



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

## **CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

**Monday, April 22, 2024**

**5:00 PM**

Mayor Connelly called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM.

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

**STAFF:** Tom Pagel, Chad Sterle, Andy Morgan, Dale Anderson, Rob Mattei, Barb Baird, Matt Wegwerth, Justin Edmundson, K9 Murphy

### **POSITIVE HAPPENINGS IN THE CITY:**

Mayor Connelly acknowledged National Volunteer Month, thanking all those that give their time and efforts to the City of Grand Rapids in serving the community. Also commended the Grand Rapids High School Student Council for the work done on Prom with a Purpose, an alternative prom for students with special needs. This event included lunch, a grand march, dance.

Councilor MacGregor shared information about "Walk for Water" event that took place on Sunday, April 21, 2024.

### **PUBLIC FORUM:**

No one from the gallery wished to speak.

### **COUNCIL REPORTS:**

Councilor Blake discussed Itasca Just Transition Task Force, focus is dealing with eventual closure of MN Power.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

1. Approve Council minutes for April 8, 2024 Worksession & Regular meetings, April 15, 2024 Special Council meeting and acknowledge summary of April 15, 2024 Closed meeting.

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

### **VERIFIED CLAIMS:**

2. Approve the verified claims for the period April 2, 2024 to April 15, 2024 in the total amount of \$589,343.54.

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

#### ACKNOWLEDGE MINUTES FOR BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:

3. Reviewed and acknowledged minutes for boards and commissions:
  - ~ March 13, 2024 Library Board meeting
  - ~ February 20, 2024 Golf Board meeting
  - ~ March 19, 2024 Golf Board meeting
  - ~ March 28, 2024 GREDA meeting

#### CONSENT AGENDA:

4. Consider approving the purchase of one (1) Axon Squad Camera.
5. Consider authorizing the Police Department to sell seven (7) city owned police squads through Mid-State Auto online auction.
6. Consider adopting a resolution approving the updated City-Wide fee schedule for city services

#### **Adopted Resolution 24-34**

7. Consider approving final payment in the amount of \$6,250.00 for Work Scope 9 on the Civic Center Project
8. Consider hiring staff for Public Works for the 2024 Spring/Summer Maintenance Season
9. Consider submittal of an MPCA Local Climate Action grant
10. Consider approving Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Grand Rapid Public Utilities Commission and the City of Grand Rapids relating to Oracle Cloud Services and Software.
11. Consider adopting a resolution approving reimbursement of expenditures for CP 2010-1, 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue/7<sup>th</sup> Street NE Project.

#### **Adopted Resolution 24-35**

12. Consider approval of seasonal contractors at Pokegama Golf Course.
13. Consider authorizing the sale of old patio furniture at the Golf Course through the sealed bid process.
14. Consider adopting a resolution accepting a Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness Grant

#### **Adopted Resolution 24-36**

15. Consider Removal of Appointment to Part-Time Hospital Security Officer Roster

16. Consider hiring staff for Pokegama Golf Course for the 2024 Golfing Season and making corrections to hourly wages

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

#### SET REGULAR AGENDA:

Motion made by Councilor Blake, Second by Councilor MacGregor to approve the regular agenda as presented. Voting Yea: Mayor Connelly, Councilor MacGregor, Councilor Sutherland, Councilor Blake

#### CIVIC CENTER & PARKS:

17. Consider entering into an Agreement with Grand Rapids Amateur Hockey Association authorizing them to install refrigeration in Miner's Pavilion.

Dale Anderson presented information relative to proposed project to install synthetic ice at the MUP at Yanmar Arena. This project will be funded by GRAHA and donated to the City.

Motion made by Councilor Sutherland, Second by Councilor MacGregor to approve the agreement with GRAHA authorizing installation of refrigeration in Miner's Pavilion. Voting Yea: Mayor Connelly, Councilor MacGregor, Councilor Sutherland, Councilor Blake

#### COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:

18. Consider adopting a resolution forgiving a certain loan to Itasca County Farm Service Association

Mr. Mattei provided background information regarding the loan issued to Itasca County Farm Service and subsequent filing for bankruptcy. Recommending forgiving the loan contingent upon transfer of property to GREDA.

