



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

CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Monday, May 12, 2025

5:00 PM

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

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

STAFF: Tom Pagel, Kimberly Gibeau, Chad Sterle, Laura Pfeifer, Travis Cole, Chery Pierzina, Will Richter, Rob Mattei, Andy Morgan

POSITIVE HAPPENINGS IN THE CITY:

Mayor Connelly discussed recent meeting with Star Tribune and topic titled "Growing Grand Rapids," with a focus on economic development.

Councilor MacGregor added that the meeting with the Star Tribune also included conversation regarding housing, jobs, etc.

Councilor Sutherland remarked on the weekend activity surrounding Minnesota Fishing Opener and large turnout of local Grand Rapids residents.

PUBLIC FORUM:

No one from the public wished to speak.

COUNCIL REPORTS:

Councilor MacGregor provided overview of ARDC meeting, noting new child care facility in that will be available in town. Human Rights Commission is currently focused on assessment for needs of community members. They have plans to hold a public session in August 2025.

Mayor Connelly attended the HWY 2 Coalition meeting, as well as the City/County Co-Op meeting, and highlighted discussion surrounding library needs.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

1. Approve City Council minutes for Monday, April 28, 2025 Worksession and Regular meetings and Monday, May 5, 2025 Special Worksession.

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

VERIFIED CLAIMS:

2. Approve the verified claims for the period April 22, 2025 to May 5, 2025 in the total amount of \$576,926.36.

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

CONSENT AGENDA:

3. Consider appointing seasonal new hires at Pokegama Golf Course.
4. Consider request to post, interview and hire a paid summer intern for the Grand Rapids Police Department.
5. Consider approval of Change Order #1 for CP 2025-1, SE 7th Avenue Mill & Overlay Project.
6. Consider approving temporary liquor license for Klockow Brewing Klocktoberfest on September 27, 2025
7. Consider approving amended Joint Powers Agreement regarding collection of lodging tax.
8. Consider approving temporary liquor license for Thunderhawk Blue Line Club
9. Consider approving updated quote for the purchase of 17 Trijicon RMR HD Optic sights
10. Consider adopting a resolution awarding a contract at the Grand Rapids / Itasca County airport for AP 2025-1 Taxiway A (South) Reconstruction Project-Phase 1.

Adopted Resolution 25-32

11. Consider approving a separation agreement with Dan Swenson
12. Consider adopting a resolution awarding a contract at the Grand Rapids / Itasca County airport for the 2025 Vehicle Gate Replacement project.

Adopted Resolution 25-33

13. Consider awarding a contract to Parsons Electric for the TH 169 South, Phase 3 Lighting Project
14. Consider accepting the resignation of Melissa Bahr from the GREDA.
15. Consider approving resolution/Use Agreements with GRAHA and Star of the North Skating

Adopted Resolution 25-34 & 25-35

16. Consider approving the advertisement for the position of Zoning Administrator
17. Consider Voiding Lost Accounts Payable Check and Issue a Replacement Check.

18. Consider adopting a resolution approving LG230 Application for Off-Site Gambling for A.B.A.T.E. of Minnesota

Adopted Resolution 25-36

19. Consider seasonal hire for golf course
20. Consider accepting the Grand Rapids Economic Development Authority Annual Report for 2024

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

SET REGULAR AGENDA:

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

ADMINISTRATION:

21. Consider appointment of Carl Babich to the Director of Finance position.

Motion made by Councilor MacGregor, Second by Councilor Mertes to approve Carl Babich to the position of Director of Finance as presented. Voting Yea: Mayor Connelly, Councilor MacGregor, Councilor Sutherland, Councilor Mertes

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:16 PM.

Respectfully submitted:


Kimberly Gibeau, City Clerk