

**APPROVED MINUTES
OF THE CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF EAST GRAND FORKS
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2012 - 5:00 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER:

The Council Meeting of the East Grand Forks City Council for December 18, 2012 was called to order by Council President Buckalew 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: DO NOT READ

Dave Aker, Parks & Recreation Superintendent; Karla Anderson, Finance Director; Brad Bail, City Engineer; Nancy Ellis, Planning & Zoning; Ron Galstad, City Attorney; Mike Hedlund, Police Chief; Charlotte Helgeson, Library Director; Scott Huizenga, City Administrator; Gary Larson, Fire Chief; Megan Nelson, Executive Assistant; Jim Richter, EDHA Director; and Jason Stordahl, Public Works Director.

DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM:

The Council President Determined a Quorum was present

Before the pledge of allegiance was said there was a moment of silence in memory and honor of those who have been affected by the tragic events that took place in Newtown, Connecticut.

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.”

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

1. Consider approving the minutes of the “Regular Meeting” for the East Grand Forks, Minnesota City Council of December 4, 2012.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER POKRZYWINSKI, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER GREGOIRE, TO APPROVE ITEMS ONE (1).

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

Voting Nay: None.

SCHEDULED BID LETTINGS: NONE

SCHEDULED PUBLIC HEARINGS: NONE

CONSENT AGENDA: NONE

ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF REPORTS OF OFFICERS, BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:

2. Regular Meeting minutes of the Water, Light, Power and Building Commission Meeting for November 15, 2012.
3. Regular Meeting minutes of the Planning Commission Meeting for July 12, 2012.
4. Regular Meeting minutes of the Planning Commission Meeting for November 15, 2012.

COMMUNICATIONS: NONE

OLD BUSINESS:

5. Consider adopting Ordinance No. 5, 4th Series, an Ordinance of the City of East Grand Forks, Minnesota, annexing that part of the Southeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter of Section 31, Township 152 North, Range 49 West of the 5th Principal Meridian, lying easterly of the Industrial Park 1st Resubdivision to the City of East Grand Forks. (Second Reading)

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER TWETEN, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER VONASEK, TO ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 5, 4th SERIES ANNEXING THAT PART OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 31, TOWNSHIP 152 NORTH, RANGE 49 WEST OF THE 5TH PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, LYING EASTERLY OF THE INDUSTRIAL PARK 1ST RESUBDIVISION TO THE CITY OF EAST GRAND FORKS. (SECOND READING)

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

Voting Nay: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

6. Consider approving the final Plat for Zavoral's Industrial 1st Addition.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER LEIGH, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER TWETEN, APPROVING THE FINAL PLAT FOR ZAVORAL'S INDUSTRIAL 1ST ADDITION.

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

Voting Nay: None.

7. Consider adopting Resolution No. 12-12-119 supporting the local Deputy Registrar Maintenance of local Driver License and State I.D. Services.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER LEIGH, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER VONASEK, ADOPTING RESOLUTION NO. 12-12-119 SUPPORTING THE LOCAL DEPUTY REGISTRAR MAINTENANCE OF LOCAL DRIVER LICENSE AND STATE I.D. SERVICES.

Council member Buckalew explained to the council that some Deputy Registrar offices that are privately run and there are others that are publicly run. The office that is located in East Grand Forks is a privately run facility that is run by the fees collected and the fees have not risen since 2005.

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

Voting Nay: None.

Abstain: Buckalew

8. Consider adopting Resolution No. 12-12-120 authorizing the City Administrator to implement the Compensation Plan.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER LEIGH, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER DEMERS, ADOPTING RESOLUTION NO. 12-12-120 AUTHORIZING THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO IMPLEMENT THE COMPENSATION PLAN.

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

Voting Nay: None.

9. Consider adopting Resolution No. 12-12-121 increasing the city contribution to health insurance.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER GREGOIRE, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER LEIGH, ADOPTING RESOLUTION NO. 12-12-121 INCREASING THE CITY CONTRIBUTION TO HEALTH INSURANCE.

Council member Leigh commented on how he thinks this 10% increase is fair, especially looking at what is happening with health care in the private sector.

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

Voting Nay: None.

CLAIMS:

10. Consider adopting Resolution No. 12-12-122 a Resolution authorizing the City of East Grand Forks to approve purchases from Bert's Truck Equipment the goods referenced in check number 14543 for a total of \$1,692.88 whereas Council Member Gregoire is personally interested financially in the

contract.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER TWETEN, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER VONASEK, ADOPTING RESOLUTION NO. 12-12-122 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF EAST GRAND FORKS TO APPROVE PURCHASES FROM BERT'S TRUCK EQUIPMENT THE GOODS REFERENCED IN CHECK NUMBER 14543 FOR A TOTAL OF \$1,692.88 WHEREAS COUNCIL MEMBER GREGOIRE IS PERSONALLY INTERESTED FINANCIALLY IN THE CONTRACT.

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

Voting Nay: None.

Abstain: Gregoire

11. Consider adopting Resolution No. 12-12-123 a Resolution authorizing the City of East Grand Forks to approve purchases from Hardware Hank the goods referenced in check number 14588 for a total of \$1,207.23 whereas Council Member Buckalew is personally interested financially in the contract.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER POKRZYWINSKI, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER DEMERS, ADOPTING RESOLUTION NO. 12-12-123 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF EAST GRAND FORKS TO APPROVE PURCHASES FROM HARDWARE HANK THE GOODS REFERENCED IN CHECK NUMBER 14588 FOR A TOTAL OF \$1,207.23 WHEREAS COUNCIL MEMBER BUCKALEW IS PERSONALLY INTERESTED FINANCIALLY IN THE CONTRACT.

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

Voting Nay: None.

Abstain: Buckalew

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

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

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

Voting Nay: None.

COUNCIL/STAFF REPORTS:

Mayor Stauss thanked council members Wayne Gregoire, Mike Pokrzywinski, and Marc DeMers for the service and time they have given to the city while handing them their plaques to commemorate their time spent on the council. After thanking the council members Mayor Stauss also commented how there are too many violent acts happening in this country. He can't imagine what the parents who have lost their children will do. These acts of violence need to stop.

Council Member DeMers told the council in his first few weeks there were lots of changes happening in

a short amount of time. This was a very difficult time but the council came together and was able to get things done. There is another great group of people here that will work hard to better the city. He finished by thanking everyone.

Council Member Vonasek thanked the council members that leaving for their help and guidance they have given him. He also welcomed the new members to the council.

Council Member Buckalew wished the city staff and everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Council Member Tweten asked that the council meets with the school district and hold a public hearing so the public can voice their opinion on what or if the protection of the students needs to change at school. The safety of the staff is also important too. There are devices being made that could track firefighters in buildings. These are things the new council might have to deal with or look into.

Mr. Tweten also shared that State Senator Stumpf will be at Hugo's Wine & Spirits on Thursday, December 20, 2012 if anyone would like to go and see him.

Council Member Gregoire thanked all councils, past, present, and future. He told everyone about the great experiences he has had being a part of the council and thanked the residents for allowing him to serve on their behalf and Merry Christmas.

Council Member Pokrzywinski said how it was a privilege and honor to serve on the council. It has been rewarding, difficult, and he wouldn't change a thing. He sent a big thank you to the residents, department heads, and staff. He now knows it takes a lot to run a city and the staff are able do so with professionalism.

Mr. Huizenga wished everyone happy holidays.

Mr. Bail wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Chief Larson informed the council the city was awarded another Safer Grant to help pay for a firefighter position so they will be seeing a RCA about it soon.

ADJOURN:

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER LEIGH, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER POKRZYWINSKI, TO ADJOURN THE DECEMBER 18, 2012 COUNCIL MEETING OF THE EAST GRAND FORKS, MINNESOTA CITY COUNCIL AT 5:25 P.M.

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

Voting Nay: None.

Scott Huizenga, City Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer