



CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS

Minutes - Final - Final City Council Work Session

Monday, May 13, 2019

4:00 PM

Itasca County Boardroom

MEETING LOCATION CHANGE

CALL TO ORDER: Pursuant to due notice and call thereof a Special Meeting/Worksession of the Grand Rapids City Council was held on Monday, May 13, 2019 at 4:00 PM in the Itasca County Boardroom, County Courthouse, 123 NE 4th Street, Grand Rapids, Minnesota.

CALL OF ROLL: On a call of roll, the following members were present:

Present 4 - Mayor Dale Adams, Councilor Rick Blake, Councilor Tasha Connelly, and Councilor Michelle Toven

Absent 1 - Councilor Dale Christy

Staff present:

Tom Pagel, Chad Sterle, Scott Johnson, Erik Scott, Matt Wegwerth, Rob Mattei, Barb Baird

Discussion Items

1. Visit Grand Rapids Annual Update - Megan Christianson

Megan Christiansen, Visit Grand Rapids, provides 2018 annual report to Council noting website visits broken down into Countries, States, Age of Users, includes mobile visits. Also included information regarding total tax collected for local lodging tax. Activities, economic impact, advertising, etc. is also reviewed. Upcoming events promoted for Grand Rapids and surrounding communities.

Received and Filed

2. Advocates for Family Peace - Mandie Aalto

Mandie Aalto, Ex. Director, Advocates for Family Peace, presents background for organization and types of abuse addressed. Funding comes from MN Office of Justice Program. Services are free, confidential and voluntary. Domestic violence is now one of the countries biggest problems. Strategic planning underway, working on a greater presence in the community. May is Supervised Visitation Awareness Month. AFP has a supervised visitation location available to the community, handling approximately 1000 exchanges or visits each year.

Received and Filed

3. Discuss letter of support for Mesabi Metallics - Ben DeNucci

Ben DeNucci, provided background for requested letter of support for Nashwauk. Itasca County is in support and asking other entities to support the project as well. Letter provides options to keep the project viable and requests leadership from Gov. Walz.

Referred to the City Council Consent Agenda - 5/13/2019

4. Review 5:00 PM Regular Meeting

Councilor Toven serves as Council representative on the Grand Rapids HRA and provided overview of possible merger between the City and County Housing & Redevelopment Authorities. Council will be updated as information becomes available.

After review, a letter of support to Gov. Walz was added to Consent as item #14a. Item #11 was moved to the Regular agenda as item #22a to allow for more detailed discussion.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:43 PM.

Respectfully submitted:

Kimberly Gibeau, City Clerk