

**APPROVED
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
OF THE
EAST GRAND FORKS
CITY COUNCIL
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2010 – 5:00 PM**

CALL TO ORDER

The Special Council Meeting of the East Grand Forks City Council for February 9, 2010 was called to order by Council President Dick Grassel 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 Dick Grassel, Council Vice President Henry Tweten, Council Members Marc DeMers, Craig Buckalew, Mike Pokrzywinski, and Greg Leigh.

STAFF PRESENT:

Dave Aker, Parks & Recreation Superintendent; Greg Boppre, City Engineer; Nancy Ellis, Planning & Zoning; Michelle French, Executive Assistant; Ron Galstad, City Attorney; Randy Gust, Fire Chief; Earl Haugen, Planning & Zoning; Mike Hedlund, Police Chief; Charlotte Helgeson, Library Director; Scott Huizenga, City Administrator; Jim Richter, EDHA Director; Tom Spoor, Building Official; and John Wachter, Public Works Superintendent.

DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM

1. Consider approving the request to hire Kyle Steever as the new Patrol Officer to fill the vacancy starting February 20, 2010.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER POKRZYWINSKI, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER TWETEN, TO APPROVE THE REQUEST TO HIRE KYLE STEEVER AS THE NEW PATROL OFFICER TO FILL THE VACANCY STARTING FEBRUARY 20, 2010.

*Voting Aye: Leigh, Pokrzywinski, DeMers, Grassel, Buckalew, and Tweten.
Voting Nay: None.
Absent: Gregoire.*

ADJOURN

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER LEIGH, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER BUCKALEW, TO ADJOURN THE FEBRUARY 9, 2010 SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING OF THE EAST GRAND FORKS, MINNESOTA CITY COUNCIL AT 5:02 P.M.

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

Voting Nay: None.

Absent: Gregoire.

Scott Huizenga, City Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer

**APPROVED
WORK SESSION MINUTES
OF THE
EAST GRAND FORKS
CITY COUNCIL
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2010 – 5:00 PM**

CALL TO ORDER

The Work Session of the East Grand Forks City Council for February 9, 2010 was called to order by Council President Dick Grassel at 5:02 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 Dick Grassel, Council Vice President Henry Tweten, Council Members Marc DeMers, Craig Buckalew, Mike Pokrzywinski, and Greg Leigh.

STAFF PRESENT:

Bonnie Abel, Customer & Energy Service Manager; Dave Aker, Parks & Recreation Superintendent; Greg Boppre, City Engineer; Dan Boyce, Water & Light Manager; Nancy Ellis, Planning & Zoning; Michelle French, Executive Assistant; Ron Galstad, City Attorney; Randy Gust, Fire Chief; Earl Haugen, Planning & Zoning; Mike Hedlund, Police Chief; Charlotte Helgeson, Library Director; Scott Huizenga, City Administrator; Jim Richter, EDHA Director; Tom Spoor, Building Official; and John Wachter, Public Works Superintendent.

DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM

1. American Crystal Sugar Odor Update – Lloyd Kennedy

Mr. Kennedy and Ms Hanson from American Crystal Sugar gave an update on the progress of odor reduction.

2. Freight Road into American Crystal – Greg Boppre

Mr. Boppre stated that he has been working with Representative Peterson's office regarding the funding of the freight road along 10th St. NE and into American Crystal Sugar. Mr. Boppre stated that he needs a letter of commitment from the City of East Grand Forks and American Crystal Sugar by March 12th to send to Representative Peterson. The project would be constructed in 2011 if the project is selected. Council President Grassel stated that this project would increase safety. Mr. Huizenga stated that he will draft a letter and resolution for City Council approval.

3. Central Avenue Crossing – Greg Boppre

Mr. Boppre announced that the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDot) will be doing a railroad crossing project on Central Avenue next year. This project was put in the 2010 STIP. MnDot will be installing the crossing arms and lights and they will be funding 90% and the City 10%. The City will need to look at roadway improvements which would cost approximately \$130,000. Mr. Boppre stated that the City needs to decide whether or not to close one of the railroad crossings or the make the safety improvements to the Central Avenue crossing. Council Member Leigh and Council President Grassel stated that they are not in favor of closing any crossings. Council Member Buckalew informed City Council that there is only one bridge and three openings so he would be in favor of closing Central. Ms Ellis stated that if the City closes Central Avenue, the City would save \$100,000 and would have a quiet zone. This item will be referred to City Council on February 23rd.

4. Proposed Ordinance for Caterer's Permit – Ron Galstad

Mr. Galstad stated that he drafted an ordinance requiring anyone with a statewide permit to require a City license for a fee. This item will be referred to City Council for action.

5. Building Permit/Energy Efficiency Programs Update – Tom Spoor/Bonnie Abel

Ms Abel gave a brief presentation on the energy rebates for both commercial and residential. Mr. Spoor announced that with the programs in place, the City has issued more permits.

6. Storm Water ¾ Ton Pickup – John Wachter

Mr. Wachter asked City Council to approve the state bid for a ¾ ton pickup for \$32,443.60 as budgeted. This item will be referred to City Council for action.

7. Storm Water Toro 4100D Mower – John Wachter

Mr. Wachter asked for approval to purchase a Toro Groundsmaster 4100D for \$44,994.82 with a 10 ft deck. This mower would replace the 1985 GM327. This item will be referred to City Council for action.

ADJOURN

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER BUCKALEW, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER TWETEN, TO ADJOURN THE FEBRUARY 9, 2010 WORK SESSION OF THE EAST GRAND FORKS, MINNESOTA CITY COUNCIL AT 6:15 P.M.

Voting Aye: Pokrzywinski, DeMers, Grassel, Buckalew, and Tweten.

Voting Nay: None.

Absent: Gregoire and Leigh.

Scott Huizenga, City Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer