



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

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
**Monday, August 28, 2023**  
**5:00 PM**

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

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

**STAFF:** Tom Pagel, Chad Sterle, Travis Cole, Kevin Ott, Rob Mattei, Matt Wegwerth, Barb Baird, Chery Pierzina

**PROCLAMATIONS/PRESENTATIONS:**

1. Proclamation - Veteran Crisis Response Team

Mayor Christy read the proclamation into the record.

**PUBLIC FORUM:**

Myrna Peterson, 2304 McKinney Lake Road, speaks to the Conner rezone issues on behalf of her family.

Emily Baker, 2101 Benson Lane, expresses opposition to rezone, reviewing considerations and presenting opposing view. Opposes future rezoning of Benson Lane.

**COUNCIL REPORTS:**

Councilor Connelly stated that there was an opening on Human Rights Commission.

Mayor Christy shared an email received from a family passing through Grand Rapids expressing appreciation for assistance provided by residents.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

2. Approve Council minutes for Monday, August 14, 2023 Regular meeting and Wednesday, August 16, 2023 Budget meeting.

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

**VERIFIED CLAIMS:**

3. Approve the verified claims for the period August 8, 2023 to August 21, 2023 in the total amount of \$1,176,143.34.

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

#### ACKNOWLEDGE MINUTES FOR BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:

4. Council reviewed and acknowledged the following:  
June 7, 2023 Civic Center Advisory Board  
June 9, 2023 GREDA Special meeting  
July 12, 2023 Library Board meeting  
July 17, 2023 GREDA meeting  
July 18, 2023 Golf Board Minutes

#### CONSENT AGENDA:

5. Consider approving temporary liquor for Klockow Brewing Klocktoberfest event September 30, 2023
6. Consider accepting resignations from Golf Board and Human Rights Commission
7. Consider authorizing quotes and awarding a contract for the rain gutter replacement on the terminal building at the Grand Rapids / Itasca County Airport.
8. Consider authorizing a quote and awarding a contract to remove old caulk around windows, doors, and louvers and replace with new caulk on the terminal building at the Grand Rapids / Itasca County Airport.
9. Consider approving the hiring and wage adjustments of part-time employees at the IRA Civic Center.
10. Consider authorizing quotes and accepting low bid from Joy's Greenhouse for hanging baskets and planters for Central Business District
11. Consider the purchase and installation of an electric chain hoist to be installed in the fire hall and the additional electrical outlets.
12. Consider approving on-sale liquor license for La Tequila Taco Shop
13. Consider accepting quote through Minnesota Cooperative Purchasing Venture for furniture at Civic Center
14. Consider accepting low quote for rubber flooring at the IRA Civic Center
15. Consider adopting a resolution calling a public hearing on the creation of TIF District 1-14 L&M Supply and the adoption of a TIF Plan therefore.

**Adopted Resolution 23-56**

16. Consider approving change orders related to IRA Civic Center project.

16a. Consider approving hire of Golf Seasonal Employee.

16b. Consider approving Klockow Brewing temporary liquor for event on September 21, 2023.

Motion made by Councilor Adams, Second by Councilor Connelly to approve the Consent agenda as amended to include additions of items #16a. and #16b. Voting Yea: Mayor Christy, Councilor Adams, Councilor Connelly, Councilor MacGregor, Councilor Sutherland

#### SET REGULAR AGENDA:

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

#### ADMINISTRATION:

17. Consider appointing Samuel Hussman to the position of Police Officer

Human Resources Officer, Chery Pierzina, presented background information on vacancy in the Police Department, the recruiting process and subsequent applicant review including interviews and recommended the appointment of Samuel Hussman.

Motion made by Councilor Adams, Second by Councilor MacGregor to approve the appointment of Samuel Hussman to the position of Police Officer as presented. Voting Yea: Mayor Christy, Councilor Adams, Councilor Connelly, Councilor MacGregor, Councilor Sutherland

18. Consider accepting the resignation of Jeff Ingle from the position of Captain from the Grand Rapids Fire Department and authorize City staff to begin the process of filling the internal vacancy

Ms. Pierzina presented Mr. Ingle's resignation from the position of Captain with the Fire Department, noting that he will continue to serve as Firefighter.

Motion made by Councilor Connelly, Second by Councilor Adams to accept Jeff Ingle's resignation and authorize staff to fill the vacancy. Voting Yea: Mayor Christy, Councilor Adams, Councilor Connelly, Councilor MacGregor, Councilor Sutherland

19. Consider the retirement of Bob Cahill from the position of Director of Golf, consider revised job description for the position of Director of Golf, authorize the advertisement/interviewing for this position, and appoint a City Council member to the hiring committee.

Ms. Pierzina discussed the pending retirement of Director of Golf, Bob Cahill in 2024 and the updated job description. Staff is requesting the appointment of one Council member to serve on the hiring committee.

Motion made by Councilor MacGregor, Second by Councilor Connelly to approve the job description for Director of Golf, authorize advertising and interview process and appoint Councilor Dale Adams to the hiring committee. Voting Yea: Mayor Christy, Councilor Adams, Councilor Connelly, Councilor MacGregor, Councilor Sutherland

#### COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:

20. Consider the recommendation of the Planning Commission regarding adoption of an ordinance, amending the Official Zoning Map, by rezoning land from R-1 (One Family Residential) to R-4 (Multi-Family Residential, High Density)

Mr. Mattei reviews rezone request and text amendments following tabling of the issue at the last Council meeting. Staff is recommending approval and requesting authorization to publish in summary form.

Motion made by Councilor Adams, Second by Councilor Sutherland adopting City Ordinance 23-08-05, rezoning land from R-1 to R-4 of the official zoning map. Voting Yea: Mayor Christy, Councilor Adams, Councilor Sutherland

#### ENGINEERING PUBLIC WORKS:

21. Consider donating 6 cemetery plots to Grand Itasca Clinic & Hospital

Motion made by Councilor Connelly, Second by Councilor Adams to approve donation of six cemetery plots to Grand Itasca Clinic & Hospital. Voting Yea: Mayor Christy, Councilor Adams, Councilor Connelly, Councilor MacGregor, Councilor Sutherland

22. Consider entering into an agreement with Grand Rapids GM for EV charging sites

Motion made by Councilor Connelly, Second by Councilor MacGregor to approve agreement with Grand Rapids GM for Electric Vehicle Charging Sites. Voting Yea: Mayor Christy, Councilor Adams, Councilor Connelly, Councilor MacGregor, Councilor Sutherland

23. Consider entering into an agreement with Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce for an EV charging site

Mr. Wegwerth notes that the Depot Commons is the contractual party in the agreement, not Chamber of Commerce. Requests Council approval with the correction to contract to reflect correct contractual party.

Motion made by Councilor MacGregor, Second by Councilor Adams to approve agreement with Depot Commons for Electronic Vehicle Changer site and authorize updating agreement to reflect Depot Commons as contractual party and remove Chamber of Commerce as such. Voting Yea: Mayor Christy, Councilor Adams, Councilor Connelly, Councilor MacGregor, Councilor Sutherland

FIRE:

24. Consider allowing the Grand Rapids Fire department to enter into a Department of Defense Firefighter Program agreement for the purchase of a 2003 S150 Bobcat.

Motion made by Councilor Connelly, Second by Councilor Sutherland approving agreement with Department of Defense Firefighter program for purchase of 2003 S150 Bobcat. Voting Yea: Mayor Christy, Councilor Adams, Councilor Connelly, Councilor MacGregor, Councilor Sutherland

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

25. Conduct a Public Hearing approving a Street Reconstruction Plan and authorizing the issuance of General Obligation Street Reconstruction Bonds.

Mayor Christy stated the purpose of the public hearing. City Clerk Gibeau acknowledged that all required notifications were made and no correspondence was received by the Clerk's office.

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

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

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

FINANCE:

26. Consider adopting a resolution approving an Amended and Restated Street Reconstruction Plan and authorizing the issuance of General Obligation Street Reconstruction Bonds, Series 2023A.

Motion made by Councilor Connelly, Second by Councilor MacGregor to **adopt Resolution 23-57**, General Obligation Street Reconstruction Bonds as presented. Voting Yea: Mayor Christy, Councilor Adams, Councilor Connelly, Councilor MacGregor, Councilor Sutherland

27. Consider adopting a resolution providing for issuance and sale of General Obligation Utility Revenue Bonds, Series 2023B, in the proposed aggregate principal amount of \$6,200,000.

Rebecca Kurtz, Ehlers, notes that the maximum principal amount has been updated to \$4,755,000 from \$6,200,000.

Motion made by Councilor MacGregor, Second by Councilor Adams to **adopt Resolution 23-58**, General Obligation Utility Revenue Bonds, series 2023B, proposed maximum principal amount of \$4,755,000. Voting Yea: Mayor Christy, Councilor Adams, Councilor Connelly, Councilor MacGregor, Councilor Sutherland


28. Consider adopting a resolution authorizing the City to enter into a Credit Enhancement Program Agreement with the Minnesota Public Facilities Authority.

Motion made by Councilor Adams, Second by Councilor Sutherland to **adopt Resolution 23-59**, Credit Enhancement Program Agreement with MN Public Facilities Authority. Voting Yea: Mayor Christy, Councilor Adams, Councilor Connelly, Councilor MacGregor, Councilor Sutherland

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:21 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

  
Kimberly Gibeau, City Clerk