

1. Minutes of 05/13/2025 7:00 PM

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
City Commission  
OF THE  
CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN  
Regular Session, Tuesday, May 13, 2025**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Commission was called to order by David LaGrand at 7:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

**Present: Second Ward Commissioner Knight, Third Ward Commissioner Perdue, First Ward Commissioner Robbins, Second Ward Commissioner Ysasi, Mayor LaGrand, First Ward Commissioner Belchak**

**Absent: Third Ward Commissioner Kilgore**

The roll was called by the City Clerk.

**Result: Approved**

**Mover: Robbins. Supporter: Ysasi.**

**Yeas: Knight, Perdue, Robbins, Ysasi, LaGrand, Belchak**

Motion to excuse Commissioner Kilgore.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

On the motion of Com. Robbins, supported by Com. Belchak, the reading of the minutes of the regular session of April 29, 2025 was waived and said minutes were accepted as presented. Carried.

On the motion of Com. Knight, supported by Com. Ysasi, the reading of the minutes of the special meeting on May 6, 2025 was waived and said minutes were accepted as presented. Carried.

**PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

**94579 Result: Referred to Committee on Appointments.**

Communication received from John Miller regarding his resignation from the North Quarter Corridor Improvement Authority.

**94580 Result: Referred to Committee on Appointments.**

Communication received from Debra Nyenhuis regarding her resignation from the Mobile GR Commission.

**94581 Result: Received and Filed**

Communication received from Allison McCulley, Together West Michigan Organizer, regarding voting precinct changes and voting access.

**94582 Result: Received and Filed**

Communications (8) received expressing concerns for the proposed Climate Action Adaptation Plan.

**94583 Result: Received and Filed**

Communication received from Daniel Shirmohammadi expressing opposition to the special land use permit requested by Matthew's House.

**94584 Result: Referred to Committee on Appointments.**

Communication received from Martin Uchendu regarding his resignation from the Economic Development Corporation, Brownfield Redevelopment Authority, and Grand Rapids Land Bank Authority.

**94585 Result: Referred to Committee on Appointments.**

Communication received from Brooke Oosterman regarding her resignation from the Economic Development Corporation, Brownfield Redevelopment Authority, and Grand Rapids Land Bank Authority.

**94586 Result: Received and Filed**

Communication received from Chet Falkowski regarding their experience with bias from The Rapid.

**REPORTS OF CITY OFFICERS****94587 Result: Received and Filed**

Comptroller's Warrant Report for the period of April 15, 2025 through April 28, 2025 in the amount of \$29,701,189.85.

**94588 Result: Received and Filed**

Treasurer's Report for Period of April 17, 2025, through April 29, 2025.

**94589 Result: Received and Filed**

Change in date for approval of Neighborhood Investment Plan funding awards and submission of the FY 2026 Annual Action Plan to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

**CONSENT AGENDA****A. CONSENT AGENDA APPROVAL****94590 Result: Approved****Mover: Belchak. Supporter: Robbins.****Yeas: Knight, Perdue, Robbins, Ysasi, LaGrand, Belchak**

Adoption of the following items under the consent agenda.

**B. COMMITTEE ON APPOINTMENTS****94591 Result: Approved****Mover: Belchak. Supporter: Robbins.**

RESOLVED that Mayor LaGrand's appointment of Max Benedict to the Uptown Corridor Improvement Authority for the remainder of a four-year term ending December 31, 2026, be confirmed.

**94592 Result: Approved****Mover: Belchak. Supporter: Robbins.**

RESOLVED that Mayor LaGrand's appointment of Max Benedict to the Uptown Business Improvement District for the remainder of a four-year term ending December 31, 2025, be confirmed.

**94593 Result: Approved****Mover: Belchak. Supporter: Robbins.**

RESOLVED that the City Commission's appointment of Richard Wendt to the Grand Rapids Building Authority for the remainder of a six-year term ending July 1, 2030, be approved.

