



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

CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Monday, December 04, 2023

6:45 PM

Mayer Christy called the meeting to order at 6:58 PM.

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

STAFF: Tom Pagel, Chad Sterle, Barb Baird, Matt Wegwerth, Chery Pierzina, Dan Swenson, Will Richter, Andy Morgan, Erik Scott, Dale Anderson, Travis Cole, Jon Peterson

PUBLIC FORUM:

No one from the public wished to speak.

COUNCIL REPORTS:

Councilor Adams mentioned the upcoming annual RAMS Dinner on Dec. 14th, inviting others to join him.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

1. Approve Council minutes for Monday, November 27, 2023, Worksession & Regular meetings.

Motion made by Councilor Connelly, Seconded 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 November 21, 2023, to November 27, 2023, in the total amount of \$341,706.95.

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

CONSENT AGENDA:

3. Consider authorizing quotes and the purchase of a UTV for the Public Works Department

4. Consider authorizing quotes and the purchase of a Motor Grader for the Public Works Department
5. Consider the purchase of a Snowplow Truck Chassis for the Public Works Department
6. Consider approving the purchase of one (1) Axon Squad Camera, six (6) Axon Tasers five (5) Axon Body Cameras with associated licenses.
7. Consider adopting a resolution accepting a \$6,600 grant from the Minnesota Board of Firefighter Training and Education for the Grand Rapids Fire Department.

Adopted Resolution 23-88

8. Consider approving a Grant Application to MPCA
9. Consider approving change orders for Civic Center/Yanmar Arena.
- 9a. Consider approving Temporary Liquor permit for MacRostie Art Center event, scheduled for January 5th, 2024.

Motion made by Councilor Connelly, Seconded by Councilor Adams to approve the Consent agenda as read. Voting Yea: Mayor Christy, Councilor Adams, Councilor Connelly, Councilor MacGregor, Councilor Sutherland

SET REGULAR AGENDA:

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

ADMINISTRATION:

10. Consider appointment of Thomas Beaudry to the position of Director of Golf.

Ms. Pierzina presented background information on vacant Director of Golf position and recommendation to appoint Thomas Beaudry.

Motion made by Councilor Adams, Seconded by Councilor Connelly to appoint Thomas Beaudry to the position of Director of Golf. Voting Yea: Mayor Christy, Councilor Adams, Councilor Connelly, Councilor MacGregor, Councilor Sutherland

ARENA, PARKS & RECREATION:

11. Consider entering into a Cleaning Services Agreement with Northwoods Cleaning Company at Yanmar Arena.

Motion made by Councilor Connelly, Seconded by Councilor Adams to approve Cleaning Services Agreement with Northwoods Cleaning Company at Yanmar Arena. Voting Yea:

Mayor Christy, Councilor Adams, Councilor Connelly, Councilor MacGregor, Councilor Sutherland

PUBLIC HEARINGS: Truth in Taxation 7:00 PM

12. Conduct a Public Hearing on 2023 Levy Payable in 2024 and 2024 budget at 7:00 p.m.as stated in the Truth in Taxation Statements

Tom Pagel, City Administrator, presented tax information.

- Proposed tax levy and budget for 2024.
- Items which may impact your property taxes
- What taxes pay.
- Residential Estimated Market Values (EMV's)
- State Rebate

Dan Swenson, Ass. Comm. Dev. Director discussed role of County Assessor.

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

John Illies, 1229 Horseshoe Lake Rd., voicing his concern and complaint about the increase of taxes.

Bill Kirkpatrick, 716 NW 3rd Ave., concerns with the rise of property taxes. Wants to know what can be done to get a tax freeze for retired and fixed income citizens and how to help in lowering property taxes.


Renee Ducharme, 706 SW 5th Ave., concerns over the value of her home increasing significantly.

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

Comments concerning the public hearing made by Mayor Christy, Councilor Connelly, Councilor Sutherland, Dan Swenson, Councilor MacGregor

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted:



Amanda Mitchell, Administrative Assistant