

**APPROVED  
MINUTES OF THE  
OF THE  
EAST GRAND FORKS  
CITY COUNCIL  
TUESDAY, AUGUST 9, 2011 – 5:00 PM**

**CALL TO ORDER**

*The Work Session of the East Grand Forks City Council for August 9, 2011 was called to order by Craig Buckalew, Council President at 5:00 P.M.*

**CALL OF ROLL**

*On a Call of Roll the following members of the East Grand Forks City Council were present: Mayor Lynn Stauss, Council President Craig Buckalew, Council Members Marc DeMers, Ron Vonasek, Henry Tweten, Mike Pokrzywinski, and Greg Leigh.*

**STAFF PRESENT**

*Dave Aker, Parks & Recreation Superintendent; Greg Boppre, City Engineer; Dan Boyce, Water & Light Manager; Michelle French, Executive Assistant; Ron Galstad, City Attorney; Randy Gust, Fire Chief; Mike Hedlund, Police Chief; Charlotte Helgeson, Library Director; Scott Huizenga, City Administrator; Jim Richter, EDHA Director; and John Wachter, Public Works Superintendent.*

**DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM**

**1. 2<sup>nd</sup> Qtr Analysis – Erin Johnson**

Ms Johnson gave a brief presentation on the FY 2011 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Analysis on the general fund and special revenue. Ms Johnson briefly went through the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter and the projection for the entire year, summary of general fund revenues, general fund expenses, and special revenue funds.

**2. Municipal State Aid System Revision – 15<sup>th</sup> St. SE – Greg Boppre**

Mr. Boppre stated that the City currently has .33 miles that could be added to the State Aid System. He suggested adding 15<sup>th</sup> Street NE, from TH220 to 5<sup>th</sup> Ave. NE which is .33 miles. City Council recommended that this be added to Council for approval.

Council Member Tweten suggested repairing the Civic Center parking lot. Mr. Huizenga stated that Mr. Aker is currently getting quotes. Council Member Pokrzywinski asked if there are any other areas that would qualify to be added to the State Aid Route.

**3. Coalition of Greater Minnesota Cities Legislative Update – JD Burton, Attorney, Flaherty & Hood**

JD Burton, Attorney from Flaherty & Hood, thanked the City of East Grand Forks for being a member of the Coalition. He provided the Council with a legislative update regarding Local Government Aid (LGA), EDA programs, and transit.

**4. Presentation of Friend of the Coalition award to Grand Forks-East Grand Forks Chamber of Commerce - JD Burton and Barry Wilfahrt**

JD Burton presented the “Friend of the Coalition” award to the Grand Forks-East Grand Forks Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Wilfahrt thanked Mr. Huizenga for all his involvement.

**5. Fixed Route & Paratransit/Senior Rider 2012 Mn/Dot Contract Application & Sidewalk Project – Teri Kouba**

Ms Kouba stated that the City has entered into a contract with MnDot every year for the City to provide fixed route and paratransit/senior rider service. The contracts are required to receive state funds to help with the operating budget. The state has not indicated budget impacts but she feels that it will decrease 10%-15%. She suggested increasing the federal budget to off-set any possible State reduction and obligate towards two years of operating to allow budget flexibility. Discussion occurred regarding the capital projects such as improving shelters and extending sidewalks to and from the shelter near Northland Community & Technical College. Discussion occurred regarding other possible projects.

**6. 2011-2012 Figure Skating Fees – Dave Aker**

Mr. Aker asked City Council to amend the figure skating fees for the 2011-2012 season to help reduce costs and increase participation. Council Member Leigh asked what the projected fee schedule would bring in for revenues. Mr. Huizenga stated that he budgeted about \$20,000. Mayor Stauss, Council Member Leigh, and Council Member Tweten recommended lowering the fees. Council Member DeMers suggested eliminating the fees and increase taxes. Discussion occurred regarding the expenses versus revenues with both hockey and figure skating. Figure skating parents expressed their concern regarding the increase in fees and the lack of ice-time. Mr. Aker will draft a resolution based on the fee discussion.

**7. Water & Light Franchise Ordinance – Ron Galstad**

Mr. Galstad stated that this is a formality to grant five years to the agreement. He stated that rates are set by resolution. This item will be referred to City Council for action.

**ADJOURN**

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER TWETEN, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER LEIGH, TO ADJOURN THE AUGUST 9, 2011 WORK SESSION OF THE EAST GRAND FORKS, MINNESOTA CITY COUNCIL AT 6:30 P.M.**

*Voting Aye: Tweten, Leigh, Pokrzywinski, DeMers, Vonasek, and Buckalew.*

*Voting Nay: None.*

*Absent: Gregoire.*

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Scott Huizenga, City Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer