



CITY OF  
**GRAND RAPIDS**  
IT'S IN MINNESOTA'S NATURE

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
**Monday, September 25, 2023**  
**5:00 PM**

Mayor Christy called the meeting to order at 5:10 PM.

**PRESENT:** Mayor Dale Christy, Councilor Dale Adams, Councilor Tasha Connelly, Councilor Tom Sutherland. **ABSENT:** Councilor Molly MacGregor

**STAFF:** Tom Pagel, Chad Sterle, Barb Baird, Andy Morgan, Brian Mattson, Matt Wegwerth, Rob Mattei

**PROCLAMATIONS/PRESENTATIONS:**

1. Walk and Bike to School Day Proclamation

Mayor Christy read the proclamation into the record.

**PUBLIC FORUM:**

No one from the public was present to speak.

**COUNCIL REPORTS:**

Councilor Sutherland noted that he attended a meeting with Mesabi Metallics and provided overview of discussion, including their hope to be producing pellets by April 2026.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

2. Approve minutes from the September 11, 2023 Worksession and Council Meeting.

Motion made by Councilor Connelly, Second by Councilor Adams to approve Council minutes as presented. Voting Yea: Mayor Christy, Councilor Adams, Councilor Connelly, Councilor Sutherland

**VERIFIED CLAIMS:**

3. Approve the verified claims for the period September 6, 2023 to September 18, 2023 in the total amount of \$2,684,840.76 of which \$14,526.25 are debt service payments.

Motion made by Councilor Adams, Second by Councilor Sutherland to approve the verified claims as presented. Voting Yea: Mayor Christy, Councilor Adams, Councilor Connelly, Councilor Sutherland

CONSENT AGENDA:

4. Consider accepting the low quote from Keller Fence to install a new outfield fence to accommodate girls fastpitch softball at the Grand Rapids Sports Complex.
5. Consider Voiding Lost Accounts Payable Check and Issue a Replacement Check
6. Consider authorizing the police department to apply for and accept a 2023-2024 Toward Zero Deaths (TZD) grant from the Minnesota Department of Public Safety- Office of Traffic Safety in the amount of \$52,800.00 and consider adopting a resolution to accept the same.

**Adopted Resolution 23-62**

7. Consider hiring a Civic Center PT Maintenance employee
8. Consider approving four new policies for the Grand Rapids Police Department to comply with MN POST Boards mandated polices
9. Consider authorizing Human Resources to begin the process of advertising and hiring for the open position of Security Officer.
10. Consider entering into an Advertising Agreement with a business at the IRA Civic Center.
11. Consider approving Policy 325 Naloxone policies for the Grand Rapids Police Department
12. Consider change orders related to the IRA Civic Center Project

Motion made by Councilor Connelly, Second by Councilor Adams to approve the Consent agenda as presented. Voting Yea: Mayor Christy, Councilor Adams, Councilor Connelly, Councilor Sutherland

SET REGULAR AGENDA:

Motion made by Councilor Connelly, Second by Councilor Adams to set the Regular agenda as presented. Voting Yea: Mayor Christy, Councilor Adams, Councilor Connelly, Councilor Sutherland

CIVIC CENTER & PARKS:

13. Consider passing a resolution accepting donations from the City of Cohasset, Harris Township, and the Greater Pokegama Lake Association for financial assistance with the July 4th Fireworks Display.

Administrator Pagel presented resolution, acknowledging donors of funds to be used towards annual fireworks display.

Motion made by Councilor Adams, Second by Councilor Connelly to **adopt Resolution 23-63**, accepting donations for July 4th Fireworks display. Voting Yea: Mayor Christy, Councilor Adams, Councilor Connelly, Councilor Sutherland

FINANCE:

14. Consider approving a resolution adopting the 2023 proposed levy/collectable 2024.

Finance Director Barb Baird reviews proposed Levy for 2024 and recommends adoption of resolution. Also noted is the required public meeting and recommendation to set for December 4, 2023 at 7:00 pm and set December 18, 2023 as date to adopt final budget and levy.

Motion made by Councilor Connelly, Second by Councilor Sutherland to **adopt Resolution 23-64**, proposed levies payable in 2024. Voting Yea: Mayor Christy, Councilor Adams, Councilor Connelly, Councilor Sutherland

POLICE:

15. Consider adopting a resolution to accept a \$1,800 donation from the Itasca County Agricultural Association, for the Grand Rapids Police Reserve Unit, for volunteer services at 2023 Itasca County Fair .

