

**APPROVED
MINUTES OF THE
OF THE
EAST GRAND FORKS
CITY COUNCIL
TUESDAY, APRIL 24, 2012 – 5:00 PM**

CALL TO ORDER

The Work Session of the East Grand Forks City Council for April 24, 2012 was called to order by Wayne Gregoire, Council Vice-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 Vice-President Wayne Gregoire, Council Members Marc DeMers, Ron Vonasek, 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; Charlotte Helgeson, Library Director; Scott Huizenga, City Administrator; Jim Richter, EDHA Director; and Jason Stordahl, Public Works Director.

DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM

1. 15th Street NE – Greg Boppre

Mr. Boppre recommended filing plans and specs at next City Council meeting. He gave a brief update of the tentative dates. This item will be referred to Council for action.

2. Waste Water Phase II Peer Review – Mayor Stauss

Mayor Stauss suggested that the City Council get another opinion on the Waste Water Interconnect Study. The cost would be \$5,000. He has been contacting legislatures to put money aside to help small cities.

Council Member Leigh stated that we should have another opinion based on magnitude. Council Member Pokrzywinski has no problem with another opinion but we don't know anything about this company. Mr. Huizenga talked to them a number of times but never did background checks. The MPCA has used them before and they have four sites within the U.S. Boppre stated that he has no problem with another opinion however; the permit runs out in 2016.

Demers asked what the original scope was of this agreement. Mr. Huizenga stated that it was about \$22,000 but once they seen the work that has been done, it was renegotiated.

3. 23rd Street Speed Study – Scott Huizenga

Mr. Huizenga stated that MnDot did a brief study and authorized Council to move the speed limit to 35 mph. Council Member Leigh stated that the original request came from a resident. Council Vice-President Gregorie stated that he will vote against it and if approved resident will go 40 mph. This item will be referred to Council for action.

4. Playground Equipment – Dave Aker

Mr. Aker provided a map of the possible locations and reasons why he still suggests O'Leary Park. Council Member Leigh asked if the school location was looked at and if he talked to the school about a cooperative venture. Mr. Aker stated that he did not. No Council action needed.

5. MPO Board Update – Council Member Leigh/Council Member Pokrzywinski

Council Member Leigh stated that Mr. Haugen provided an excellent packet for everyone to review. He stated that the transit plan is in the process of updating. Council Member Leigh explained the current projects such as a mill and overlay on 4th Ave S in Grand Forks; sidewalk on the west side of Bygland Road, long range transportation plan, and Central and Hwy 2 pedestrian isle redone this summer.

Mr. Haugen stated that the MPO will be looking at connecting Central Avenue with Bygland Road in the future. Council Member Pokrzywinski announced that it's a lot to learn and the resources that the MPO provides. Mr. Haugen informed City Council of the upcoming study with the bridges. He stated that this will help with the future planning needs between the cities. Council Member Pokrzywinski stated that the future of a fourth bridge is still an issue and it is in Grand Forks court. Mr. Haugen stated that in 2016 the Kennedy Bridge will be receiving a rehab or replacement. 2018 is the Sorlie Bridge will be replaced or rehab however it is historical and there is discussion on preserving it.

ADJOURN

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER POKRZYWINSKI, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER DEMERS, TO ADJOURN THE APRIL 24, 2012 WORK SESSION OF THE EAST GRAND FORKS, MINNESOTA CITY COUNCIL AT 5:48 P.M.

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

Voting Nay: None.

Absent: Buckalew and Tweten.

Scott Huizenga, City Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer