



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

CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Monday, October 25, 2021
5:00 PM

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

PRESENT: Mayor Dale Christy, Councilor Dale Adams, Councilor Michelle Toven, Councilor Rick Blake, Councilor Tasha Connelly

Staff present: Chad Sterle, Matt Wegwerth, Barb Baird, Steve Schaar, Eric Trast, Bob Cahill

PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS:

1. Mayor Christy read the Domestic Violence Awareness Month Proclamation for the record.

PUBLIC FORUM:

Mandy Aalto, representing Advocates Against Domestic Abuse, thanks the City for acknowledging domestic abuse issues and committing to supporting citizens.

Jon Lavalier advises the Council of upcoming training with the Epilepsy Foundation and law enforcement. Although training with law enforcement is not open to the public, two additional trainings will be held at Keisler Wellness Center for members of the public.

COUNCIL REPORTS:

Councilor Adams announces upcoming RAMS meeting.

Councilor Connelly advises of three current vacancies on Human Rights Commission and encourages members of the public to apply.

Mayor Christy acknowledges training for Epilepsy awareness and notes trainings scheduled for the public.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

2. Approve minutes for Monday, October 11, 2021 Worksession and Regular meetings.

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

VERIFIED CLAIMS:

3. Consider approving the verified claims for the period October 5, 2021 to October 18, 2021 in the total amount of \$2,669,449.99.

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

ACKNOWLEDGE MINUTES FOR BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:

4. Acknowledged minutes for recent GREDA, Library Board, Planning Commission, Public Utilities and Golf Board meetings.

CONSENT AGENDA:

5. Approve annual liquor licenses for 2022
6. Accept the resignation of John O'Leary from the Grand Rapids Economic Development Authority
7. Accept resignation of Glen Hodgson from the Human Rights Commission
8. Consider approval of a quitclaim deed transferring title of parcel numbers 91-555-0910 and 91-420-0510 to the Grand Rapids Economic Development Authority (GREDA).
9. Adopt a resolution amending the City Wide fee schedule to include fees for Rental Code Ordinance

Adopted Resolution 21-92

10. Consider approving a resolution committing \$77,071 from the Permanent Improvement Revolving Fund for the Grand Rapids/Cohasset Industrial Park Infrastructure Project.

Adopted Resolution 21-93

11. Consider a request by the police department to apply and accept a grant from AAA- The Auto Club Group in the amount of \$1200.00, and consider adopting a resolution to accept the same.

Adopted Resolution 21-94

12. Consider adopting a resolution accepting a bench donation from the Reisinger Family in honor of Ken Reisinger.

Adopted Resolution 21-95

13. Consider donating playground equipment to the Itasca Family YMCA.

14. Consider approving a resolution authorizing City staff to obtain easements related to CP 2003-18, 21st Street SW Extension.

Adopted Resolution 21-96

15. Approve Public Works Part-Time Winter Maintenance Eligibility List
16. Consider the renewal of the Group Vision Care Plan through Avesis.
17. Consider a request by the police department to donate 17- X26 Tasers to the Hibbing Community College law enforcement program.
18. Consider approving the continuation of general liability insurance through the League of Minnesota Cities Insurance Trust for calendar year 2022.
19. Consider waiving the statutory liability to the extent of the coverage purchased.

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

SET REGULAR AGENDA:

Motion made by Councilor Adams, Second by Councilor Connelly to approve the Regular agenda. Voting Yea: Mayor Christy, Councilor Adams, Councilor Toven, Councilor Blake, Councilor Connelly

GOLF:

20. Consider accepting quote for Golf Course Maintenance Building restoration/repair

Bob Cahill, Director of Golf, presented background information on proposed maintenance building repair.

Motion made by Councilor Blake, Second by Councilor Connelly to accept low quote and authorize maintenance building restoration/repair. Voting Yea: Mayor Christy, Councilor Adams, Councilor Toven, Councilor Blake, Councilor Connelly

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:

21. Consider approval of the preliminary plat of Hawkinson Commercial Development.

Eric Trast, Zoning Administrator, provides overview of proposed plat and future development.

Motion made by Councilor Toven, Second by Councilor Blake to approve preliminary plat of Hawkinson Commercial Development as presented. Voting Yea: Mayor Christy, Councilor Adams, Councilor Toven, Councilor Blake, Councilor Connelly

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

22. Conduct a Public Hearing to consider the adoption of an Ordinance amending Article VI Zoning within Chapter 30 Land Development Regulations by adding the

Automotive/Recreational Vehicle (Repair/Service) use, as a use permitted with restrictions, within the CBD (Central Business District) zoning district.

Mayor Christy states the reason for the public hearing. Mr. Trast provided background information regarding text amendment request. City Clerk confirms that all required notifications have been made and no written correspondence has been received in the Clerk's office on this matter.

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

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

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

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:

23. Consider the recommendation of the Planning Commission regarding the adoption of an ordinance, adding the *Automotive/Recreational Vehicle (Repair/Service)* use, as a use permitted with restrictions, within the CBD (Central Business District) zoning district.

Motion made by Councilor Connelly, Second by Councilor Adams adopting Ordinance 21-10-07, approving text amendments to use permitted with restrictions within the CBD zoning district. Voting Yea: Mayor Christy, Councilor Adams, Councilor Toven, Councilor Blake, Councilor Connelly

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

24. Conduct a Public Hearing to consider the rezoning of 8.68 acres of land from R-1 (One-Family Residential) to R-4 (Multiple-family Residential- high density).

Mayor Christy states the reason for the public hearing. Mr. Trast provided background information regarding request for rezone. City Clerk confirms that all required notifications have been made and no written correspondence has been received in the Clerk's office on this matter.

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

Jeff Koehn, 1507 Timber Ridge Lane, states that the proposed change benefits everyone with the exception of the neighborhood residents.

Mark Lucarelli, 1702 Timber Ridge Lane, not in favor of rezone. Believes this is a mistake.

Wanda Ulseth, 1508 Timber Ridge Lane, concerned for safety, and this will significantly alter the neighborhood. Decline of property value. Construction traffic. Handling of petition.

Jim Martinetto, 1507 SW 3rd Avenue, traffic concerns.

Michele Chernugal, 1505 Timber Ridge Lane, high density traffic creating an unsafe situation.

Glen Hodgson, 19799 Cardinal Drive, representing St. Joseph's Church, notes that this property was identified as Multi-Family residential in two previous comprehensive plans. Supports progress in housing goals for city.

Mary Ives, 31035 Sunny Beach Road, would provide opportunity for other types of housing in the neighborhood.

Jean Warren, 416 14th Street SW, concerns for traffic.

Mike Ribich, 1514 Timber Ridge Lane, traffic concerns.

Laura Ribich, 1512 Timber Ridge Lane, safety concerns.

Patricia Helms, 1506 Timber Ridge Lane, high density will not benefit the area.

Sue Cerasa, 1606 Timber Ridge Lane, denied rezone request in past. Can't afford the high density in small residential area.

Nick Rothstein, 113 Donovan Drive, traffic concerns.

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

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

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:

25. Consider the recommendation of the Planning Commission regarding adoption of an ordinance, amending the Official Zoning Map, by rezoning 8.68 acres of land from R-1 (One-Family Residential) to R-4 (Multiple-family Residential- high density).

Council members discussed reasonable expectations for residents, needs for 21st Street extension, housing needs as the community continues to grow and desire to take more time for reviewing this rezone request.

Attorney Sterle, advises that this request falls under the 60 day rule which requires a decision be made no later than November 5, 2021. The Council has the authority to extend for another 60 days, requiring a final decision no later than early January 4, 2022. No further public hearings are required.

Motion made by Councilor Blake, Second by Councilor Adams to extend petition for another 30 days. Voting Yea: Mayor Christy, Councilor Adams, Councilor Toven, Councilor Blake, Councilor Connelly

Motion made by Councilor Toven, Second by Councilor Connelly directing staff to develop findings of fact in support of denying rezone request. Voting Yea: Mayor Christy, Councilor Adams, Councilor Toven, Councilor Blake, Councilor Connelly

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

26. Consider conducting a public hearing for final special assessments related to CP 2021-2, 5th Street SW Reconstruction.

Mayor Christy states the reason for the public hearing. Mr. Wegwerth provided background information on the project and the assessment process. City Clerk confirms that all required notifications have been made and no written correspondence has been received in the Clerk's office on this matter.

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

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

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

ENGINEERING PUBLIC WORKS:

27. Consider approving a resolution adopting final special assessments related to CP 2021-2, 5th Street SW Reconstruction.

Motion made by Councilor Blake, Second by Councilor Connelly to adopt Resolution 21-97, adopting final special assessments related to CP 2021-2, 5th Street SW Reconstruction. Voting Yea: Mayor Christy, Councilor Adams, Councilor Toven, Councilor Blake, Councilor Connelly

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, Mayor Christy adjourned the meeting at 7:47 PM.

Respectfully submitted:

Kimberly Gibeau

Kimberly Gibeau, City Clerk