Motion made by Councilor Sutherland, Second by Councilor Connelly to **adopt Resolution 23-65**, donation from ICAA for the Police Reserve Program. Voting Yea: Mayor Christy, Councilor Adams, Councilor Connelly, Councilor Sutherland

16. Consider adopting a resolution to accept a \$1,000 donation to Grand Rapids Police Department from Paul Bunyan Communications.

Motion made by Councilor Connelly, Second by Councilor Adams to **adopt Resolution 23-66**, donation from Paul Bunyan to Grand Rapids PD. Voting Yea: Mayor Christy, Councilor Adams, Councilor Connelly, Councilor Sutherland

PUBLIC HEARINGS: (scheduled to begin no earlier than 5:00 PM)

17. Consider conducting a public hearing for final special assessments related to CP 2003-18, 21<sup>st</sup> Street SW Extension

Mayor Christy stated the purpose of the public hearing. Clerk Gibeau noted that all required notifications have been made and no correspondence has been received by the Clerk's office.

Mr. Wegwerth presented background on proposed project.

Motion made by Councilor Connelly, Second by Councilor Adams to open the public hearing. Voting Yea: Mayor Christy, Councilor Adams, Councilor Connelly, Councilor Sutherland

No one wished to speak, therefore the following motion was made.

Motion made by Councilor Adams, Second by Councilor Connelly to close the public hearing. Voting Yea: Mayor Christy, Councilor Adams, Councilor Connelly, Councilor

Sutherland

ENGINEERING PUBLIC WORKS:

18. Consider approving a resolution adopting final special assessments related to CP 2003-18, 21<sup>st</sup> Street SW Extension

Mr. Wegwerth states that final notices will be mailed within next two weeks.

Motion made by Councilor Connelly, Second by Councilor Adams to **adopt Resolution 23-67**, adopting assessments for CP 2003-18, SW 21st Street extension. Voting Yea: Mayor Christy, Councilor Adams, Councilor Connelly, Councilor Sutherland

PUBLIC HEARINGS: (scheduled to begin no earlier than 5:00 PM)

19. Conduct a public hearing to consider the establishment of TIF District 1-14 and approval of a tax abatement; L&M Supply Distribution Center

Mayor Christy stated the purpose of the public hearing. Clerk Gibeau noted that all required notifications have been made and no correspondence has been received by the Clerk's office.

Mr. Mattei provides information regarding project and TIF funding request.

Motion made by Councilor Adams, Second by Councilor Connelly to open the public hearing. Voting Yea: Mayor Christy, Councilor Adams, Councilor Connelly, Councilor Sutherland

No one wished to speak, therefore the following motion was made.

Motion made by Councilor Connelly, Second by Councilor Adams to close the public hearing. Voting Yea: Mayor Christy, Councilor Adams, Councilor Connelly, Councilor Sutherland

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:

20. Consider adopting a resolution approving a modification to the development program for the Municipal Development District 1 and the establishment of Tax Increment Financing District No. 1-14: L&M, and a Tax Increment Plan therefore.

Motion made by Councilor Adams, Second by Councilor Sutherland to **adopt Resolution 23-68**, approving modification to development program for Municipal Development Dist. 1 and establish TIF District #1-14: L&M and Tax Increment Plan. Voting Yea: Mayor Christy, Councilor Adams, Councilor Connelly, Councilor Sutherland

21. Consider the adoption of a resolution granting a property tax abatement for certain property in the City.

Motion made by Councilor Connelly, Second by Councilor Sutherland to **adopt Resolution 23-69**, granting property tax abatement for certain property in the City of Grand Rapids. Voting Yea: Mayor Christy, Councilor Adams, Councilor Connelly, Councilor Sutherland

22. Consider the adoption of a resolution authorizing interfund loan for advance of certain costs in connection with Tax Increment Financing District No. 1-14: L&M

Motion made by Councilor Adams, Second by Councilor Connelly to **adopt Resolution 23-70**, authorizing interfund loan, advance of certain costs connected with TIF Dist. 1-4: L&M. Voting Yea: Mayor Christy, Councilor Adams, Councilor Connelly, Councilor Sutherland

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:07 PM.

Respectfully submitted:

*Kimberly Gibeau*  
Kimberly Gibeau, City Clerk