

**APPROVED MINUTES
OF THE CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF EAST GRAND FORKS
TUESDAY, MARCH 19, 2013 - 5:00 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER:

The Regular Meeting of the East Grand Forks City Council for March 19, 2013 was called to order by Council President Craig 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: Council President Craig Buckalew, Council Vice President Greg Leigh, Council Members Clarence Vetter, Ron Vonasek, Henry Tweten, Mark Olstad, and Chad Grassel.

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

DETERMINATION OF 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 5, 2013.
2. Consider approving the minutes of the “Wastewater Public Forum” for the East Grand Forks, Minnesota City Council of March 11, 2013.
3. Consider approving the minutes of the “Work Session” for the East Grand Forks, Minnesota City Council of March 12, 2013.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER LEIGH, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER

GRASSEL, TO APPROVE ITEM ONE (1) THROUGH THREE (3).

Voting Aye: Tweten, Olstad, Leigh, Grassel, Vetter, Vonasek, and Buckalew.

Voting Nay: None.

SCHEDULED BID LETTINGS: NONE

SCHEDULED PUBLIC HEARINGS: 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.

4. Consider approving the purchase of playground equipment for O'Leary Park and Stauss Park from St. Croix Recreation for the amount of \$16,299.76.
5. Consider awarding Spare Husbands and Vilandre the job of installing a handicap bathroom at the Senior Center for the amounts of \$4300.00 for carpentry work and \$5495.00 for plumbing.
6. Consider approving Ordinance No. 8 4th Series Amending City Code Provision In Title Vii: Traffic Code, Chapter 72 Entitled "Parking Regulations" By Amending Section 72.10 Paragraph (D) Snow Emergency And By Adopting By Reference City Code Chapter 10 And Section 10.99 Which, Among Other Things, Contain Penalty Provisions. (1st Reading)
7. Consider approving the amended Snow Removal Policy.
8. Consider adopting Resolution No. 13-03-31 adopting the Polk County All Hazard Mitigation Plan.

A MOTION WAS MAND BY COUNCIL MEMBER LEIGH, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER OLSTAD, TO ADOPT ITEMS FOUR (4) THROUGH EIGHT (8).

Voting Aye: Tweten, Olstad, Leigh, Grassel, Vetter, Vonasek, and Buckalew.

Voting Nay: None.

ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF REPORTS OF OFFICERS, BOARDS, AND COMMISSIONS: NONE

COMMUNICATIONS:

9. Hiring of Cody Wasylow as the new Firefighter effective March 12, 2013.

Chief Larson introduced Mr. Wasylow to the council, stated how he had graduated from Northland Community and Technical College with a two year degree, and so far has done a good job for the department.

10. Promotion of Austin Skjei from Firefighter to Engineer effective March 12, 2013.

Chief Larson informed the council that Mr. Skjei has been with the department for three years and has also done a good job.

11. Promotion of Kevin Boushee from Engineer to Assistant Fire Chief effective March 12, 2013.

Chief Larson informed the council Mr. Boushee has been with the department for 14 years and has worked hard for department.

Council member Leigh congratulated the three men on their new positions and asked Chief Larson the reasoning for having three assistant chiefs. Chief Larson said that since the fire department runs on three shifts the assistant chiefs are responsible for making sure everything gets done during their shift.

OLD BUSINESS:

12. Reconsider approving amended Resolution No. 13-01-14 waiving the limit of tort liability without purchasing the extra coverage.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER OLSTAD, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER VONASEK, TO APPROVE AMENDED RESOLUTION NO. 13-01-14 WAIVING THE LIMIT OF TORT LIABILITY WITHOUT PURCHASING THE EXTRA COVERAGE.

Voting Aye: Tweten, Olstad, Leigh, Grassel, Vetter, Vonasek, and Buckalew.

Voting Nay: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

13. Consider approving the renewal of a one year contract with Indepth Inspections for Building Inspection services.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER OLSTAD, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER VONASEK, APPROVING THE RENEWAL OF A ONE YEAR CONTRACT WITH INDEPTH INSPECTIONS FOR BUILDING INSPECTION SERVICES.

