



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

CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Monday, August 14, 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, Rob Mattei, Barb Baird, Will Richter, Chery Pierzina

PUBLIC FORUM:

No one from the public wished to speak.

COUNCIL REPORTS:

No Council reports.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

1. Approve minutes for Monday, July 24, 2023 Worksession and Regular meetings and August 7, 2023 Special meeting.

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

VERIFIED CLAIMS:

2. Approve the verified claims for the period July 18, 2023 to August 7, 2023 in the total amount of \$3,632,906.92.

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

CONSENT AGENDA:

3. Consider approval of Change Order #1 for CP 2022-1, Hwy 2 Lighting.
4. Consider the termination and resignation of seasonal employees from Public Works.

5. Consider accepting the Fire Relief Association Schedule Form for Lump-Sum Pension reporting Year 2023, 2022 Financial Statements and authorize the budgeted \$5,000 contribution to the Fire Relief Association.
6. Consider approving the purchase and execution of a three- year agreement with ESRI for GIS ELA software.
7. Consider approving Collection of Local Sales & Use Tax Agreement
8. Consider approving Redpath and Company, LLC Engagement Letter dated August 3, 2023 for audit year ending December 31, 2023.
9. Consider Voiding Lost Accounts Payable Check and Issue a Replacement Check
10. Consider approving a property damage release with Qwest Corporation
11. Consider authorizing Mayor Christy to sign a Managed Account Program agreement with Marco for the library copier lease.
12. Consider the retirement of part-time employee, Kent Baril, from the Pokegama Golf Course.
13. Consider adopting a resolution vacating the plat of Forest Lake Addition recorded on July 13, 2023, as Document A000773304.

Adopted Resolution 23-50

14. Consider adopting a resolution accepting a Hazardous Materials Emergency Planning Grant

Adopted Resolution 23-51

15. Consider approving MAVO Systems proposal to remove paint containing asbestos in Room 128 of Civic Center
16. Consider authorizing staff to solicit quotes for rubber flooring and furniture at the Civic Center
17. Consider approving change order #3 for Becker Arena Products for dasher boards at the Civic Center.
18. Consider adopting a resolution calling for a Public Hearing relating to the issuance of Street Reconstruction Bonds.

Adopted Resolution 23-52

19. Consider approving change orders for Civic Center project.

Motion made by Councilor Sutherland, Second by Councilor MacGregor to approve the Consent agenda as presented. 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:

20. Consider appointment of Dan Swenson to the position of Assistant Community Development Director

Ms. Pierzina noted that the recruiting and interview process has been completed for the Assistant Community Development Director position and staff is recommending the appointment of Mr. Dan Swenson.

Motion made by Councilor Adams, Second by Councilor MacGregor to appoint Dan Swenson to the position of Assistant Community Development Director. Voting Yea: Mayor Christy, Councilor Adams, Councilor Connelly, Councilor MacGregor, Councilor Sutherland

21. Consider adopting an ordinance regulating public use of cannabis.

Motion made by Councilor Connelly, Second by Councilor Adams **adopting Ordinance 23-08-04**, regulating public use of cannabis. Voting Yea: Mayor Christy, Councilor Adams, Councilor Connelly, Councilor MacGregor, Councilor Sutherland

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:

22. Consider adopting a resolution regarding the approval of a DEED Minnesota Investment Fund (MIF) application by the Grand Rapids Economic Development Authority for the L&M Fleet Supply Distribution Center project

Motion made by Councilor Connelly, Second by Councilor Sutherland **adopting Resolution 23-53**, approving DEED Minnesota Investment Fund application for L&M Fleet Supply Distribution Center. Voting Yea: Mayor Christy, Councilor Adams, Councilor Connelly, Councilor MacGregor, Councilor Sutherland

23. Consider adopting a resolution regarding the support of a Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) Job Creation Fund application for the L&M Fleet Supply Distribution Center Project.

