



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

CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Monday, June 22, 2026

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, Councilor Dan Mertes

STAFF: Tom Pagel, Kimberly Gibeau, Chad Sterle, Chery Pierzina, Carl Babich, Sam Grigsby

VISITORS: Renee Ducharme, Megan Buffington

POSITIVE HAPPENINGS IN THE CITY:

Mayor Connelly acknowledged years of service for City employees.

Councilor MacGregor provided update on fundraiser for the Grand Rapids Library.

PUBLIC FORUM:

Sam Grigsby, 120 SW 4th Street, addressing Council regarding his campaign for office.

Richard Jensen, 1850 SE 2nd Avenue, Colony Square Apartments, addresses the Council regarding Silviculture. Published opinion is presented to the Council.

Erik Wright, not a resident, developer who is present in support of housing project.

COUNCIL REPORTS:

Mayor Connelly discussed wildlife within the city limits and advised residents of the fireworks display planned for July 4th at 10:00 PM. Shuttle service will be provided.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

1. Approve minutes for Monday, June 8, 2026 Worksession and Regular meetings.

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

VERIFIED CLAIMS:

2. Approve the verified claims for the period June 2, 2026 to June 15, 2026 in the total amount of \$245,262.13.

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

CONSENT AGENDA:

3. Consider approving agreements with Brothers Burn Mountain Band, Arena and The Dweebs for musical performances at 2026 Tall Timber Days event
4. Consider adopting a resolution governing write-in vote counting.

Adopted Resolution 26-41

5. Consider adopting a resolution supporting the use of tax increment financing for a rental housing development project

Adopted Resolution 26-42

6. Consider updates to seasonal employment at Pokegama Golf Course.
7. Consider adopting resolution approving LG230 Application for Off-Site Gambling for Loyal Order of Moose Lodge 2023

Adopted Resolution 26-43

8. Consider entering into an updated memorandum of understanding for the outdoor activities complex at the Itasca County Family YMCA
9. Consider entering into an agreement with SEH for the Taxiway A (North) Reconstruction – Phase 2 Project for Construction Administration services.
10. Consider adopting a resolution accepting a \$18,250 donation from The Fraternal Order of Eagles – Grand Rapids Aerie 2469 to the Grand Rapids Fire Department Relief Association General Fund.

Adopted Resolution 26-44

11. Motion to authorize staff to solicit quotes for janitorial services for City Hall, Old Central School, and the Grand Rapids Area Library for the period of August 1, 2026, through December 31, 2028, and return to the City Council with a recommended service agreement for consideration
12. Consider adopting a resolution awarding a contract at the Grand Rapids / Itasca County Airport for AP 2026-1 Taxiway A (North) Reconstruction Project-Phase 2 to Hawkinson Construction.

Adopted Resolution 26-45

13. Consider adopting a resolution awarding a contract at the Grand Rapids / Itasca County Airport for the Snow Removal Equipment project to McCoy Construction & Forestry of Grand Rapids, MN.

Adopted Resolution 26-46

14. Consider adopting a resolution awarding a contract at the Grand Rapids / Itasca County Airport for AP 2027-2 Taxilane Extension to Hawkinson Construction Co.

Adopted Resolution 26-47

15. Consider adopting a resolution supporting a proposal by the Itasca County HRA for the Waters Edge Housing Project.

Adopted Resolution 26-48

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

SET REGULAR AGENDA:

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

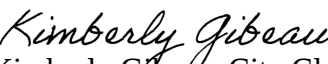
ADMINISTRATION:

16. Consider retirement of Sherrie Lundquist effective August 5, 2026.

Motion made by Councilor Mertes, Seconded by Councilor Sutherland to accept notice of retirement from Sherrie Lundquist. Voting Yea: Mayor Connelly, Councilor MacGregor, Councilor Sutherland, Councilor Blake, Councilor Mertes

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted:


Kimberly Gibeau, City Clerk