

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

CALL TO ORDER

The Work Session of the East Grand Forks City Council for November 9, 2010 was called to order by Council President Dick Grassel at 5:04 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, Wayne Gregoire, Mike Pokrzywinski and Greg Leigh.

STAFF PRESENT:

Nancy Ellis, Planning & Zoning; Randy Gust, Fire Chief; Mike Hedlund, Police Chief; Charlotte Helgeson, Library Director; Scott Huizenga, City Administrator; Jim Richter, EDHA Director; and John Wachter, Public Works Superintendent.

Others Present: Teri Kouba, MPO

DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM

1. 2011-2012 MPO Unified Planning Work Program – Nancy Ellis

Mr. Huizenga introduced the study recommendations for the City's biannual Work Program to the MPO. Ms. Ellis explained that the MPO Board must approve the final list of studies in the Work Program. Council Member Buckalew asked if the study would commit the City to completing the proposed 5th Avenue NW/Highway 2 intersection. Ms. Ellis explained that the study would only determine the traffic impacts with and without the intersection so that the Council could decide whether or not to continue with the project.

2. Paratransit and Senior Rider Proposal – Teri Kouba

Ms. Kouba explained the results of the Request for Proposals for Paratransit and Senior Rider Services. Grand Forks Taxi was the only bidder. Ms. Kouba also explained the changes that the MPO will make to the program in the form of rate increases, the increase in age of eligibility, and moving the dispatch operations into the City of Grand Forks, North Dakota. Mr. Leigh asked if the Council had enough information to make a final decision on the provider. Mr. Huizenga said that most of the program is covered by state and federal funding, so that the difference would be small to the City regardless of the final changes.

3. Rescue Unit Fee – Scott Huizenga

Mr. Huizenga recommended a modified rescue fee policy for multi-unit dwellings that have consolidated utilities on one bill. He recommended \$3.50 per unit at these facilities that include Good Samaritan Heritage Grove, Edgewood Vista, and Douglas Place. Council Member Pokrzywinski asked staff to notify the properties prior to the next regular Council meeting so that the properties would have an opportunity for input. Council Member Pokrzywinski also asked if the policy could be changed if these properties experienced higher vacancy rates. Mr. Huizenga responded that would be a matter of Council policy.

4. 2010 3rd Quarter Budget Analysis – Scott Huizenga

Mr. Huizenga presented the 3rd Quarter Analysis. He reported that the City projects a deficit of \$127,000 for Fiscal Year 2010. He reported that was relatively good news because the state cut almost \$200,000 in Local Government Aid (LGA) during the year.

5. 2011 Proposed Budget – Scott Huizenga

Mr. Huizenga presented his final budget recommendation for the 2011 Proposed Budget. The recommendation levy increase of 4.2 percent. The preliminary levy was 10 percent. The recommendation included reducing the projected surplus, fully funding library hours, and directing \$80,000 to replenish the General Fund Balance.

6. Budgeted Debt & Construction Transfers – Scott Huizenga

Mr. Huizenga introduced budgeted debt and constructions transfers for 2010, which are scheduled transfers to cover city obligations of special assessment and other capital projects.

7. Budget Amendments – Scott Huizenga

Mr. Huizenga introduced proposed budget amendments to recognize the expenditures and associated revenue of the Knight Foundation grant to the Library for equipment purchases.

ADJOURN

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER LEIGH, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER BUCKALEW, TO ADJOURN THE NOVEMBER 9, 2010 WORK SESSION OF THE EAST GRAND FORKS, MINNESOTA CITY COUNCIL AT 6:29 P.M.

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

Voting Nay: None.

Scott Huizenga, City Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer