

**APPROVED MINUTES
OF THE CITY
COUNCIL WORK SESSION
CITY OF EAST GRAND FORKS
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2016 – 5:00 PM**

CALL TO ORDER:

The Work Session of the East Grand Forks City Council for February 9, 2016 was called to order by Council President Mark Olstad 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 Mark Olstad, Council Members Clarence Vetter, Mike Pokrzywinski, Henry Tweten, and Marc DeMers.

Dave Aker, Parks & Recreation Superintendent; Karla Anderson, Finance Director; Greg Boppre, City Engineer; Dan Boyce, Water & Light Manager; Nancy Ellis, Steve Emery, City Engineer; City Planner; Ron Galstad, City Attorney; Paul Gorte, EDA Director; Mike Hedlund, Police Chief; Charlotte Helgeson, Library Director; David Murphy, City Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer; Megan Nelson, Executive Assistant; and Jason Stordahl, Public Works Director.

DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM:

The Council President Determined a Quorum was present

1. Interconnect Presentation – David Murphy

Mr. Murphy stated there was lots of information but there had been two items that were not included were the COSA and the other the MOU for the bidding process. He said the COSA became available at the end of the day and explained that the intergovernment agreement has been agreed in regards to both form and contact by staffs on both sides as well as the attorneys from both sides. He said they were looking for a recommendation for approval from the Council at the next council meeting. He added this was going before the Grand Forks Service Safety meeting that evening and the Grand Forks Council will be considering the agreement next Tuesday night as well. Mr. Murphy asked if there were any questions staff would do their best to answer.

Council President Olstad asked about the change in language in ownership. Mr. Boppre explained where the ownership ends for the City of East Grand Forks which is at the value on the wet side of the levee. He reviewed who will be maintaining the connection valves. Mr. Galstad informed the Council that he had talked with Nancy from PFA and her questions which were about the 30 year time frame and the unilateral termination and how three years may be too short. Discussion followed about suggesting five years for the unilateral termination and how language should be included explaining how this would be affected by licensing, financing, and making sure whatever is constructed is operational. More discussion followed about if the length of the agreement should be longer than 30

years, that the figures are based on the next year's budgeted figures, and how Grand Forks would have the ability to transfer out funds from the waste water enterprise funds. Council member Vetter asked to see if language could be changed from may to will in regards to keeping the possible revenue from the water reuse in the waste water fund. Council member DeMers asked what the potential was for the Councils to vote on two different versions of the agreement. Mr. Murphy stated staff was doing everything possible to make sure that didn't happen but there was a chance for a change to be made during the Council Meeting. Mr. Boppre commented how staff has what they need and they will be meeting with Grand Forks staff regarding the Council's concerns.

This item will be referred to a City Council Meeting for action.

2. Amend Transportation Improvement Program – Steve Emery

Mr. Emery reminded the Council about the discussion regarding the Rhinehart Drive reconstruction and the Bygland Road round-a-bout. He said reviewed the figures of the round-a-bout project and the reconstruction of 10th St NE which was currently scheduled on the transportation improvement program(TIP). He explained the Council would have to decide which project they would like to move forward with and possible amend the TIP. Council member Tweten commented how the Council is aware of the issues at Bygland Road and Rhinehart Drive and asked to have the engineers see if funding may be available for both projects. Discussion followed about how the City receives the TIP funding every four years, that if another City does not have a project East Grand Forks may receive funding sooner, and what the priority should be for the City. More discussion followed about the how the round-a-bout needs to be the appropriate size for the area and be able to accommodate the traffic.

This item will be referred to a City Council Meeting for action.

3. Intermediary Relending Program – Paul Gorte

Mr. Gorte informed the Council the City had received a \$750,000 loan from the USDA about 20 years ago. He explained how these funds were loaned to businesses at a 5% interest rate. He stated the terms and conditions of these loans were not appealing since other loans were available at a lower interest rate and because of that it had been several years since any loans were done using these funds. He recommended to the Council to pay off the loan in full which would be approximately \$290,000 which would release approximately \$460,000 which then could be used for other economic development activities. Discussion followed about how there were about 10 years left on the loan, there wasn't any prepayment penalty, and that these funds would be used in a way that they would be replenished.

This item will be referred to a City Council Meeting for action.

4. Pine to Prairie Drug Task Forks Joint Powers Agreement – Mike Hedlund

Chief Hedlund reminded the Council how the drug task force had expanded over the last couple years. He explained that starting in 2016 some of the counties that had joined in were increasing their level of involvement by adding a person to the task force. He stated that this agreement recognized them at this new level. Council President Olstad commented what a great job the task force had done over the

years and that he appreciated all of the work that they put in. Council members Pokrzywinski and Tweten both added comments of the good work the task force does.

This item will be referred to a City Council Meeting for action.

5. Grand Forks Regional Special Operations Group Joint Powers Agreement – Mike Hedlund

Chief Hedlund informed the Council that this had started out as an addendum but turned into a formal agreement. He explained how the cities have worked together before and that this would allow East Grand Forks officers to be on the specialized teams. Council member DeMers asked about liability. Chief Hedlund stated that each agency was responsible for their own officers. Mayor Stauss asked how this has affected overtime. Chief Hedlund stated it should be minimal unless they are called out since they are required to reschedule their training to a day they were working on.

This item will be referred to a City Council Meeting.

ADJOURN:

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER POKRZYWINSKI, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER VETTER, TO ADJOURN THE FEBRUARY 9, 2016 WORK SESSION OF THE EAST GRAND FORKS, MINNESOTA CITY COUNCIL AT 6:30 P.M.

Voting Aye: DeMers, Vetter, Pokrzywinski, Tweten, and Olstad.

Voting Nay: None.

Absent: Grassel and Buckalew.

David Murphy, City Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer