve another four years which he appreciated very much. He congratulated those that were elected, especially Brian Larson, who he was looking forward to serving with. He also thanked everyone who ran and by placing their name on a ballot showed they were willing to work to make the community better which meant a lot. He added how they may be willing to serve in another capacity and serving on a board or commission was a good place to learn.

Council Member Helms congratulated everyone that was elected or re-elected.

Council Member Johnson asked Mr. Stordahl if 8th Avenue and the off-ramp was going to be closed for work that would be done on the lift station. Mr. Stordahl explained work was going to be done on some manholes and the contractor was going to be there on Monday, 12th Street was going to be closed from 8th Avenue to River Road for the duration of the project, and if everything goes as planned it should be completed in a week. He added 12th Street was closed because this project required bypass pumping. Council member Johnson asked if the off-ramp was going to be closed. Mr. Stordahl said the off-ramp would remain open and it was only 12th Street the portion of 12th Street that would be closed for this project.

Council Vice-President Grassel congratulated those that won the election and to Mr. Larson who would be replacing him.

Mr. Galstad congratulated those who were elected and told Vice-President Grassel it had been nice to work with him.

Mr. Huttunen informed the Council that Minnesota Hockey had made an update to their policy allowing one parent or guardian at practice and they clarified that young siblings can accompany that parent for practices and games. He stated the City's rules have been updated in the last few days to include this change. He said they would continue to stress the recommendation is to have the one parent or guardian and only when circumstances require to allow the other children to attend because due to social distancing requirements the locker rooms could not be at full capacity. He explained how kids are using the common areas to get ready for practice and if there is a positive case it would help limit exposure and contact tracing. He added staff is doing what they could to keep the arenas clean and safe, they understand the circumstances when other kids may need to come along, and make sure everyone is taking responsibility.

ADJOURN:

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER HELMS, TO ADJOURN THE NOVEMBER 4, 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