Motion made by Councilor MacGregor, Second by Councilor Blake to **adopt Resolution 24-37**, forgiving loan to Itasca County Farm Service Association. Voting Yea: Mayor Connelly, Councilor MacGregor, Councilor Sutherland, Councilor Blake

19. Consider adopting a resolution authorizing the execution and recording of a quit claim deed to correct a parcel overlap issue and authorize land release approval letter.

Motion made by Councilor Blake, Second by Councilor MacGregor to **adopt Resolution 24-38**, authorizing execution and recording of quit claim deed to correct parcel overlap issue and authorize land release approval letter. Voting Yea: Mayor Connelly, Councilor MacGregor, Councilor Sutherland, Councilor Blake

#### FINANCE:

20. Consider approving a public sector (master) agreement with Oracle NetSuite for Government for the joint purchase of an ERP cloud-based services and software system and authorize the Mayor to sign necessary agreements.

Motion made by Councilor MacGregor, Second by Councilor Blake to approve master agreement with Oracle NetSuite for Government joint purchase of ERP cloud-based services and software system as presented. Voting Yea: Mayor Connelly, Councilor MacGregor, Councilor Sutherland, Councilor Blake

#### POLICE:

21. Consider adopting a resolution accepting an ongoing Purina dog food donation to GRPD Canine Program.

Motion made by Councilor Blake, Second by Councilor Sutherland to **adopt Resolution 24-39**, accepting Purina Dog Food donation. Voting Yea: Mayor Connelly, Councilor MacGregor, Councilor Sutherland, Councilor Blake

22. Consider adopting a resolution accepting a donation of \$800.00 from Minnesota Power to purchase medical / AED equipment.

Motion made by Councilor Sutherland, Second by Councilor MacGregor to **adopt Resolution 24-40**, accepting \$800 donation from MN Power. Voting Yea: Mayor Connelly, Councilor MacGregor, Councilor Sutherland, Councilor Blake

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

23. Conduct a Public Hearing to consider a request submitted by HWY 35 Properties LLC for tax increment financing business assistance.

Mayor Connelly stated the purpose of the public hearing, confirming that all required notices have been made and no correspondence has been received regarding this matter.

Mr. Mattei presents project background, including estimated costs and future assessed value, TIF, etc.

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

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

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

#### COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:

24. Consider adopting a resolution approving amendment to the tax increment financing (TIF) plan for TIF District 1-15: HWY 35 LLC (Formerly known as TIF District 1-14: Arbor Wood)

Motion made by Councilor MacGregor, Second by Councilor Blake to **adopt Resolution 24-41**, approving amendment to TIF plan for TIF District 1-15, HWY 35 LLC. Voting Yea: Mayor Connelly, Councilor MacGregor, Councilor Sutherland, Councilor Blake

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

25. Conduct a Public Hearing to consider the preliminary plat of Hawkinson Commercial Development Second Addition.

Mayor Connelly stated the purpose of the public hearing, confirming all required notices have been made and no correspondence was received in regard to this matter.

Mr. Mattei reviewed project plans and preliminary plat, recommending approval.

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

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

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

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:

26. Consider adopting a resolution approving the final plat of Hawkinson Commercial Development Second Addition

Motion made by Councilor Blake, Second by Councilor Sutherland to **adopt Resolution 24-42**, approving the final plat for Hawkinson Commercial Development Second Addition. Voting Yea: Mayor Connelly, Councilor MacGregor, Councilor Sutherland, Councilor Blake

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

27. Conduct a Public Hearing to consider the rezoning of land from AP (Airport District) to I-1 (Industrial Park) for a portion of parcel 91-033-1406 (4.3 acres).

Mayor Connelly stated the purpose of the public hearing, confirming all required notices have been made and no correspondence has been received in regard to the matter.

Mr. Mattei reviews petition for rezone, current map and proposed changes.

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

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

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

#### COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:

28. Consider the recommendation of the Planning Commission regarding adoption of an ordinance, amending the Official Zoning Map, by rezoning land from AP (Airport District) to I-1 (Industrial Park) for a portion of parcel 91-033-1406 (4.3 acres)

Motion made by Councilor MacGregor, Second by Councilor Blake to **adopt Ordinance 24-04-02**, approving rezone of land from Airport District to Industrial Park. Voting Yea: Mayor Connelly, Councilor MacGregor, Councilor Sutherland, Councilor Blake

#### ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:02 PM.

Respectfully submitted:

  
Kimberly Gibeau, City Clerk