**C. FISCAL COMMITTEE****94594 Result: Approved****Mover: Belchak. Supporter: Robbins.**

RESOLVED:

1. That the City Commission authorizes a three-year agreement with Ready Rebound for a first-year cost of \$95,000, for a three-year total cost not to exceed \$285,000; and

2. That the Mayor is hereby authorized to execute the agreement on behalf of the City upon approval as to form by the City Attorney; and
3. That the Comptroller is hereby authorized and directed to issue payments consistent with this resolution

**94595 Result: Approved**  
**Mover: Belchak. Supporter: Robbins.**

RESOLVED that the City Commission hereby approves the appointment of Bria Q. Adderley-Williams as Attorney Magistrate in the 61st District Court.

**94596 Result: Approved**  
**Mover: Belchak. Supporter: Robbins.**

WHEREAS:

1. The Grand Valley Regional Biosolids Authority (“GVRBA”) is an authority jointly formed by the City of Grand Rapids and City of Wyoming pursuant to Act 233 of the Public Acts of Michigan of 1955, as amended.
2. The Articles of Incorporation of GVRBA require that its annual budgets and amendments thereto be approved by the City of Grand Rapids and Wyoming.
3. The City of Grand Rapids desires to approve the 2026 fiscal year budget which has been approved and recommended by the Board of Directors of the GVRBA.

RESOLVED:

1. That the GVRBA FY2026 budget in the total amount of \$12,018,675 and in the form presented is approved; and
2. That all resolutions and parts of resolutions in conflict herewith shall be, and the same, are rescinded.

**D. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

**94597 Result: Approved**  
**Mover: Belchak. Supporter: Robbins.**

RESOLVED that the request to grant Pyrotecnico Fireworks Inc. a Discharge Permit to be used in conjunction with ArtPrize on September 19, 2025, with a rain date of October 3, 2025 is approved, pending an inspection by the Fire Department.

**94598 Result: Approved**  
**Mover: Belchak. Supporter: Robbins.**

RESOLVED:

1. That the following Public Act 198 of 1974, as amended (MCL 207.551 et seq.) (the Act) Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificates be terminated because the abatement holders have been found to no longer be in compliance because firms and/or their equipment are no longer on the properties:

<u>Certificate #</u>	<u>Firm Name</u>	<u>Abatement Amount</u>
2014-425	Pros Manufacturing, Inc	\$160,000;

and

2. That the City Clerk send notice of this action to the State of Michigan Tax Commission as required by the Act.

**94599 Result: Approved**  
**Mover: Belchak. Supporter: Robbins.**

WHEREAS:

1. It is necessary to accept a Sidewalk and Utility Easement from the following property owner for the described property in connection with the development; therefore

RESOLVED:

1. That the City hereby accepts a sidewalk and utility easement from the following property owner for the described property for nominal consideration of One Dollar (\$1.00):

36<sup>th</sup> St Development LLC (\$1.00)  
 4131 Roger B Chaffee Memorial Blvd SE  
 Grand Rapids, MI 49548

Parcel No 41-14-22-300-050, 2701 Oak Industrial Dr NE  
Parcel No 41-14-22-300-051, 2751 Oak Industrial Dr NE; and

2. That the City Comptroller is hereby authorized and directed to make payments, in amounts and to said payees as the City Engineer or designee requests in connection with the aforesaid easement; and

3. That the City Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to record the aforesaid easement with the Kent County Register of Deeds.

**94600 Result: Approved**

**Mover: Belchak. Supporter: Robbins.**

WHEREAS:

1. It is necessary to enter into an agreement with the Michigan Department of Transportation and to authorize expenditures in connection with the following project:

Reconstruction of Ann Street from Monroe Avenue to Plainfield Avenue  
(MDOT Contract No. 25-5230)  
(hereinafter referred to as the "Project"): therefore

RESOLVED:

1. That the City enter into an agreement with the Michigan Department of Transportation for the Project and that, upon approval as to form by the City Attorney, the Mayor and City Clerk are hereby authorized to execute the same on behalf of the City.
2. That expenditures for the local share of costs for the Project be authorized in an amount not to exceed \$1,586,645, which includes the costs of the construction contract, previously authorized design phase services by ENG, construction phase services including inspection by ENG, Public Information Program, Traffic Signals and Signs Force Account Work, Street Lighting Force Account Work, Grading Permits, Administration, and an approximate twelve percent allowance for contingencies. Said amount of \$1,586,645 to be charged to the applicable codes currently defined as follows: \$14,520 to the applicable Parking System Fund code and \$1,572,125 to the applicable Vital Streets Fund codes.
3. That the City Comptroller is hereby authorized and directed to make payment, in amounts and to said payees, as the City Engineer or his designee requests in connection with the Project.