Motion made by Councilor Adams, Second by Councilor MacGregor **adopting Resolution 23-54**, supporting DEED Job Creation Fund application for L&M Fleet Supply Distribution Center Project. Voting Yea: Mayor Christy, Councilor Adams, Councilor Connelly, Councilor MacGregor, Councilor Sutherland

POLICE:

24. Consider adopting a resolution accepting reimbursement for computer tower from Joint Powers Agreement Minnesota Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force

Motion made by Councilor MacGregor, Second by Councilor Connelly **adopting Resolution 23-55**, accepting reimbursement for computer tower from JPA MN Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force. Voting Yea: Mayor Christy, Councilor Adams, Councilor Connelly, Councilor MacGregor, Councilor Sutherland

CITY COUNCIL:

25. Consider appointing applicant to the Human Rights Commission

Councilor Connelly notes that she conducted an interview and recommends appointment of Amy Blomquist.

Motion made by Councilor Connelly, Second by Councilor Adams to appoint Amy Blomquist to the Human Rights Commission with a term to expire March 1, 2024. Voting Yea: Mayor Christy, Councilor Adams, Councilor Connelly, Councilor MacGregor, Councilor Sutherland

26. Consider appointing applicant to the Grand Rapids Economic Development Authority

Mayor Christy presented information regarding vacancy, noting that he had interviewed Mr. Martinetto and recommended his appointment.

Motion made by Councilor Sutherland, Second by Councilor Connelly to appoint Bill Martinetto to the Grand Rapids Economic Development Authority with a term to expire March 1, 2029. Voting Yea: Mayor Christy, Councilor Adams, Councilor Connelly, Councilor MacGregor, Councilor Sutherland

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

27. Conduct a Public Hearing to consider the rezoning land from R-1 (One Family Residential) to R-4 (Multi-Family Residential, High Density)

Mr. Mattei provided background information for the requested rezoning.

Mayor Christy noted the purpose of the public hearing, declaring that this is the time and place for all those wishing to be heard to approach the Council. The City Clerk stated that all required notifications have been made and acknowledged correspondence received.

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

Russ Shields, 1616 Golf Course Road, voiced concerns, specifically traffic and storm sewer runoff.

Aaron Baker, 2101 Benson Lane, concerned about more large properties with floodlights surrounding private property.

Brian Vergin, 2199 Benson Lane, stated that if the rezone is granted, his home is within close proximity of property line and will see a loss of privacy and expressed concern for what type of structure may be built in the future. Recommend advising surrounding land owners prior to the Planning Commission meeting so resident concerns can be addressed prior to recommendation to Council.

Emily Baker, 2101 Benson Lane, concerned about disruption of natural habitat area for wildlife. There are also pedestrian issues concerning safety. Wondering what the goals for the neighborhood are and how will it impact the future of the area.

Lori Shields, 1616 Golf Course Road, states that all subject property was owned by her family and she had hoped to pass the remaining private property down to family. She also believes this is destroying wildlife habitat.

Councilor Connelly notes that she received correspondence and calls from area residents with concerns and recommends taking time to review the rezone more thoroughly prior to making a final determination.

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

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

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:

28. 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)

Discussed draft ordinance with findings of fact supporting the requested rezone. Mayor Christy explained the requirements for considerations in making the decision to approve or deny a rezone. The Council can determine their own findings of fact different from those of the Planning Commission. The request is currently under extension of 60 day rule which created a new deadline of October 3, 2023.

Motion made by Councilor Sutherland, Second by Councilor Connelly to table the adoption of an ordinance related to the requested rezone until Council meeting on August 28, 2023. Voting Yea: Mayor Christy, Councilor Connelly, Councilor MacGregor, Councilor Sutherland, Voting Nay: Councilor Adams

Prior to adjournment, Mayor Christy made a public service announcement advising that National Night Out has been rescheduled to August 31st.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:57 PM.

Respectfully submitted:


Kimberly Gibeau, City Clerk