

**APPROVED MINUTES  
OF THE CITY  
COUNCIL WORK SESSION  
CITY OF EAST GRAND FORKS  
TUESDAY, APRIL 23, 2013 - 5:00 P.M.**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

*The Work Session of the East Grand Forks City Council for April 23, 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: Mayor Lynn Stauss, Council President Craig Buckalew, Council Vice President Greg Leigh, Council Members Clarence Vetter, Henry Tweten, Mark Olstad, and Chad Grassel.*

*Karla Anderson, Finance Director; Bonnie Abel, Customer Service and Energy Manager, Dave Aker, Parks & Recreation Superintendent; Brad Bail, City Engineer; Nancy Ellis, City Planner; Ron Galstad, City Attorney; Charlotte Helgeson, Library Director; Scott Huizenga, City Administrator; Gary Larson, Fire Chief; Randy Rapacz, Water Plant Superintendent; and Jason Stordahl, Public Works Director.*

**DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM:**

**1. Arena Rentals – Dave Aker**

Mr. Aker presented a proposed fee schedule revision for arena rental rates. Aker explained that the proposed fee schedule combines several of the former categories of rentals into the broader categories of profit and non-profit. Mr. Aker also recommending adding rates for profit and non-profit sporting events such as baseball, lacrosse, and soccer practice. Mayor Stauss said that the arena initially was built based on the number of activities that could use the arena, and now propose charging for those events. Mr. Galstad clarified that the City has charged for these events for many years and that the revised schedule simply consolidates and reduces the number of fee categories. Council Member Leigh asked that the fee schedule be clarified to note that school activities are covered under the existing lease agreement between the East Grand Forks school district and the City.

**2. Quarterly Reports – Karla Anderson**

Ms. Anderson presented the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Report for the General Fund and Special Revenue Funds. She reported that the City has collected approximately 10 percent of the annual revenue thus far. Most tax collections and Local Government Aid receipts do not arrive at the City until July and December. Expenses are at approximately 20 percent of the total budget. Typically, summer activities incur higher expenses with seasonal work.

### **3. Phosphorus Regulations – Scott Huizenga**

Mr. Huizenga explained a proposed resolution to be forwarded, if passed, to the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA). The resolution is requested by the City of Moorhead. It opposes a proposed phosphorus discharge limit of 1.0 milligrams per liter (mg/L) for municipal treatment facilities. The resolution also calls upon MPCA to develop a nutrient budget for Lake Winnipeg and the Red River basin based upon sound scientific study. Municipal facilities comprise less than 0.5 percent of total phosphorus discharge into the Red River, but yet the MPCA is proposing to regulate only municipal facilities. Further, North Dakota has no proposed regulations regarding phosphorus discharge.

### **4. Senior Citizen Board Update – Greg Leigh**

Council Vice President Leigh updated the Council on Senior Citizen Board activities. He mentioned upcoming events including the Senior Citizens board annual meeting, a rummage sale, a defensive driving course, and a classic car show.

### **5. Water and Light Commission Update – Henry Tweten**

Council Member Tweten introduced Bonnie Abel and Randy Rapacz to present new programs in the Water and Light Department. Ms. Abel discussed “prescriptive” commercial lighting rebates in which energy rebates now will be based upon the type of fixture replaced rather than one rate for all types of fixtures. She explained that energy savings from the Water and Light energy savings program has increased from approximately 160,000 kilowatts in 2006 to over 2.3 million kilowatts in 2012.

Mr. Rapacz presented the Water and Light water distribution modeling study under a joint venture with Progressive Consulting Engineers and Widseth, Smith, Nolting the study will look at several variables in the water distribution system throughout the city include water pressure, nutrient levels, leaking, and sedentary water.

Mayor Stauss asked Mr. Rapacz why the City of Moorhead won an award for their water treatment. Mr. Rapacz responded that East Grand Forks is working on some new treatment techniques that could make the City eligible for future wards.

Mr. Huizenga announced that City crews would begin construction of the “invisible” flood wall along the boardwalk on Thursday, April 25.

Ms. Ellis reported that she would hold a local contractors meeting on Monday, April 29, to solicit feedback on the building inspections program.

Mr. Galstad reported his research into a citizen inquiry regarding the possibility of establishing an indoor shooting range in City limits. He recommended that the City review its zoning ordinance so include shooting ranges in the code. He also recommended establishing a licensing ordinance to regulate shooting ranges.

**ADJOURN:**

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER TWETEN, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER LEIGH, TO ADJOURN THE APRIL 23, 2013 COUNCIL MEETING OF THE EAST GRAND FORKS, MINNESOTA CITY COUNCIL AT 6:00 P.M.**

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

*Voting Nay: None.*

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Scott Huizenga, City Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer