



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

CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Monday, May 13, 2024

5:00 PM

Mayor Connelly called the meeting to order at 5:05 PM.

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

STAFF: Tom Pagel, Chad Sterle, Kevin Ott, Barb Baird, Andy Morgan, Will Richter

POSITIVE HAPPENINGS IN THE CITY:

Mayor Connelly highlighted the Free Range Food Co-op launch on May 3, 2024, L&M Groundbreaking on May 7, 2024, National Police Week through May 18th.

Councilor Sutherland welcomes people coming into the community for fishing opener, acknowledging high number of tourists coming in and through Grand Rapids.

Councilor Adams talks about the Grand Rapids Rotary Housing presentation, noting that feedback from attendees was positive and encouraging to keep moving forward.

Councilor Blake provided overview of WMMPB meeting and information relative to Mag Iron LLC.

PUBLIC FORUM:

Catherine McLynn, 931 N. Pokegama Avenue, Tuesday May 21st for Water Summit – appreciation for assistance. Expressed opposition to Pride Fest being held on Central School grounds and requests the City Council cancel the reservation of Pride Fest based on religious beliefs.

Nathan Burkstead, 1240 Golf Course Road, notes that we are not a Christian nation based on the constitution. Opposes eating shell fish and wearing multi fiber fabrics.

Stephanie Lipsy, 28761 Prairie Lake Road, asking Pride Event be moved to private venue so children in the community will not be exposed, noting Minnesota statutes against child endangerment. Indicates that the City will be liable if injuries occur due to violence that may erupt at the event.

Liz Branum, PO Box 6025, Grand Rapids, member of Zion Lutheran and assists churches in becoming more LBGTQ+ welcoming. Intent is to have a safe event for all in attendance. Invitation to Council members to attend.

Dana Butler, 504 NE 4th Avenue, speaks in support of Pride event. Noted that Minnesota is the home of the first same sex marriage in the United States, a sanctuary state and this type of rhetoric insights hate and often suicide.

Sandy Bromanshankle (sp), Deer River, speaks on behalf of Pride event, plan to attend and support.

Kathleen Blake, 835 NE 3rd Avenue, speaking in support of Pride Festival and shared scripture as well.

Annie Frederickson, 112 SW 21st Street, speaks in support of Pride Festival and believes that if residents who oppose the event don't like it, they should stay away from the event.

Zach Nichols, 20089 Carrol Street, advocating to allow Pride event to remain at Central School.

Aaron Schnauzer, Balsam, states that information on planned drag shows is on the website of Itasca Pride.

Nick Thompson, Balsam, supporting Pride festival. This event is needed in this community.

Juanita Ewens, 921 NW Grand Rapids, speaks in support of event. People should be allowed to live their own lives. If you don't like it, don't show up.

Councilor Sutherland asks for clarity on events taking place at Pride Fest.

Karter Starling, PO Box 6025, states that there will be musical performances, drag performers, political speaker, food trucks, beer garden and vendors. Performers will be fully clothed and bad language will not be part of performance. If violence erupts at the event, it will be the responsibility of the opposing group.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

1. Approve minutes for Monday, April 22, 2024 Worksession and Regular meetings, Thursday, April 18, 2024 Joint City Council & PUC meeting and April 22, 2024 Closed meeting summary.

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

VERIFIED CLAIMS:

2. Approve the verified claims for the period April 16, 2024 to May 6, 2024 in the total amount of \$1,568,621.79 of which \$237,500 are debt service payments.

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

ACKNOWLEDGE MINUTES FOR BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:

3. Reviewed and acknowledged board and commission minutes.

March 27, 2024 Human Rights Commission
April 2, 2024 Arts & Culture Commission

April 10, 2024 Library Board
April 11, 2024 GREDA
April 16, 2024 GREDA

CONSENT AGENDA:

4. Consider entering into Advertising Agreements with businesses at Yanmar Arena.
5. Consider Voiding Lost Accounts Payable Check and Issue a Replacement Check
6. Consider adopting a resolution to accept \$2,450.00 cash donations and \$405 in-kind donations to Grand Rapids Police Department from various sources to support Open-Source INternet (OSINT) Training.

Adopted Resolution 24-43

7. Consider request to interview and hire a paid summer intern for the Grand Rapids Police Department.
8. Consider hiring staff for Pokegama Golf Course for the 2024 Golfing Season, make corrections to hourly wage, and discontinue employment relationship with seasonal golf employee.
9. Consider authorizing quotes and awarding a contract to TNT Construction Group for the Rain Garden Inlet Improvements Project
10. Consider the purchase of Service Body Truck Equipment for the Public Works Department
11. Consider approving seasonal liquor license for Grand Rapids Speedway Inc.
12. Consider approval of City Administrator Goals for 2024
13. Consider resolutions approving Use Agreements with GRAHA and SNC.

Adopted Resolutions 24-44 & 24-45

14. Consider accepting the resignation of Roger Mischke from the Pokegama Golf Board
15. Consider approving change order for Yanmar Arena Project
16. Consider approving final payment in the amount of \$36,409.30 for Work Scope 4 on the Civic Center Project
17. Consider accepting the 2023 audited financial reports.
18. Consider approval of seasonal contractors

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

SET REGULAR AGENDA:

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

CIVIC CENTER & PARKS:

19. Consider passing a resolution accepting donations from the City of Cohasset and Harris Township for financial assistance with the July 4th Fireworks Display.

Motion made by Councilor Sutherland, Second by Councilor Adams to **adopt Resolution 24-46**, accepting donations to be utilized for the annual 4th of July fireworks display. Voting Yea: Mayor Connelly, Councilor Adams, Councilor Sutherland, Councilor Blake

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:

20. Consider the approval of a resolution approving certain lender documents related to the L&M Supply Distribution Center Project

Motion made by Councilor Blake, Second by Councilor Sutherland to **adopt Resolution 24-47**, approving lender documents related to L&M Supply as presented. Voting Yea: Mayor Connelly, Councilor Adams, Councilor Sutherland, Councilor Blake

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned 5:49 PM.

Respectfully submitted:

Kimberly Gibeau
Kimberly Gibeau, City Clerk