



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

CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Monday, November 24, 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: Tom Pagel, Kimberly Gibeau, Jeremy Nelson, Chery Pierzina, Will Richter, Rob Mattei, Carl Babich

POSITIVE HAPPENINGS IN THE CITY:

Mayor Connelly acknowledged years of service for City staff and Catholic Church providing free Thanksgiving dinner to all.

Councilor Blake shared pledge against political violence signed by full Council.

Councilor MacGregor provided overview of CGMC conference hosted in Grand Rapids and library fundraiser.

PUBLIC FORUM:

No one from the public wished to speak.

COUNCIL REPORTS:

Councilor Blake also reference the CGMC Conference, and shared overview of recently attended RAMS meeting.

Mayor Connelly stated that the Blandin Beach open house, held to provide feedback on proposed renovation and learn about possible funding options, was attended by approximately 20 community members.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

1. Approve minutes for Monday, November 10, 2025 Council meeting.

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

VERIFIED CLAIMS:

2. Approve the verified claims for the period November 4, 2025 to November 17, 2025 in the total amount of \$164,983.65.

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

CONSENT AGENDA:

3. Consider accepting the resignation of Pat Goggin from the Planning Commission, effective December 31, 2025
4. Consider accepting sealed bids and authorize sale of surplus golf maintenance equipment.
5. Consider adopting a resolution renewing a Limited Use Permit between the City of Grand Rapids and the Commissioner of Transportation, State of Minnesota for the Municipal Entrance Signs.

Adopted Resolution 25-75

6. Consider approving Maintenance – Winter (Public Works) new hires for the 2025-2026 Winter season.
7. Consider approving the Statement of Work (SOW) Agreement with CliftonLarsonAllen, LLP (CLA) for audit year ending December 31, 2025.
8. Consider job description for Golf Course Superintendent and authorize Human Resources to post internally, interview and hire for the open position of Golf Course Superintendent.
9. Consider approving 10-year Axon Contract
10. Consider hiring part-time employees for Yanmar Arena and the Parks & Recreation Departments.
11. Consider approving an agreement with Momentum Advocacy for lobbying services in 2026
12. Consider approving the purchase of snowplow equipment for two public works trucks
13. Consider authorizing the Fire Department to apply for a DNR Grant.
- 13a. Adopting a resolution approving Maintenance and Operations Grant agreement with State of MN for GPZ Airport

Adopted Resolution 25-76

Motion made by Councilor Mertes, Second by Councilor Blake to approve the Consent agenda as amended, with the addition of 13a. Voting Yea: Mayor Connelly, Councilor MacGregor, Councilor Blake, Councilor Mertes

SET REGULAR AGENDA:

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

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:

14. Consider approval of the Preliminary Plat for Crystal Lake Estates Second Addition.

Zoning Administrator, Will Richter, presented proposed preliminary plat.

Motion made by Councilor Blake, Second by Councilor MacGregor to approve the preliminary plat for Crystal Lake Estates Second Addition as presented. Voting Yea: Mayor Connelly, Councilor MacGregor, Councilor Blake, Councilor Mertes

PUBLIC HEARINGS: (scheduled to begin no earlier than 5:00 PM)

15. Conduct a Public Hearing to consider the rezoning of land from PU (Public Use) to R-2 (One and Two-Family Residential).

Presentation focus on zoning and consistency in the neighborhood.

Mayor Connelly noted the purpose of the public hearing; stating this is the time and place for members of the public to be heard on the proposed changes. Clerk Gibeau noted that all required notices have been made and no correspondence was received regarding this matter.

Motion made by Councilor Mertes, Second by Councilor MacGregor to open the public hearing. Voting Yea: Mayor Connelly, Councilor MacGregor, Councilor Blake, Councilor Mertes

Isaac Meyer, representing Itasca County HRA, speaks in support of rezone and redevelopment.

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

Motion made by Councilor Blake, Second by Councilor Mertes to close the public hearing. Voting Yea: Mayor Connelly, Councilor MacGregor, Councilor Blake, Councilor Mertes

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:

16. Consider the recommendation of the Planning Commission regarding adoption of an ordinance, amending the Official Zoning Map, by rezoning land from PU (Public Use) to R-2 (One and Two-Family Residential).

Upon closure of the public hearing, staff recommends approval and adoption of ordinance change.

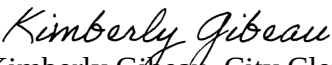
Motion made by Councilor Blake, Second by Councilor Mertes to **adopt Ordinance 25-11-04**, amending the official zoning map as presented. Voting Yea: Mayor Connelly, Councilor MacGregor, Councilor Blake, Councilor Mertes

ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Connelly noted the City of Grand Rapids will conduct its annual Truth in Taxation public hearing on December 1, 2025 at the regular meeting. The TNT will begin at 6:00 PM and members of the public are encouraged to attend.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:29 PM.

Respectfully submitted:


Kimberly Gibeau, City Clerk