Council member Tweten handed out documents to the council showing projected growth in our area and how much money that has been brought in by permits last year. He continued by informing the council there was almost \$102,000 brought in last year by permits so he doesn't see how the city couldn't afford a full time building inspector. Council member Tweten feels the job requires a full time inspector to protect the residents from unlicensed contractors and to ensure quality building. Council member Leigh stated he thinks the council need to look at how things could change and at least try this for one year to see how it works. Council member Olstad repeated what Ms. Ellis had stated regarding the continuation of services through this year's building season and how accommodating the Community Development Office is trying to be for residents as well as contractors. He understands Mr. Tweten's concerns but doesn't see why the council shouldn't try this.

Voting Aye: Olstad, Leigh, Grassel, Vetter, Vonasek, and Buckalew.

Voting Nay: Tweten

14. Consider adopting Resolution No. 13-03-32 adopting a proposed timeline for future wastewater treatment.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER LEIGH, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER GRASSEL, TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 13-03-32 ADOPTING A PROPOSED TIMELINE FOR FUTURE WASTEWATER TREATMENT.

Voting Aye: Tweten, Olstad, Leigh, Grassel, Vetter, Vonasek, and Buckalew.

Voting Nay: None.

CLAIMS:

15. Consider adopting Resolution No. 13-03-33 authorizing the City of East Grand Forks to approve purchases from Hardware Hank the goods referenced in check numbers 15336 for a total of \$308.40 whereas Council Member Buckalew is personally interested financially in the contract.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER TWETEN, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER VONASEK, TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 13-03-33 AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF EAST GRAND FORKS TO APPROVE PURCHASES FROM HARDWARE HANK THE GOODS REFERECED IN CHECK NUMBERS 15336 FOR THE TOTAL OF \$308.40 WHEREAS COUNCIL MEMBER BUCKALEW IS PERSONALLY INTERESTED FINANCIALLY IN THE CONTRACT.

Voting Aye: Tweten, Olstad, Leigh, Grassel, Vetter, 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 GRASSEL, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER VETTER, TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR/CLERK-TREASURER TO ISSUE PAYMENT OF RECOMMENDED BILLS AND PAYROLL.

Voting Aye: Tweten, Olstad, Leigh, Grassel, Vetter, Vonasek, and Buckalew.

Voting Nay: None.

COUNCIL/STAFF REPORTS:

Council Member Vonasek congratulated Mr. Wasylow on his new position and Mr. Skjei and Mr. Boushee on their promotions.

Council Member Olstad congratulated the guys from the fire department on their new positions.

Council Member Leigh thanked Jason Stordahl and his crew for getting the snow moved.

Council Member Grassel congratulated the firemen on their new positions and thanked Jason for getting the city streets cleaned.

Mr. Huizenga informed the council that the LGA formula has been worked on by major groups including members of the legislature and the Coalition of Greater Minnesota Cities. He offered his thanks to these people for the time they spent on this formula. The Coalition has been working hard for East Grand Forks. If this new formula is approved East Grand Forks would be getting increases in LGA funding in the future. Mr. Huizenga continued by telling the council he was asked to testify to the Senate for the bill allocating funds for the expansion of utilities in the state campground. Following the time spent at the capitol, he told the council he will be taking some vacation time.

MOVE TO CLOSED SESSION:

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER LEIGH, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER OLSTAD, TO MOVE INTO A CLOSED SESSION.

Voting Aye: Tweten, Olstad, Leigh, Grassel, Vetter, Vonasek, and Buckalew.

Voting Nay: None.

17. Council moved into a closed session for internal affairs data relating to allegation of law enforcement personnel misconduct pursuant to Minn. Stat. 13D.05 subdivision 2 (a)(2).

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER LEIGH, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER VONASEK, TO MOVE BACK TO AN OPEN SESSION.

Voting Aye: Tweten, Olstad, Leigh, Grassel, Vetter, Vonasek, and Buckalew.

Voting Nay: None.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER VETTER, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER GRASSEL, TO APPROVE THE LAST CHANCE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF EAST GRAND FORKS, LAW ENFORCEMENT LABOR SERVICES LOCAL NO. 152 AND SCOTT JORDHEIM.

Voting Aye: Tweten, Olstad, Leigh, Grassel, Vetter, Vonasek, and Buckalew.

Voting Nay: None.

ADJOURN:

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER LEIGH, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER OLSTAD, TO ADJOURN THE MARCH 19, 2013 COUNCIL MEETING OF THE EAST GRAND FORKS, MINNESOTA CITY COUNCIL AT 5:48 P.M.

Voting Aye: Tweten, Olstad, Leigh, Grassel, Vetter, Vonasek, and Buckalew.

Voting Nay: None.

Scott Huizenga, City Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer