



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

CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, May 28, 2024

5:00 PM

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

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

STAFF: Tom Pagel, Chad Sterle, Rob Mattei, Andy Morgan

PROCLAMATIONS/PRESENTATIONS:

1. Presentation of Certificates of Completion for 2024 City Government Academy

Participants were awarded Certificates of Completion for their participation in the City Government Academy. Bill Schnell, academy attendee, noted that he was very impressed with the staff and program and encouraged the Council to continue the program on an annual basis.

POSITIVE HAPPENINGS IN THE CITY:

Mayor Connelly:

- ~ Commissioner of Minnesota Housing will be attending the open house for the Forest Lake Single Family development on June 18, 2024.
- ~ Military Honors conducted throughout the City for to commemorate Memorial Day.
- ~ Acknowledged participants for City Government Academy and encouraged involvement in local government.

Councilor Adams:

- ~ PUC is conducted further open discussion regarding mitigation of Legionella at YANMAR Arena on June 4th. This is open to the public.
- ~ Thanked participants of the academy and encourages them to get involved, noting that there will be open seats on the City Council in the November election.

Councilor MacGregor:

- ~ ICTV will be hosting a series in which the Mayor will do on camera interviews with City of Grand Rapids department heads.

Councilor Blake:

- ~ Notes that as well as elections, the City has several Boards and Commissions that offer opportunity for civic involvement.

PUBLIC FORUM:

Brian Anderson, 1390 County Road, Cohasset, MN, expressed concerns about the City possibly promoting, supporting or sponsoring the Itasca Pride event.

Beth Wilson, 35046 Foxtail Lane, Cohasset, requested that the City address issues with 911 dispatch related to response for Emerald's Assisted Living and Nursing Home.

COUNCIL REPORTS:

Councilor Blake attended the Cable Commission meeting where there is ongoing discussion regarding future funding impacted by many viewers changing from cable based service to streaming.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

2. Approve Council minutes for Monday, May 13, 2024 Worksession and Regular meetings.

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

VERIFIED CLAIMS:

3. Approve the verified claims for the period May 7, 2024 to May 20, 2024 in the total amount of \$927,263.46.

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

CONSENT AGENDA:

4. Consider discontinuing the employment relationship with seasonal golf employee.
5. Consider Removal of Appointment to Part-Time Hospital Security Officer Roster.
6. Act on withdrawal of job acceptance from GRPD Police Officer Candidate; Authorize Human Resources to repost, interview, and hire for the open position of Police Officer.
7. Consider entering into an agreement with Yanmar North America
8. Consider reviewing and approving updates to Data Access Policy
9. Consider adopting a resolution establishing a variance for utility connections along County Road 63

Adopted Resolution 24-48

10. Consider approving temporary liquor licenses for MacRostie Art Center First Friday Events.

11. Consider renewal of annual service agreement with SVL for library chiller.
12. Consider authorizing the Community Development Department to solicit quotes and accept the low quote for the demolition of the hazardous buildings located at 914 Clover Lane.
13. Consider entering into a developer agreement with Grand Partners, LLC
14. Consider approving an agreement with SEH for a Taxiway North planning study and authorizing a grant request to the FAA
15. Consider authorizing the Fire Department to apply for a DNR Grant.
16. Consider accepting the resignation of Peggy Clayton from the Human Rights Commission
17. Consider approving temporary liquor license for Thunderhawk Lighting Blueline Club
18. Consider Voiding Lost Accounts Payable Check and Issue a Replacement Check
19. Consider agreements with KAXE and Blandin Foundation related to Grand Rapids Riverfest
20. Consider accepting high bid for patio furniture for sale by the Pokegama Golf Course.

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

SET REGULAR AGENDA:

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

ADMINISTRATION:

21. Consider the appointment of Sarah Phillips to the position of Police Department Summer Intern with the Grand Rapids Police Department

Motion made by Councilor MacGregor, Second by Councilor Sutherland to appoint Sarah Phillips to the position of Summer intern with the Grand Rapids Police Department. Voting Yea: Mayor Connelly, Councilor Adams, Councilor MacGregor, Councilor Sutherland, Councilor Blake

22. Consider a request to become a member of the TH 169 Range Gateway Coalition

Loren Solberg addressed the Council regarding update on current highway construction status and the coalition.