**94601 Result: Approved**

**Mover: Belchak. Supporter: Robbins.**

WHEREAS, bids were received on April 3, 2025 for the following project:

External Cleaning and Painting of the Alger Reservoir - 2025  
(hereinafter referred to as the "Project")

and Fedewa Inc. (Fedewa) submitted a bid of \$100,700 for which the engineer's estimate, prepared by Dixon Engineering, Inc. (Dixon), is \$423,000; therefore

RESOLVED:

1. That the bid of Fedewa be accepted and that, upon approval as to form by the City Attorney, the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized to execute the contract documents for the Project on behalf of the City.
2. That total expenditures for the Project be authorized in an amount not to exceed \$197,050 which includes the costs of the construction contract, previously authorized design phase services by Dixon, construction phase services including inspection by Dixon, administration, and contingencies. Said amount of \$197,050 to be charged to the applicable Water System Fund codes.
3. That the City Comptroller is hereby authorized and directed to make payment, in amounts and to said payees, as the City Engineer or his designee requests in connection with the Project.

**94602 Result: Approved**

**Mover: Belchak. Supporter: Robbins.**

WHEREAS:

1. The City of Grand Rapids recognizes the need to make improvements to the existing water system consisting of Lead Service Line Replacements and water main improvements,
2. The City of Grand Rapids authorized Fishbeck, Thompson, Carr & Huber, Inc. (Fishbeck) to prepare a Project Planning Document Amendment which recommends the improvements referenced above.
3. Said Project Planning Document Amendment was presented at a public meeting held on May 1, 2025, at 4:00 p.m. and all public comments have been considered and addressed; and

RESOLVED:

1. That the City of Grand Rapids formally adopts said Project Planning Document Amendment and agrees to implement the lead service line replacements and water main improvements (selected alternative).

2. That the City Engineer, or designee, is hereby authorized as the authorized representative for all activities associated with the project referenced above, including the submittal of said Project Planning Document Amendment as the first step in applying to the State of Michigan for a revolving fund loan to assist in the implementation of the selected alternatives.

**94603 Result: Approved**

**Mover: Belchak. Supporter: Robbins.**

WHEREAS, a request has been received for the commemorative street name designation at the block of Umatilla St SE from Madison Avenue SE to Union Avenue SE to "Amillier Penn Way"; therefore

RESOLVED that a public hearing for consideration of the commemorative street name designation at the block of Umatilla St. SE from Madison Ave. SE to Union Ave. SE as "Amillier Penn Way" will be held on June 10, 2025 at 2:00 pm, City Hall, 300 Monroe Ave. NW, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503, for the purpose of hearing any and all persons affected by and interested in such commemorative designation.

**94604 Result: Approved**

**Mover: Belchak. Supporter: Robbins.**

WHEREAS, a request has been received for the commemorative street name designation at the intersection of Madison Avenue SE and Alger Street SE as "Dr. MaLinda Sapp Way"; therefore

RESOLVED that a public hearing for consideration of the commemorative street name designation at the intersection of Madison Avenue SE and Alger Street SE as "Dr. MaLinda Sapp Way" will be held on June 10, 2025 at 2:00 p.m. for the purpose of hearing any and all persons affected by and interested in such commemorative designation. The hearing will take place in the City Commission Chambers on the 9th Floor of City Hall, 300 Monroe Avenue NW, Grand Rapids Michigan 49503.

**94605 Result: Approved**

**Mover: Belchak. Supporter: Robbins.**

WHEREAS:

On March 25, 2025, the City Commission established the Special Assessment Uptown BID Roll 8796.

On May 20, 2025, the City Commission will sit as Board of Review to hear appeals on the Special Assessment Uptown BID Roll 8796.

The Special Assessment Roll was available in the City Assessor's Office in City Hall for ten business days, beginning on April 21, 2025. Property owners affected may file a written appeal at any time up to the adjournment of the May 20<sup>th</sup> City Commission meeting.

RESOLVED:

That the City Commission will hold a public hearing as Board of Review on May 20, 2025, to hear appeals on the Special Assessment Uptown BID Roll 8796.

**E. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

**94606 Result: Approved**

**Mover: Belchak. Supporter: Robbins.**

WHEREAS:

1. Increasing the availability of outdoor dining space will help increase the vibrancy of downtown and neighborhood business districts; and
2. Public Act 124 of 2020 as amended empowers the City Commission to designate Social Districts with Commons Areas where purchasers may consume alcoholic beverages sold by multiple qualified Michigan Liquor Control Commission licensees who obtain Social District Permits; and
3. The City Commission has designated Social Districts containing Commons Areas within the City of Grand Rapids; and
4. The City Commission has received a request from a qualified licensee to recommend approval of their Social District Permit application by the Michigan Liquor Control Commission; and
5. The licensed premises of the licensee is contiguous to the Commons Areas within the designated Social District; and
6. The City Commission desires to recommend approval of the Social District Permit application; therefore

RESOLVED:

1. That the Social District Permit application from Pickle and Pin, LLC; 662 Leonard St NW, is recommended by the City Commission for consideration and approval by the Michigan Liquor Control Commission; and
2. That the City Clerk is authorized and directed to provide the applicant with a certification of this action in the form specified by the Michigan Liquor Control Commission.

**94607 Result: Approved**  
**Mover: Belchak. Supporter: Robbins.**

RESOLVED that Commissioner Ysasi’s request to attend the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials conference is approved

**ORDINANCES**

**94608 Result: Approved**  
**Mover: Ysasi. Supporter: Robbins.**  
**Yeas: Perdue, Robbins, Ysasi, LaGrand, Belchak Nays:Knight**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2025 – 10**

**THE PEOPLE OF THE CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS DO ORDAIN:**

Section 1. That the following constitutes amended additions to the designated line items of Section 1 of Ordinance 2024-23, the Budget of the City of Grand Rapids for Fiscal Year 2025, as amended.

<b>General Operating Fund</b>	
Previously Approved Resources	196,649,270.65
Other	166,311.66
From (To) Fund Balance	989,547.22
Total Amended Resources	197,805,129.53
Previously Approved Appropriations	196,649,270.65
Contingent	(1,500,000.00)
Police Department	2,100,000.00
Human Resources	210,947.22
Executive Office	178,600.00
Community Development Department	166,311.66
Total Amended Appropriations	197,805,129.53
<b>Property Management Fund</b>	
Previously Approved Resources	211,416.00
Other	-

From (To) Fund Balance	32,000.00
Total Amended Resources	<u>243,416.00</u>
Previously Approved Appropriations	211,416.00
Requested Changes	<u>32,000.00</u>
Total Amended Appropriations	<u>243,416.00</u>
<b>Land Bank Authority Fund</b>	
Previously Approved Resources	-
Other	32,000.00
From (To) Fund Balance	-
Total Amended Resources	<u>32,000.00</u>
Previously Approved Appropriations	-
Requested Changes	<u>32,000.00</u>
Total Amended Appropriations	<u>32,000.00</u>
<b>61st District Court Grants Fund</b>	
Previously Approved Resources	1,850,451.95
Other	232,811.00
From (To) Retained Earnings	-
Total Amended Resources	<u>2,083,262.95</u>
Previously Approved Appropriations	1,850,451.95
Requested Changes	<u>232,811.00</u>
Total Amended Appropriations	<u>2,083,262.95</u>
<b>Golf Course Fund</b>	
Previously Approved Resources	1,294,476.00
Other	60,000.00
From (To) Retained Earnings	-
Total Amended Resources	<u>1,354,476.00</u>
Previously Approved Appropriations	1,294,476.00
Requested Changes	<u>60,000.00</u>
Total Amended Appropriations	<u>1,354,476.00</u>
<b>Michigan Justice Training Fund</b>	
Previously Approved Resources	55,000.00
Other	49,171.25
From (To) Fund Balance	-
Total Amended Resources	<u>104,171.25</u>
Previously Approved Appropriations	55,000.00
Requested Changes	<u>49,171.25</u>
Total Amended Appropriations	<u>104,171.25</u>
<b>Capital Improvement Fund</b>	
Previously Approved Resources	117,963,312.37
Other	28,865,911.00
From (To) Fund Balance	-
Total Amended Resources	<u>146,829,223.37</u>

Previously Approved Appropriations	117,963,312.37
Requested Changes	28,865,911.00
Total Amended Appropriations	<u>146,829,223.37</u>
<b>Parks - Capital Projects Fund</b>	
Previously Approved Resources	11,421,197.56
Other	149,999.48
From (To) Fund Balance	-
Total Amended Resources	<u>11,571,197.04</u>
Previously Approved Appropriations	11,421,197.56
Requested Changes	149,999.48
Total Amended Appropriations	<u>11,571,197.04</u>
<b>Parks &amp; Recreation Fund</b>	
Previously Approved Resources	16,700,034.00
Other	225,000.00
From (To) Fund Balance	684,672.00
Total Amended Resources	<u>17,609,706.00</u>
Previously Approved Appropriations	16,700,034.00
Requested Changes	909,672.00
Total Amended Appropriations	<u>17,609,706.00</u>
<b>Drug Law Enforcement Fund</b>	
Previously Approved Resources	250,049.00
Other	-
From (To) Fund Balance	18,000.00
Total Amended Resources	<u>268,049.00</u>
Previously Approved Appropriations	250,049.00
Requested Changes	18,000.00
Total Amended Appropriations	<u>268,049.00</u>
<b>Federal Forfeitures – Department of Justice Fund</b>	
Previously Approved Resources	70,000.00
Other	-
From (To) Fund Balance	35,587.00
Total Amended Resources	<u>105,587.00</u>
Previously Approved Appropriations	70,000.00
Requested Changes	35,587.00
Total Amended Appropriations	<u>105,587.00</u>
<b>Police Grants Fund</b>	
Previously Approved Resources	3,227,675.99
Other	350,000.00
From (To) Fund Balance	-
Total Amended Resources	<u>3,577,675.99</u>
Previously Approved Appropriations	3,227,675.99

Requested Changes	350,000.00
Total Amended Appropriations	<u>3,577,675.99</u>
<b>Fire Grants Fund</b>	
Previously Approved Resources	6,466,474.86
Other	1,545.60
From (To) Fund Balance	-
Total Amended Resources	<u>6,468,020.46</u>
Previously Approved Appropriations	6,466,474.86
Requested Changes	1,545.60
Total Amended Appropriations	<u>6,468,020.46</u>
<b>Firefighter Retiree Health Care Fund</b>	
Previously Approved Resources	2,768,874.00
Other	-
From (To) Fund Balance	850,000.00
Total Amended Resources	<u>3,618,874.00</u>
Previously Approved Appropriations	2,768,874.00
Requested Changes	850,000.00
Total Amended Appropriations	<u>3,618,874.00</u>

**Result: Approved****Mover: Ysasi. Supporter: Perdue.****Yeas: Knight, Perdue, Robbins, Ysasi, LaGrand, Belchak**

Motion to give ordinance amending Section 1 of the Budget Ordinance 2024-23 for Fiscal Year 2025 (Amendment No. 8) immediate effect.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS****94609 Result: Closed**

Public Hearing for Establishing Property Taxes and the Proposed FY2026 Budget

**94610 Result: Referred to Committee of the Whole.**

Public Hearing considering FY2026 Service Provision Fees to be effective July 1, 2025

**DOCUMENTS FILED****94611 Result: Received and Filed**

Independent Contractor Agreement with Ovell Rome and Associates for interim Human Resources leadership submitted for the public record.

**94612 Result: Received and Filed**

Professional Services Agreement between Upton Consulting Group LLC and the City of Grand Rapids for a Closing Keynote Experience during the Grand Rapids Neighborhood Summit submitted for the public record.

**94613 Result: Received and Filed**

Grand Rapids Christian School Facility Use Agreement for summer recreation activities submitted for the public record.

**94614 Result: Received and Filed**

Professional Services Agreement between the City of Grand Rapids and Scales Consulting, LLC for public meeting facilitation services to support the "Development with Us" (DwUs) program submitted for the public record.

**94615 Result: Received and Filed**

Agreement between the City of Grand Rapids and the Wisdom Center, LLC for the provision of mental health counseling following the Schurr trial submitted for the public record.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Commission Adjourned at 9:08 p.m.

JOEL H. HONDORP  
City Clerk