



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

CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Monday, October 27, 2025

5:00 PM

Mayor Pro-Tem Blake called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM.

PRESENT: Councilor Molly MacGregor, Councilor Tom Sutherland, Councilor Rick Blake, Councilor Dan Mertes. ABSENT: Mayor Tasha Connelly.

STAFF: Tom Pagel, Kimberly Gibeau, Chad Sterle, Chery Pierzina, Amy Dettmer, Will Richter, Carl Babich, Andy Morgan, Kevin Ott

PROCLAMATIONS/PRESENTATIONS:

1. Proclaim October 23, 2025 "goMARTI Day"

The proclamation is read into the record.

POSITIVE HAPPENINGS IN THE CITY:

Mayor Pro-Tem Blake noted the October 20th Ribbon Cutting of Ice Swing Sculpture; acknowledged accomplishments for Grand Rapids sports teams; stated Central School is at 90% occupancy and acknowledged years of service for current employees.

PUBLIC FORUM:

No one from the public wished to speak.

COUNCIL REPORTS:

City Administrator Pagel provided an update on Hwy 169 expansion meeting.

Mayor Pro-tem Blake reviewed legislative issues and upcoming elections for 2026.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

2. Approve Council minutes for Tuesday, October 14, 2025 Regular meeting.

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

VERIFIED CLAIMS:

3. Approve the verified claims for the period October 7, 2025 to October 20, 2025 in the total amount of \$1,373,317.33.

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

CONSENT AGENDA:

4. Consider approving revised starting date for seasonal employee, Jim Columbus.
5. Consider approving Maintenance – Winter (Public Works) rehires for the 2025-2026 Winter season.
6. Consider hiring and rehiring PT and Seasonal Civic Center Employees.
7. Consider approving 3.2 On-sale license for My Place Hotel
8. Consider approving 2026 liquor license renewals.
9. Consider Voiding Lost Accounts Payable Check and Issue Replacement Check.
10. Consider authorizing the sale of surplus golf maintenance equipment through the sealed bid process.
11. Adopt a Resolution Accepting a State of MN Grant in the amount of \$7,836.00 for the Vehicle Gate Replacement Project at the Grand Rapids/Itasca County Airport

Adopted Resolution 25-70

12. Consider approving new On-Sale Wine License and 3.2 On-sale beer license for Fuji Grand Rapids MN.

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

SET REGULAR AGENDA:

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

ADMINISTRATION:

13. Consider resignation from Christa Roerick from her positions at the Grand Rapids Area Library effective October 31, 2025.

Motion made by Councilor MacGregor, Second by Councilor Mertes to accept the resignation of Christa Roerick and authorize posting the position. Voting Yea: Councilor MacGregor, Councilor Sutherland, Councilor Blake, Councilor Mertes

POLICE:

14. Consider adopting a resolution accepting donations from the Blandin Foundation for 2025 National Night Out.

Motion made by Councilor Sutherland, Second by Councilor Mertes to **adopt Resolution 25-71**, accepting 2025 National Night Out donation. Voting Yea: Councilor MacGregor, Councilor Sutherland, Councilor Blake, Councilor Mertes

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

15. Conduct a Public Hearing to consider the adoption of an Ordinance amending and updating sections of Chapter 30 Land Development Regulations and Chapter 14 Businesses.

Will Richter provides overview of recommended amendments.

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

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

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

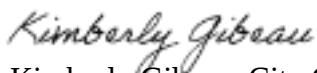
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:

16. Consider the recommendation of the Planning Commission regarding the adoption of an Ordinance amending and updating sections of Chapter 30 Land Development Regulations and Chapter 14 Businesses.

Motion made by Councilor Mertes, Second by Councilor MacGregor to **adopt City Ordinance 25-10-03**, amending Chapters 30 and 14 of the Grand Rapids Municipal Code. Voting Yea: Councilor MacGregor, Councilor Sutherland, Councilor Blake, Councilor Mertes

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:27 PM.

Respectfully submitted:



Kimberly Gibeau, City Clerk