



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

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
**Monday, December 06, 2021**  
**6:30 PM**

Mayor Christy called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

**CALL OF ROLL:**

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

**PUBLIC FORUM:** None.

**COUNCIL REPORTS:**

Councilor Connelly noted that there are three vacancies on the Human Rights Commission and encourages residents to get involved. Also advised that the City is keeping a close eye on the temperatures and will make sure all outdoor rinks are flooded and ready for use as soon as weather permits.

Councilor Adams provided overview of the recent RAMS meeting.

Mayor Christy acknowledged receipt of the Greater Minnesota Business Development Infrastructure grant.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

1. Approve Council minutes for Monday, November 22, 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:**

2. Approve the verified claims for the period November 16, 2021 to November 29, 2021 in the total amount of \$534,410.61.

Motion made by Councilor Adams, Second by Councilor Connelly 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:

3. The following minutes for boards and commissioners were acknowledged:  
October 12th and 26th, 2021 PUC  
October 13, 2021 Library Board  
October 14, 2021 GREDA  
October 18, 2021 Planning Commission  
October 19, 2021 Golf Board  
September 29th and October 27th, 2021 Human Rights Commission  
September 2, 2021 PCA Board

CONSENT AGENDA:

4. Consider amending special assessment policy
5. Consider adopting a resolution to accept the Corona Virus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund established under the American Rescue Plan Act.

**Adopted Resolution 21-104**

6. Approve Public Works PT Eligibility List for Winter Maintenance
7. Consider amending the Rental Housing Ordinance.

**Adopted Ordinance 21-12-08**

8. Hire Warming House Attendants
9. Adopt a resolution accepting donations for Golf Simulator Program

**Adopted Resolution 21-105**

10. Moved to regular agenda as 12b.
11. Consider approving donation of retired IT equipment

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

SET REGULAR AGENDA:

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

## ADMINISTRATION:

### 12. Consider appointments to Boards & Commissions

Motion made by Councilor Adams, Second by Councilor Connelly to appoint Wayne Bruns to the EDA, term to expire March 1, 2025, and Cyndy Martin, Deborah Kee and Aaron Squadroni to the Grand Rapids Library Board, terms to expire December 31, 2024. Voting Yea: Mayor Christy, Councilor Adams, Councilor Toven, Councilor Blake, Councilor Connelly

### 12a. Adopt a Resolution for continued support of the Yellow Ribbon Community.

Motion made by Councilor Toven, Second by Councilor Connelly adopting **Resolution 21-106**, Yellow Ribbon Community Support and establishment of Yellow Ribbon Citizen's Committee. Voting Yea: Mayor Christy, Councilor Adams, Councilor Toven, Councilor Blake, Councilor Connelly

### 12b. Consider adopting a resolution accepting a donation of \$5,738.00 from Fairview Health Services, a donation of \$2,778.00 from VFW Post 1720 and donation of \$1,389.00 from an anonymous party to purchase 7 Zoll AED Plus Units

Motion made by Councilor Blake, Second by Councilor Connelly adopting **Resolution 21-107**, accepting donations to go towards the purchase of AEDs for law enforcement. Voting Yea: Mayor Christy, Councilor Adams, Councilor Toven, Councilor Blake, Councilor Connelly

## FIRE:

### 13. Consider approving an amendment to the retirement benefit level of the Grand Rapids Fire Department Relief Association Bylaws

Fire Chief Cole provided overview of draft changes to the benefit level for the Fire Department Relief Assoc. By-laws and recommends approval.

Motion made by Councilor Toven, Second by Councilor Connelly to approve changes to the benefit level for the Fire Department Relief Association By-Laws. Voting Yea: Mayor Christy, Councilor Adams, Councilor Toven, Councilor Blake, Councilor Connelly

## PUBLIC HEARINGS: (scheduled for 7:00 PM)

### 14. Conduct a Public Hearing on 2021 Levy Payable in 2022 and 2022 budget at 7:00 p.m.as stated in the Truth in Taxation Statements

City Administrator Pagel presented information regarding truth in taxation, noting opportunities for tax rebates if the increase is greater than 12%.

City Clerk Gibeau confirmed that all required notices have been made and the Clerk's office did not receive any correspondence from the public on this matter.

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

Anne Garvey, 414 NW 7th Street, notes that FL School was taken down, taxes increased by 30%. Questions how is the value figured between properties.

Martin Flicker, 1949 NW 20th Street, recommends focusing on industrial/commercial development.

Kayley Schoonmaker, 819 Willow Lane, concerned over high tax increases, and the possibility of people being taxed out of their homes.

Richard Nustad, 1795 NW 8th Avenue, questions 'normal' year of property value increase and what the percentage increase would be to overall property taxes if it was such a year?

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

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

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:03 PM.

Respectfully submitted:

*Kimberly Gibeau*  
Kimberly Gibeau, City Clerk