



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

CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Monday, April 14, 2025

5:00 PM

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

PRESENT: Mayor Tasha Connelly, Councilor Molly MacGregor, Councilor Rick Blake, Councilor Dan Mertes. ABSENT: Councilor Tom Sutherland.

STAFF: Kimberly Gibeau, Chad Sterle, Chery Pierzina, Laura Pfeifer, Rob Mattei, Andy Morgan

PROCLAMATIONS/PRESENTATIONS:

1. MPCA Certificate of Commendation for Public Utilities Commission

Mayor Connelly presents MPCA Certificate of Commendation to the Grand Rapids Public Utilities Commission Steve Mattson, Water/Wastewater Manager in recognition of exemplary service to the community. Mr. Mattson thanks the Council and acknowledges all the staff at PUC.

POSITIVE HAPPENINGS IN THE CITY:

Councilor MacGregor shared information regarding Free Range Food Co-op event at Central School.

Mayor Connelly noted that the Pokegama Golf Course is preparing for its 100 year celebration.

PUBLIC FORUM:

Sue Bigwood, 223 NE 8th Street, raised concerns regarding noise level of local concerts in downtown area.

COUNCIL REPORTS:

Councilor Blake attended MN Community Action Day on the Hill, RAMS Lobby Day and provided overview of topics addressed. Met with members of Calumet minerals and attended MN Public Hearing in Cohasset regarding MP proposed sales.

Mayor Connelly advised that the Department of Agriculture cancelled plans for addressing spongy moss insect issue. Range Mayors meeting cancelled, City/County meeting discussed Library funding issues and plans for a special meeting to continue work on funding to maintain the library. Special primary election is Tuesday, April 15, 2025, followed by Special general on April 29, 2025. With changes in the senate, Senator Farnsworth will carry the Central School bill through the legislative session.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

2. Approve Council minutes for Monday, March 24, 2025 Worksession and Regular meetings.

Motion made by Councilor Mertes, Second by Councilor MacGregor to approve Council minutes for March 24, 2025 as presented. Voting Yea: Mayor Connelly, Councilor MacGregor, Councilor Blake, Councilor Mertes

VERIFIED CLAIMS:

3. Approve the verified claims for the period March 18, 2025 to April 7, 2025 in the total amount of \$829,599.81.

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

CONSENT AGENDA:

4. Consider Approving U.S. Bank Trust Company, NA Agreement Relating to Paying and Registrar Agency for GO Bonds Series 2025A.
5. Consider approving lease agreement with TNT Construction Group at the GPZ Airport
6. Consider adopting a resolution to authorize closing Capital Projects Fund-2023 Infrastructure Fund.

Adopted Resolution 25-25

7. Consider rescinding appointment of a new hire and authorize Human Resources to post, interview and hire for an open position of Police Officer.
8. Consider request to appoint a student intern at City Hall.
9. Consider rehiring seasonal golf employees and appointing new hires at Pokegama Golf Course.
10. Consider revisions to Pay Range for PT, Seasonal, and Temporary Employees.
11. Consider hiring staff for Public Works for the 2025 Spring/Summer Maintenance Season.
12. Consider approval of Artificial Intelligence (AI) Training for City Leadership.
13. Consider approval of Service Agreement with Heroes Rise Coffee Company for employee training.
14. Adopt a resolution approving LG 214 Premises Permit for Grand Rapids Amateur Hockey Association.

Adopted Resolution 25-26

15. Consider various agreements related to Rockfest and Riverfest.
16. Consider approving quote/agreement from Axon for new City Prosecutor account.

17. Consider approving an agreement with SEH for the Taxiway A (North) Reconstruction – Phase 2 Design Project
18. Consider adopting a resolution appointing election judges for 2025 elections.

Adopted Resolution 25-27

19. Consider approving liquor licenses for new establishments The Tied LLC and Ledger & Ladle LLC
20. Consider authorizing the retirement and sale of surplus assets from the Itasca Calvary Cemetery at auction.
21. Consider authorizing advertisement for bid for GPZ projects
22. Consider approving entering into a 3 year contract with FireCatt for hose testing with the Grand Rapids Fire Department
23. Consider allowing the Grand Rapids Fire Department to enter into a contract with Hazard Class LLC Training and Consulting for hazmat tech classes.
24. Consider approving seasonal golf Starter Ranger contractors
25. Consider approving quote from TimeClock Plus, LLC and authorize necessary signature.
26. Consider approving on-sale liquor license for The Pines Restaurant.

Motion made by Councilor Blake, Seconded by Councilor Mertes.

Voting Yea: Mayor Connelly, Councilor MacGregor, Councilor Blake, Councilor Mertes

SET REGULAR AGENDA:

Addition of 28a - Golf Board Appointment

ADMINISTRATION:

27. Consider GMP Consultants Director of Finance Recruitment Proposal.

Motion made by Councilor MacGregor, Seconded by Councilor Mertes.

Voting Yea: Mayor Connelly, Councilor MacGregor, Councilor Blake, Councilor Mertes

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:

28. Consider adopting a resolution approving a partial termination of the Airport South Industrial Park Phase 1 Development Agreement


Motion made by Councilor Blake, Second by Councilor Mertes to **adopt Resolution 25-28**, approving partial termination of Airport South Industrial Park Phase 1 Development Agreement. Voting Yea: Mayor Connelly, Councilor MacGregor, Councilor Blake, Councilor Mertes

28a. Consider appointment to the Pokegama Golf Board.

Motion made by Councilor Mertes, Second by Councilor Blake to appoint Gabriella Jerulle to the Pokegama Golf Board, term to expire March 1, 2028. Voting Yea: Mayor Connelly, Councilor MacGregor, Councilor Blake, Councilor Mertes

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted:


Kimberly Gibeau, City Clerk