



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

## **CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

**Monday, January 22, 2024**

**5:00 PM**

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

**PRESENT:** Councilor Dale Adams: Mayor Tasha Connelly, Councilor Molly MacGregor, Councilor Tom Sutherland. **ABSENT:** None.

**STAFF:** Tom Pagel, Chad Sterle, Will Richter, Rob Mattei, Barb Baird, Chery Pierzina, Dan Swenson, Eric Scott, Andy Morgan, Jeremy Nelson

### **PROCLAMATIONS/PRESENTATIONS:**

1. Conduct Swearing In of Mayor Tasha Connelly.

Attorney Chad Sterle conducted the official swearing in of Mayor Tasha Connelly.

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

Mayor Connelly provides information about the following:

~ Overview of Police Department, CSO Fischer's activities and commended for dedication to his work.

### **PUBLIC FORUM:**

No one from the public wished to speak.

### **COUNCIL REPORTS:**

Councilor MacGregor provided update on climate action plan, solar garden and autonomous vehicle projects.

Mayor Connelly provides overview of City Government Academy program to begin in April 2024 and encourages City residents to consider participating.

Mayor Connelly invites residents to enjoy a cake reception honoring former Mayor Christy.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

2. Approve Council minutes for Monday, January 8, 2024 Regular Meeting.

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

Councilor Sutherland

VERIFIED CLAIMS:

3. Approve the verified claims for the period January 3, 2024 to January 16, 2024 in the total amount of \$3,651,032.60 of which \$2,473,817.50 are debt service payments.

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

ACKNOWLEDGE MINUTES FOR BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:

4. Acknowledged minutes for the following:

December 13, 2023 Library Board meeting  
December 19, 2023 Golf Board Meeting

CONSENT AGENDA:

5. Consider entering into agreement with Paul Bunyan Communications.
6. Consider allowing the Police Department to sell a Glock 22 to a licensed dealer.
7. Consider approving final payment for Grand Rapids-Cohasset Industrial Park Infrastructure Project in the amount of \$254,351.01 and Balancing Change Order 3.
8. Consider renewing the Personnel Dynamics Contract.
9. Consider approving the purchase of an electronic message board
10. Consider appointing Election Judges for 2024 Elections
11. Consider approving the purchase of tool cabinets for Public Works
12. Consider approving purchase of replacement backup server.
13. Consider authorizing staff to seek quotes to complete stonework in the main lobby of Yanmar Arena.
14. Consider adopting a resolution and approve a Cooperative Agreement with the State of Minnesota for the Crystal Lake Fishing Pier.

**Adopted Resolution 24-07**

15. Consider entering into a Fireworks Display Agreement with J&M Displays for a Fireworks Show to take place on July 4, 2024.
16. Consider approving the purchase of twenty-three (23) Glock model 45 9mm handguns from Tactical Advantage and twenty-three (23) Trijicon optics, and flashlight from Glens Army

Navy and to allow the police department to sell 14 department owned firearms to a local firearms dealer.

17. Consider adopting a resolution authorizing the 2023 budgeted operating transfer from the Capital Equipment Replacement Fund to the Airport Capital Fund as of December 31, 2023.

**Adopted Resolution 24-08**

18. Consider submitting a Federal FY25 General Community Project Funding Request for improvements to Historic Central School
19. Consider accepting a quote from Rapid Garage Door for installing a new coil overhead door at Yanmar Arena.
20. Consider approving amended Council By-Laws
21. Consider approving an amended Earned Sick and Safe Time (ESST) policy and amended ESST Employee Notice.
- 21a. Consider increasing part-time DACF hourly wage.

Motion made by Councilor Adams, Second by Councilor Sutherland to approve the Consent agenda as amended by the addition of item #21a. Voting Yea: Councilor Adams, Mayor Connelly, Councilor MacGregor, Councilor Sutherland

**SET REGULAR AGENDA:**

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

**ADMINISTRATION:**

22. Consider accepting the resignation from Gary O'Brien from his position as Police Officer with the GRPD and authorize Human Resources to begin the process of advertising, interviewing, and hiring for the open position of Police Officer.

Motion made by Councilor Sutherland, Second by Councilor MacGregor to accept the resignation of Gary O'Brien from the Police Department and authorize staff to begin recruiting to fill the vacancy. Voting Yea: Councilor Adams, Mayor Connelly, Councilor MacGregor, Councilor Sutherland

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

23. Conduct a public hearing to consider the vacation of public right of way retained by the City of Grand Rapids described as Part of the N/S ROW located between the N 21 FT of LTS 6-7 BLK 6, Plat of Grand Rapids.

Mayor Connelly stated the reason for the public hearing; City Clerk confirmed required notices have been made and no correspondence has been received.

Mr. Swenson presented background of public right of way vacation request.

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

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

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

#### COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:

24. Consider the adoption of a resolution either approving or denying the public vacation of right of way located at Part of the N/S ROW located between the N 21 FT of LTS 6-7 BLK 6, Plat of Grand Rapids

Motion made by Councilor MacGregor, Second by Councilor Adams to **adopt Resolution 24-09**, approving public vacation right of way as presented. Voting Yea: Councilor Adams, Mayor Connelly, Councilor MacGregor, Councilor Sutherland

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

25. Conduct a Public Hearing to consider the adoption of an Ordinance amending a section of Article VI Zoning within Chapter 30 Land Development Regulations.

Mayor Connelly stated the purpose for the public hearing; City Clerk confirmed required notices have been made and no correspondence was received by the Clerk.

Dan Swenson provided background on amendments to ordinance and recommended approval.

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

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

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

#### COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:

26. Consider the recommendation of the Planning Commission regarding the adoption of an ordinance, amending and updating a section of Article VI Zoning within Chapter 30 Land Development Regulations

Motion made by Councilor MacGregor, Second by Councilor Adams to **adopt City Ordinance 24-01-01**, amending Article VI Zoning within Chapter 30 Land Development Regulations. Voting Yea: Councilor Adams, Mayor Connelly, Councilor MacGregor, Councilor Sutherland

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:31 PM.

Respectfully submitted:

  
Kimberly Gibeau, City Clerk