

**APPROVED
MINUTES OF THE
OF THE
EAST GRAND FORKS
CITY COUNCIL
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2011 – 4:00 PM**

CALL TO ORDER

The Work Session of the East Grand Forks City Council for November 8, 2011 was called to order by Craig Buckalew, Council President at 4:00 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 Vice-President Wayne Gregoire, Council Members Marc DeMers, Ron Vonasek, Henry Tweten, Mike Pokrzywinski, and Greg Leigh.

STAFF PRESENT:

Dave Aker, Parks & Recreation Superintendent; Karla Anderson, Finance Director; Greg Boppre, City Engineer; Nancy Ellis, Planning & Zoning; Michelle French, Executive Assistant; Ron Galstad, City Attorney; Randy Gust, Fire Chief; Mike Hedlund, Police Chief; Charlotte Helgeson, Library Director; Scott Huizenga, City Administrator; and Jim Richter, EDHA Director.

DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM

1. Speed Study – Nancy Ellis

Ms Ellis presented the results from the speed study conducted on Bygland Road from October 5, 2011 to October 7, 2011. Ms Ellis stated that the speed counter placed just south of the VFW Arena averaged 31-32 mph heading southbound and average speed heading northbound was 33 mph.

Council Member DeMers stated that he was not in favor of the increase because of the 3 to 3.5 second intervals between vehicles and the residential housing along Bygland Road. Council Member Leigh stated that he didn't think the 35 mph was out of range. Chief Hedlund had discussion in the Police Department and they felt that 35 mph would be safe but 40-42 mph wouldn't be. He stated that if you increase the speed limit, they will always go 5 mph faster. Mayor Stauss also agreed with keeping the same speed limit.

2. Development Ordinance – Nancy Ellis

Ms Ellis presented the proposed developers agreements and ordinance. She stated that she has been working with the Planning Commission, Mr. Galstad, and Mr. Boppre. She presented two Developers Agreements and Ordinance. The first option is to develop in phases with two options for developers finance and the ability to hire their own contractors or the City can special assess. The second option states that the road must be in place within three years from when the plat was recorded.

Council Member Leigh asked how this compared with other cities. Ms Ellis stated that some cities require the road to be in place before the first building permit is issued. Mr. Boppre announced that the City is always willing to work with the developer and not be too restrictive and he feels these options do just that. Ms Ellis suggested holding a public hearing to adopt the ordinance. Mr. Galstad stated that he had some minor language changes on the ordinance.

3. Municipal State Aid System Advance – Greg Boppre

Mr. Boppre announced that MnDot is encouraging communities to advance State Aid Funds because they have a fund balance that is above the acceptable level. He recommended advancing State Aid funds to replace 15th Street NE. Discussion continued regarding upcoming projects.

4. Truck Driver Roster – John Wachter

Mr. Huizenga announced that with the upcoming retirements in the Public Works Department, he suggested establishing a roster. This item will be referred to City Council for action.

5. City Logo on Fleet – Mayor Stauss

Bob Bydal, Bydal Signs, suggested a consistency with the City logo on vehicles, stationary, signs, flyers, etc. Council Member Leigh expressed his concern with the funding of this project and he isn't sure if the tax payer would like to do this type of project. Council Member DeMers stated that there is no uniformity. Council President Buckalew will appoint a committee with Council Members and staff to work on this project.

6. Budget – Scott Huizenga

Mr. Huizenga gave a brief presentation on the capital improvement program and highlighted changes made to the proposed budget. Discussion occurred regarding the Market Value Homestead Credit. Mr. Huizenga recommended a 0% increase which would create a \$50,000 surplus.

7. Other

Mayor Stauss announced that Senator Klobuchar will be at City Hall on Saturday, November 12th at 12:30 pm if anyone is interested in attending.

ADJOURN

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER LEIGH, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER POKRZYWINSKI, TO ADJOURN THE NOVEMBER 8, 2011 WORK SESSION OF THE EAST GRAND FORKS, MINNESOTA CITY COUNCIL AT 5:58 P.M.

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

Voting Nay: None.

Scott Huizenga, City Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer