



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

## **CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

**Monday, August 09, 2021**

**5:00 PM**

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

### **CALL OF ROLL:**

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

**Others present:** Barb Baird, Tom Pagel, Chad Sterle, Erik Scott, Lasha Karels, Kevin Ott, Lynn DeGrio, Jeremy Nelson, Steve Schaar, Matt Wegwerth

### **PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS**

1. Conduct Oath of Office for Steve Schaar, Chief of Police

Mayor Christy conducts swearing in for Chief of Police Steve Schaar.

2. Storm Update

Police Chief Steve Schaar provides update on storm operations, including available FEMA funds, power outage restoration, damage to homes and debriefing to review situation, response and determine areas for improvement.

### **PUBLIC FORUM:**

None.

### **COUNCIL REPORTS:**

Mayor Christy acknowledges City staff for response to severe storm damage, safety efforts and clean up.

Councilor Connelly notes vacancy on Human Rights Commission and encourages people to apply.

Councilor Blake advises that Thursday, August 12th is Senior Day at the IRA Civic Center Pavilion and individuals ages 60+ can pick up free lunch. Noted quick response of utility repair.

Councilor Adams acknowledges Tall Timber Days committee for a successful event.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

3. Motion made by Councilor Connelly, Second by Councilor Toven to approve Council minutes for July 26, 2021 Worksession & Regular meetings. Voting Yea: Mayor Christy, Councilor Adams, Councilor Toven, Councilor Blake, Councilor Connelly

VERIFIED CLAIMS:

4. Consider approving the verified claims for the period of July 20, 2021 to August 2, 2021 in the total amount of \$1,203,358.21.

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

CONSENT AGENDA:

5. Void Lost Accounts Payable Check and Issue a Replacement Check
6. Consider adopting a resolution to accept the Corona Virus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund established under the American Rescue Plan Act.  
  
Adopted Resolution 21-64
7. Approve temporary liquor license for Grand Rapids Area Community Foundation, event on September 3, 2021.
8. Adopt a Resolution Accepting an FAA Grant in the amount of \$109,370 for the Beacon Replacement Project at the Grand Rapids/Itasca County Airport and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to execute.  
  
Adopted Resolution 21-65
9. Consider approving Public Works to advertise for bids on the sale of timber.
10. Consider entering into a software agreement with FinnlyTech Software for scheduling software for the IRA Civic Center/Parks & Recreation department.
11. Consider approving and signing New Fire Hall service agreement with Aramark for doormats and cleaning equipment maintenance.
12. Consider approving change orders for New Fire Hall.

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

SET REGULAR AGENDA:

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

ADMINISTRATION:

13. Approve Early Retirement Incentive Agreements

Administrator Pagel provides information regarding agreements with two individuals that have applied for the early retirement program, succession planning and filling necessary positions.

Motion made by Councilor Connelly, Second by Councilor Adams to approve ERIP Agreements with Kelly Morris and Randy Myhrer as presented. Voting Yea: Mayor Christy, Councilor Adams, Councilor Toven, Councilor Blake, Councilor Connelly

14. Consider appointment of Public Works Lead Mechanic and authorize filling the Mechanic position.

Ms. DeGrio, Director of Human Resources, presented recommendation to advance Charles Bruemmer to the Lead Mechanic position and requested authorization to begin the process of hiring a Mechanic to begin November 1, 2021.

Motion made by Councilor Blake, Second by Councilor Toven to approve advancement of Charles Bruemmer to the position of Lead Mechanic beginning November 1, 2021 and authorized staff to begin process for filling position of Mechanic. Voting Yea: Mayor Christy, Councilor Adams, Councilor Toven, Councilor Blake, Councilor Connelly

15. Restructuring of the Grand Rapids Police Department

Ms. Degrio reviewed recommended changes to organizational structure in the Police Department, including replacing position of Assistant Chief of Police with two Captain positions and eliminate a Sergeant position.

Motion made by Councilor Toven, Second by Councilor Connelly to approve restructure of Police Department, approve job description for Captains and begin the process of filling the positions.  
Voting Yea: Mayor Christy, Councilor Adams, Councilor Toven, Councilor Blake, Councilor Connelly

16. Consider hiring Susan Herreid, Organizational Development Consultant, for conflict resolution at the Library.

Motion made by Councilor Connelly, Second by Councilor Adams to hire Susan Herreid for conflict resolution at the Library. Voting Yea: Mayor Christy, Councilor Adams, Councilor Toven, Councilor Blake, Councilor Connelly

ENGINEERING PUBLIC WORKS:

17. Consider adopting an ordinance approving a 15 year franchise agreement with Paul Bunyan Rural Telephone Cooperative.

Motion made by Councilor Blake, Second by Councilor Toven adopting Ordinance 21-08-06, approving franchise agreement with Paul Bunyan Rural Telephone. Voting Yea: Mayor Christy, Councilor Adams, Councilor Toven, Councilor Blake, Councilor Connelly

FINANCE:

18. Consider adopting a resolution awarding the sale of \$1,235,000 Taxable General Obligation Utility Revenue Refunding Bonds, Series 2021C.

Rebecca Kurtz, representing Ehlers, presented bid results and recommends approval.

Motion made by Councilor Blake, Second by Councilor Connelly to adopt Resolution 21-66, awarding the the sale of \$1,235,000 Taxable General Obligation Utility Revenue Refunding Bonds, Series 2021C.

Voting Yea: Mayor Christy, Councilor Adams, Councilor Toven, Councilor Blake, Councilor Connelly

19. Consider approving the Advance Refunding Escrow Agreement for the Taxable General Obligation Utility Revenue Bonds, Series 2013C.

Motion made by Councilor Connelly, Second by Councilor Adams to approve Advance Refunding Escrow Agreement for Taxable General Obligation Utility Revenue Bonds, Series 2013C. Voting Yea: Mayor Christy, Councilor Adams, Councilor Toven, Councilor Blake, Councilor Connelly

20. Consider adopting a resolution approving Demand Charge Agreement and authorize and direct the Mayor and City Clerk to execute the agreement.

Motion made by Councilor Toven, Second by Councilor Blake to adopt Resolution 21-67 approving Demand Charge Agreement and approved execution of agreement. Voting Yea: Mayor Christy, Councilor Adams, Councilor Toven, Councilor Blake, Councilor Connelly

POLICE:

21. Consider a request by the Police Department to purchase and approve payment for one (1) 2021 Ford Police Interceptor Utility vehicle from Ten Voorde Ford of St. Cloud for \$36,018.24

Motion made by Councilor Adams, Second by Councilor Connelly approving purchase and payment for 2021 For Police Interceptor utility vehicle from Ten Voorde Ford for \$36,018.24. Voting Yea: Mayor Christy, Councilor Adams, Councilor Toven, Councilor Blake, Councilor Connelly

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted:

*Kim Gibeau*  
Kimberly Gibeau, City Clerk