



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

## **CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

**Monday, July 22, 2024**

**7:00 PM**

Mayor Connelly called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

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

**STAFF:** Chad Sterle, Andy Morgan, Barb Baird, Kevin Ott, Jeremy Nelson, Chery Pierzina

Mayor Connelly read a statement into the record regarding political violence.

### **POSITIVE HAPPENINGS IN THE CITY:**

Councilor Adams highlighted Eldercircle Golf Fundraiser.

Councilor MacGregor gave overview of Free Range Food Co-op dinner fundraiser and the July Timberman Triathlon at Sugar Lake.

Mayor Connelly discussed the ribbon cutting for My Place Hotel and noted large community turnout.

### **PUBLIC FORUM:**

Don Wydra, 21788 Moose Point Road, Cohasset, spoke in support of Pam Dowell in reference to her service on the PCA Board.

Dan Butterfield, 21810 Verde Lane, expressed interest in possible Airport Road property sales and requested that residents in the area be advise prior to sale of property.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

1. Approve Council minutes for Monday, July 8, 2024 Worksession & Regular meetings and summary for Monday, July 8, 2024 Closed meeting.

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

VERIFIED CLAIMS:

2. Approve the verified claims for the period July 2, 2024 to July 15, 2024 in the total amount of \$1,666,592.45 including debt service payments of \$296,738.19.

Motion made by Councilor Blake, Second by Councilor Sutherland to approve Verified Claims as presented. Voting Yea: Mayor Connelly, Councilor Adams, Councilor MacGregor, Councilor Sutherland, Councilor Blake

CONSENT AGENDA:

3. Consider approving the School Resource Officer Agreement for the 2024-2025 school year with Independent School District #318
4. Consider approving Memorandum of Understanding with Itasca County Public Health.
5. Consider adopting a resolution authorizing the 2024 budgeted operating transfers.

**Adopted Resolution 24-61**

6. Consider Voiding Lost Accounts Payable Check and Issue a Replacement Check
7. Consider approving the purchase of a tilt trailer for Public Works
8. Consider removal of Pam Dowell from the Police Community Advisory Board
9. Consider accepting quotation for installation of additional acoustical panels at Yanmar Arena.
10. Consider approving “amended” final payment in the amount of \$5,034.00 for Work Scope 5 on the Civic Center Project
11. Consider approving agreements with Strange Daze and Twist of Fate for musical performances at 2024 Tall Timber Days event.
12. Consider adopting a resolution approving LG230 Application for Off-Site Gambling for Confidence Learning Center

**Adopted Resolution 24-62**

13. Consider approving temporary liquor for Itasca Orchestra and Strings Program
14. Consider approving renewal for Office 365 services through Zix.
15. Consider approving change orders for Yanmar Arena Project
- 15a. Consider approving temporary liquor license for American Legion Post 476 for Itasca County Fair Beer Garden.

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

#### SET REGULAR AGENDA:

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

#### ADMINISTRATION:

16. Consider recommended appointment to the position of Police Sergeant; and authorize Human Resources to post, interview and hire for an open position of Police Officer, if approved for the OTS grant for DWI Officer.

Human Resources Officer, Chery Pierzina, provided overview of selection process and recommends Patrol Sergeant Michelle Norris for the position of Sergeant.

Motion made by Councilor MacGregor, Second by Councilor Sutherland to appoint Officer Michelle Norris to the position of Police Sergeant as recommended and authorize staff to begin the process of filling the open position of Police Officer. Voting Yea: Mayor Connelly, Councilor Adams, Councilor MacGregor, Councilor Sutherland, Councilor Blake

#### POLICE:

17. Consider adopting a resolution accepting a \$50 donation to the GRPD Domestic Animal Control Facility from the Fredrickson / Johnson family.

Motion made by Councilor Blake, Second by Councilor MacGregor to **adopt Resolution 24-63**, accepting donation from Fredrickson/Johnson family as presented. Voting Yea: Mayor Connelly, Councilor Adams, Councilor MacGregor, Councilor Sutherland, Councilor Blake

#### CITY COUNCIL:

18. Consider salary increases for Mayor and Council

Council conducted discussion with Councilors Adams, Blake and MacGregor indicating they would support an increase in Council wages, though some would like to discuss further. Mayor Connelly doesn't feel like this is a good time to increase Council wages and Councilor Sutherland agrees.

Motion made by Councilor Adams to approve Council salary increase as presented. Motion failed for lack of second.

Motion made by Councilor MacGregor, Second by Councilor Adams to table this item until the next Council meeting scheduled for August 12, 2024. Voting Yea: Mayor Connelly, Councilor Adams, Councilor MacGregor, Councilor Sutherland, Councilor Blake

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:34 PM.

Respectfully submitted:

*Kimberly Gibeau*

Kimberly Gibeau, City Clerk