

**APPROVED
MINUTES OF THE
OF THE
EAST GRAND FORKS
CITY COUNCIL
TUESDAY, MARCH 20, 2012 – 5:00 PM**

CALL TO ORDER:

The Regular Meeting of the East Grand Forks City Council for March 20, 2012 was called to order by Council President Buckalew at 5:02 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; Brad Bail, City Engineer; Dan Boyce, Water & Light Manager; 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; Jim Richter, EDHA Director; and Jason Stordahl, Public Works Director.

DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM:

The Council President Determined a Quorum was present

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

OPEN FORUM:

“An opportunity for members of the public to address the City Council on items not on the current Agenda. Items requiring Council action maybe deferred to staff or Boards and Commissions for research and future Council Agendas if appropriate.” If you would like to address the City Council, please come up to the podium to do so.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

1. Consider approving the minutes of the “Regular Meeting” for the East Grand Forks, Minnesota City Council of March 6, 2012.
2. Consider approving the minutes of the “Work Session” for the East Grand Forks, Minnesota City Council of March 13, 2012.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER LEIGH, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER POKRZYWINSKI, TO APPROVE ITEMS ONE (1) AND TWO (2).

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

Voting Nay: None.

SCHEDULED BID LETTINGS:

3. Consider approving the request to declare a 1987 John Deere 770 B grader and award the bid for 2012 Volvo G946B Motor Grader to Swanston Equipment Companies for \$227,881.02 plus warranty for \$9,100.00.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER LEIGH, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER DEMERS, TO APPROVE THE REQUEST TO DECLARE A 1987 JOHN DEERE 770 B GRADER AND AWARD THE BID FOR 2012 VOLVO G946B MOTOR GRADER TO SWANSTON EQUIPMENT COMPANIES FOR \$227,881.02 PLUS WARRANTY FOR \$9,100.00.

Council Member Gregoire asked Mr. Stordahl why we were not going with the lowest bid. Mr. Stordahl explained the difference between all three bids and he stated that he spoke with counties, cities, staff, and MnDot who has Volvo motor graders. Council Member DeMers announced that Mr. Stordahl did a lot of research and we should go with the recommendations of staff. He also announced that according to the Statute, since we are going with the state buying bid, we do not need to go with the cheapest option. Mr. Galstad informed City Council that Mr. Stordahl did follow the policy.

Voting Aye: Leigh, Pokrzywinski, DeMers, and Buckalew.

Voting Nay: Tweten and Gregoire.

Abstain: Vonasek.

SCHEDULED PUBLIC HEARINGS:

4. Public Hearing to approve the proposed improvements for “2012 Assessment Job No. 1 – Street Reconstruction – 15th Street NE”.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER LEIGH, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER DEMERS, TO OPEN THE PUBLIC HEARING.

Mr. Bail announced that the total estimated cost of the project is \$949,533 and only 30% would be assessed based on the new policy. Mr. Bail announced that this project does not include 2nd Ave. NE. A business owner stated that she owns a vacant lot that she wanted to put up a business but due to City Codes, she isn't able to open her business. She also mentioned that accesses to all businesses are through the alley. Council Member Leigh stated that the City needs to work with businesses who want to come to town.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER LEIGH, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER DEMERS, TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING.

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

Voting Nay: None.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Items under the "Consent Agenda" will be adopted with one motion; however, council members may request individual items to be pulled from the consent agenda for discussion and action if they choose.

Mr. Huizenga asked that item number six be pulled for discussion.

5. Consider adopting Resolution No. 12-03-32 a Resolution to support Waste Management and Recyclebank 2012 50 State Challenge.
6. Consider adopting Resolution No. 12-03-33 a Resolution adjusting waste water rates effective April 1, 2012.

Mr. Huizenga provided a revised draft. He announced that the rates were miscalculated. Council Member Leigh stated that the idea of this resolution was to create a fund for the Interconnect Project and he would suggest changing the resolution to "would".

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER LEIGH, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER DEMERS, TO AMEND THE RESOLUTION TO "WOULD".

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

Voting Nay: None.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER GREGOIRE, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER DEMERS, TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 12-03-33 A RESOLUTION ADJUSTING WASTE WATER RATES EFFECTIVE APRIL 1, 2012.

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

Voting Nay: None.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER GREGOIRE, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER DEMERS, TO APPROVE CONSENT MOTIONS NUMBER FIVE (5) AS SUBMITTED.

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

Voting Nay: None.

ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF REPORTS OF OFFICERS, BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:

7. Regular meeting minutes of the Water, Light, Power and Building Commission for February 16, 2012.

COMMUNICATIONS:

8. Acknowledging the retirement of Tim Johnson effective March 31, 2012.

Mr. Stordahl announced that Mr. Johnson has been with the City of East Grand Forks for 16 ½ years.

OLD BUSINESS:

9. Consider adopting Resolution No. 12-03-28 a Resolution declaring adequacy of petition, filing the report of feasibility, and set public hearing for properties along Greenway Boulevard and 13th Street SE.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER GREGOIRE, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER LEIGH, TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 12-03-28 A RESOLUTION DECLARING ADEQUACY OF PETITION, FILING THE REPORT OF FEASIBILITY, AND SET PUBLIC HEARING FOR PROPERTIES ALONG GREENWAY BOULEVARD AND 13TH STREET SE.

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

Voting Nay: None.

Abstain: Tweten.

NEW BUSINESS:

10. Consider approving the request to hire Jason Stordahl to fill the vacancy of Public Works Director.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER POKRZYWINSKI, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER DEMERS, TO APPROVE THE REQUEST TO HIRE JASON STORDAHL TO FILL THE VACANCY OF PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR.

Mr. Huizenga announced that he is happy to make the recommendation to hire Mr. Stordahl. City Council congratulated Mr. Stordahl.

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

Voting Nay: None.

11. Consider adopting Resolution No. 12-03-34 a Resolution ordering improvements and preparation of plans and specifications for “2012 Assessment Job No. 1 – Street Reconstruction – 15th Street NE”.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER LEIGH, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER POKRZYWINSKI, TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 12-03-34 A RESOLUTION ORDERING IMPROVEMENTS AND PREPARATION OF PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS FOR “2012 ASSESSMENT JOB NO. 1 – STREET RECONSTRUCTION – 15TH STREET NE”.

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

Voting Nay: None.

12. Consider approving the request to authorize FS Engineering to proceed with the ICON Pavement Management up to \$50,000.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER POKRZYWINSKI, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER GREGOIRE, TO APPROVE THE REQUEST TO AUTHORIZE FS ENGINEERING TO PROCEED WITH THE ICON PAVEMENT MANAGEMENT UP TO \$50,000.

Council Member Leigh announced that this is a reasonable fee and it's a good time to move away from paper. He felt this would be a great management tool. Council Member Tweten felt that the City should save money and have this project done in house. Mayor Stauss announced that he would like to see what other communities use this software. Council Member DeMers stated that this is a good tool to help make decisions. Mr. Bail informed City Council that the software will say why the street is in bad shape.

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

Voting Nay: Tweten.

13. Consider approving the request to award the quote to Midwest Playscapes, Inc for playground equipment and pea rock for a total amount of \$29,684.97.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER LEIGH, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER VONASEK, TO APPROVE THE REQUEST TO AWARD THE QUOTE TO MIDWEST PLAYSCAPES, INC FOR PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT AND PEA ROCK FOR A TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$29,684.97.

Mr. Aker announced that a committee has met to discuss three possible locations.

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

Voting Nay: None.

CLAIMS:

14. Consider adopting Resolution No. 12-03-35 a Resolution authorizing the City of East Grand Forks to approve purchases from Bert's Truck Equipment the goods referenced in check numbers 12288 for a total of \$295.06 whereas Council Member Gregoire is personally interested financially in the contract.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER LEIGH, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER DEMERS, TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 12-03-35 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF EAST GRAND FORKS TO APPROVE PURCHASES FROM BERT'S TRUCK EQUIPMENT THE GOODS REFERENCED IN CHECK NUMBERS 12288 FOR A TOTAL OF \$295.06 WHEREAS COUNCIL MEMBER GREGOIRE IS PERSONALLY INTERESTED FINANCIALLY IN THE CONTRACT.

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

Voting Nay: None.

Abstain: Gregoire.

15. Consider adopting Resolution No. 12-03-36 a Resolution authorizing the City of East Grand Forks to approve purchases from Hardware Hank the goods referenced in check numbers 12321 for a total of \$930.43 whereas Council Member Buckalew is personally interested financially in the contract.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER POKRZYWINSKI, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER VONASEK, TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 12-03-36 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF EAST GRAND FORKS TO APPROVE PURCHASES FROM HARDWARE HANK THE GOODS REFERENCED IN CHECK NUMBERS 12321 FOR A TOTAL OF \$930.43 WHEREAS COUNCIL MEMBER BUCKALEW IS PERSONALLY INTERESTED FINANCIALLY IN THE CONTRACT.

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

Voting Nay: None.

Abstain: Buckalew.

16. Consider authorizing the City Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer to issue payment of recommended bills and payroll.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER GREGOIRE, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER POKRZYWINSKI, TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR/CLERK-TREASURER TO ISSUE PAYMENT OF RECOMMENDED BILLS AND PAYROLL.

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

Voting Nay: None.

COUNCIL/STAFF REPORTS:

Mayor Stauss thanked Grand Forks for the invite on the Impossible Mission to be Stronger and better after the flood in recovery.

Council Member DeMers stated that the Mayor did a great job on his speech.

Council Member Pokrzywinski reminded City Council that Chief Hedlund will be dancing on April 10th.

ADJOURN:

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER POKRZYWINSKI, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER GREGOIRE, TO ADJOURN THE MARCH 20, 2012 REGULAR MEETING OF THE EAST GRAND FORKS, MINNESOTA CITY COUNCIL AT 6:07 P.M.

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

Voting Nay: None.

Scott Huizenga, City Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer