

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COMMISSION
CITY OF EAST GRAND RAPIDS

Regular Meeting Held October 7, 2024

Mayor Favale called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the City Commission Chambers at the East Grand Rapids Community Center and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Commissioners Burdick, Groff-Blaszak, Hunter, Schwartz, Skaggs, Wessely and Mayor Favale.

Absent: None.

Also Present: City Manager Charles; Deputy City Manager La Fave; City Attorney Huff; Parks and Recreation Director Melville; Public Safety Captain Buikema; City Clerk Parmenter.

2024-162. The agenda was approved as presented.

2024-163. Public comment:

Matthew DeLange, candidate for Probate Judge, introduced himself and gave a background on his qualifications.

John Chronowski, 775 Bagley Ave., would like a stronger recycling policy in Gaslight and schools.

2024-164. Mayor and City Commission comments, including committee liaison reports.

Commissioner Skaggs noted that absentee ballots are now available, early voting starts in a couple of weeks, voter registration is going on now through election day and the Parks survey is now open until November 4.

Commissioner Wessely noted that homecoming was last weekend, and that East won.

Commissioner Schwartz mentioned that Planning Commission will meet Tuesday, and the Master Plan survey is still open.

Commissioner Groff-Blaszak noted the new mural in the Teen Center in the library and the book sale will be October 8-10. EGR Girls Field Hockey team won at conference.

Commissioner Hunter gave sympathies for the residents in the south due to the hurricanes and echoes John Chronowski's comments regarding recycling.

City Manager Charles noted the Public Safety open house and drug takeback on October 26th and bids for the Cascade/Robinson Pathway came in under projected and will be coming to the Commission in the near future.

- 2024-165. Consider awarding a contract for the installation of holiday lighting on street trees within Gaslight Village Business District in the amount of \$11,080.

Parks and Recreation Director Melville highlighted the request.

- 2024-0165-A. Schwartz-Wessely. To award a contract with Grapids Irrigation or the installation of holiday lighting on street trees within Gaslight Village Business District in the amount of \$11,080.

Yeas: Burdick, Groff-Blaszak, Hunter, Schwartz, Skaggs, Wessely and Favale – 7
Nays: None.

- 2024-166. Consider approval of a contract for hydro excavating services in an amount not to exceed \$194,600 from 2024 to August 1, 2026, in alignment with the awarded reimbursement grant from EGLE that covers 100% of associated expenses.

Deputy City Manager La Fave reviewed the request.

- 2024-0166-A. Skaggs-Wessely. To approve a contract for hydro excavating services with PowerVac-Michigan of Grand Rapids, MI in an amount not to exceed \$194,600 from 2024 to August 1, 2026, in alignment with the awarded Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) Technical, Managerial, and Financial Support for Lead Service Line Replacement (TMF LSLR) reimbursement grant from EGLE that covers 100% of associated expenses.

Yeas: Burdick, Groff-Blaszak, Hunter, Schwartz, Skaggs, Wessely and Favale – 7
Nays: None.

- 2024-167. Consider amending the Parks and Recreation Special Event Policy to allow additional events with a road closure within the Gaslight Village Business District each year, in addition to changing the policy verbiage to recognize the social district area.

Parks and Recreation Director Melville reviewed the information.

- 2024-0167-A. Hunter-Burdick. To amend the Parks and Recreation Special Event Policy to allow additional events with a road closure within the Gaslight Village Business District each year, in addition to changing the policy verbiage to recognize the social district area.

Commissioner Groff-Blaszak asked about recycling being at events be mandatory.

Commissioner Burdick noted the Harvest Fest coming up and gathering data from that event.

Yeas: Burdick, Groff-Blaszak, Hunter, Schwartz, Skaggs, Wessely and Favale – 7
Nays: None.

2024-168. Consider approval of the job description for the proposed Sports Supervisor position and authorize staff to begin recruitment for the position.

Parks and Recreation Director Melville reviewed the request.

Mason Theile, 486 Westfield Dr., stated he is one of the newest coaches and said that this new position was a huge improvement and will be extremely important.

2024-0168-A. Hunter-Skaggs. To approve of the job description for the proposed Sports Supervisor position and authorize staff to begin recruitment for the position.

Yeas: Burdick, Groff-Blaszak, Hunter, Schwartz, Skaggs, Wessely and Favale – 7
Nays: None.

2024-169. Consider authorizing the purchase of nine (9) 4 Station Franklin Voting Booths from inclusion=solutions in the amount of \$9,510.57.

City Manager Charles highlighted the request.

2024-0169-A. Groff-Blaszak-Burdick. To authorize the purchase of nine (9) 4 Station Franklin Voting Booths from inclusion=solutions in the amount of \$9,510.57.

Yeas: Burdick, Groff-Blaszak, Hunter, Schwartz, Skaggs, Wessely and Favale – 7
Nays: None.

2024-170. Year-end financials and first quarter financials and budget adjustments.

- A. Year-end financials
- B. First quarter financials
- C. Budget adjustments

Finance Director Seath highlighted reviewed the information.

2024-0170-A. Wessely-Burdick. To adopt a resolution amending the FY 2024-25 budget.

Yeas: Burdick, Groff-Blaszak, Hunter, Schwartz, Skaggs, Wessely and Favale – 7
Nays: None.

2024-171. Consider City Commission committee appointments.

City Manager Charles highlighted the request.

2024-0171-A. Burdick-Schwartz. To approve the City Commission committee appointments.

Yeas: Burdick, Groff-Blaszak, Hunter, Schwartz, Skaggs, Wessely and Favale – 7
Nays: None.

2024-172. Groff-Blaszak-Skaggs. To approve the consent agenda as follows:

2024-0172-A. Minutes of the regular meeting held September 16, 2024.

2024-0172-B. Disbursement of funds: payroll disbursements of \$280,744.73 and \$283,862.99; county and school disbursements of \$394,703.04, and total remaining disbursements of \$1,266,821.65.

2024-0172-C. Minutes of the August 26, 2024 Parks and Recreation Commission meeting.

Yeas: Burdick, Groff-Blaszak, Hunter, Schwartz, Skaggs, Wessely and Favale – 7
Nays: None.

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m., subject to the call of the Mayor until October 21, 2024.

Lori A Parmenter, City Clerk