

**APPROVED
MINUTES OF THE
EAST GRAND FORKS
CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION
SEPTEMBER 25, 2012
5:00 PM**

CALL TO ORDER

The Work Session of the East Grand Forks City Council for September 25, 2012 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 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; Brad Bail, City Engineer; Ron Galstad, City Attorney; Charlotte Helgeson, Library Director; Gary Larson, Interim Fire Chief; Megan Nelson, Administrative Assistant; Randy Rapacz, Water Plant Superintendent; Jim Richter, EDHA Director; and Jason Stordahl, Public Works Superintendent.

DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM:

1. BCTGM Local 167G Application for Private Use of Public Streets – Ron Galstad

Mr. Galstad informed the council that if this application is approved it will create many different issues such as liability concerns, safety issues, and maintenance issues for the city. He continued that there are other ways this group would be able to obtain a place to park their shelters. The discussion continued with concerns of the council members about these different issues and how using private alternatives might be better for the BCTGM Local 167G group applying for this permit.

2. Request for Removal of Right Turning Lane on DeMers and 4th St – Greg Boppre

A request to remove the right turning lane from the in front of the DeMers Building was brought before the council. Jack Gregoire made this request to the council because most of the Demers Building front is taken up by a turning lane. Currently they are running out of parking spaces and if this request was granted they would be able to have a few more on the street. Mr. Bail explained to the council the three different options that could be done and the implications of each. The council also discussed if parking should have a time limit for the new and existing parking spaces. Most of the council seemed in favor of a trial run of shortening the right turning

lane allowing more parking spaces.

3. Spring and Fall Residential Clean-up – Jason Stordahl

Mr. Stordahl presented the council different options that could be taken with spring and fall clean-up. He also presented them with the costs of disposal of the waste collected during clean-up week and reasons why in the past apartment buildings have not been included in the clean-up weeks. After some discussion the council came to the consensus that the residents living in apartments should be allowed the same courtesy as other residents and be allowed to participate in the clean-up weeks the city has.

4. Water and Light Commission Update – Henry Tweten

Mr. Tweten informed the council that the river levels are getting very low. The Water and Light Commission and Department have been informed about the situation and what steps need to be taken if conditions get worse. Mr. Rapacz explained to the council that the river levels are being monitored and there is system that can be put in place to conserve water if needed. Mr. Rapacz explained the different steps of the system and at what point those steps would be in effect. After some discussion on the outlook of the city water supply, Mr. Tweten finished by informing the council what projects were coming up for the Water and Light Department. Members of the council also congratulated Mr. Rapacz on having some of the best quality and best tasting water in the state.

ADJOURN

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER LEIGH SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER POKRZYWINSKI, TO ADJOURN THE SEPTEMBER 25, 2012 WORK SESSION OF THE EAST GRAND FORKS, MINNESOTA CITY COUNCIL AT 6:09 P.M.

*Voting Aye: Leigh, Pokrzywinski, Demers, Vonasek, Buckalew, Tweten, and Gregoire,
Voting Nay: None.*

Scott Huizenga, City Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer