



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

CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Monday, August 25, 2025

5:00 PM

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

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

STAFF: Tom Pagel, Kimberly Gibeau, Chad Sterle, Natalee Bushman, Andy Morgan, Rob Mattei, Chery Pierzina, Will Richter, Carl Babich

POSITIVE HAPPENINGS IN THE CITY:

Mayor Connelly shared a recently received message from a visitor to the community, expressing appreciation for the beautiful flowers and the ongoing maintenance efforts. The visitor specifically commended staff for the care being taken to extend the life of the blossoms and enhance the overall appearance of the grounds.

Mayor Connelly acknowledged staff for their years of public service and dedication to the residents of the city.

PUBLIC FORUM: No one from the public wished to speak.

COUNCIL REPORTS:

Councilor Blake attended two groundbreakings in recent weeks, Mill & Miss Apartments and Mesabi Metallica. Both were well attended events.

Mayor Connelly provides update on status of the Library study group consisting of members of both the City of Grand Rapids and Itasca County.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

1. Approve Council minutes for Monday, August 11, 2025 Worksession and Regular meetings and Monday, August 18, 2025 Budget meeting.

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

VERIFIED CLAIMS:

2. Approve the verified claims for the period August 5, 2025 to August 18, 2025 in the total amount of \$530,397.98.

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

CONSENT AGENDA:

3. Consider allowing the police department to enter a contract with Rampart Audit LLC for the purposes of fulfilling Minnesota statute 13.824 requirement to audit Automated License Plate Readers (ALPR)
4. Consider a subordinate agreement related to special assessments.
5. Consider approving budgeted purchase of two new servers.
6. Adopt a Resolution Accepting a FAA Grant in the amount of \$297,788 for the Vehicle Gate Replacement Project at the Grand Rapids/Itasca County Airport and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to execute.
7. Consider entering into an agreement with SEH for the Grussendorf Trail Boardwalk project
8. Consider rehiring seasonal part-time employee at Yanmar Arena and consider wage increase for two part-time employees at the arena.

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

SET REGULAR AGENDA:

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

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:

9. Consider approving a purchase agreement with Leland Snyder for the sale of city owned parcels.

Zoning Administrator, Will Richter, presented background information on proposed property sale and noted staff is recommending approval of the sale.

Motion made by Councilor Blake, Second by Councilor Sutherland to approve purchase agreement with Leland Snyder for sale of city owned parcels. Voting Yea: Mayor Connelly, Councilor Sutherland, Councilor Blake, Councilor Mertes

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:13 PM.

Respectfully submitted:


Kimberly Gibeau, City Clerk