Motion made by Councilor Sutherland, Second by Councilor Blake to become a member of the TH 169 Range Gateway Coalition as requested. Voting Yea: Mayor Connelly, Councilor Adams, Councilor MacGregor, Councilor Sutherland, Councilor Blake

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:

23. Consider approval of a resolution awarding the sale of, and providing the form, terms, covenants and directions for the issuance of a tax increment financing revenue note and approving the Contract for Private Development with HWY 35, LLC and a Business Subsidy Agreement

Motion made by Councilor Blake, Second by Councilor MacGregor to **adopt Resolution 24-49**, awarding sale, providing forms, terms, covenants and directions for issuance of tax increment financing revenue note, approve Contract for Private Development and Business Subsidy Agreement with HWY 35 LLC.

Voting Yea: Mayor Connelly, Councilor Adams, Councilor MacGregor, Councilor Sutherland, Councilor Blake

CITY COUNCIL:

24. Consider making an appointment to the Pokegama Golf Board

The Golf Board currently had one opening with a requirement of city residency. Councilor MacGregor contacted applicant Deb Godfrey and makes a recommendation for appointment to fill the unexpired term vacated by Roger Mischke.

Motion made by Councilor MacGregor, Second by Councilor Sutherland to appoint Deb Godfrey to the Pokegama Golf Board to fill an unexpired term through March 1, 2027. Voting Yea: Mayor Connelly, Councilor Adams, Councilor MacGregor, Councilor Sutherland, Councilor Blake

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

25. Conduct a public hearing to consider changes to City of Grand Rapids Municipal Chapter 62, Article 62-II Lodging Tax

Mayor Connelly stated the reason for the public hearing, Clerk Gibeau indicated that all appropriate notices have been made and the clerk's office did not receive any correspondence in regard to this issue.

Mr. Pagel provided background information relative to lodging tax and proposed change to ordinance.

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

No one 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 Adams, Councilor MacGregor, Councilor Sutherland, Councilor Blake

ADMINISTRATION:

26. Consider adopting an ordinance amending Chapter 62, Article 62-II, Lodging Tax and authorize publication in summary form.

Following the public hearing and further discussion, the following motion was made.

Motion made by Councilor MacGregor, Second by Councilor Blake to **adopt Ordinance 24-05-03**, amending Chapter 62, Article 62-II, Lodging Tax. Voting Yea: Mayor Connelly, Councilor Adams, Councilor MacGregor, Councilor Sutherland, Councilor Blake

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

27. Conduct a public hearing to consider changes to City of Grand Rapids Municipal Chapter 46, Article 3, Alcohol Consumption

Mayor Connelly stated the reason for the public hearing, Clerk Gibeau indicated that all appropriate notices have been made and the clerk's office did not receive any correspondence in regard to this issue.

Mr. Pagel provided background information relative to alcohol consumption on public property, and proposed change to ordinance.

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

Dustin Witkofsky, suggests working with Central Square Mall to possibly use the parking lot and generate business from mall shops as well.

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

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

ADMINISTRATION:

28. Consider adopting an ordinance amending Chapter 46, Article 3 Alcohol Consumption of the Grand Rapids City Code and authorize publication in summary form.

Following a public hearing and further discussion, the Council made the following motion.

Motion made by Councilor Blake, Second by Councilor MacGregor to **adopt Ordinance 24-05-04**, amending Chapter 46, Article 3 Alcohol Consumption of the Grand Rapids Municipal Code and authorized publication in summary form. Voting Yea: Councilor Adams, Councilor Sutherland, Councilor Blake, Councilor MacGregor, Mayor Connelly.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted:

Kimberly Gibeau
Kimberly Gibeau, City Clerk