



City of East Grand Rapids  
Regular City Commission Meeting  
Agenda

YouTube Livestream:  
<https://bit.ly/2xXILvn>  
Begins at 6 pm.

**January 19, 2021 – 6:00 p.m.**  
(EGR Community Center – 750 Lakeside Drive)

Citizens may attend the meeting in person or virtually.

Virtual attendance/ participation information:

<https://www.eastgr.org/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=742>

1. Call to Order.
2. Approval of Agenda.
3. Public Comment.
4. Report of Mayor and City Commissioners.

Regular Agenda Items

5. Resolution supporting veteran's transportation pilot through Disability Advocates of Kent County (*no hearing required; action requested*).

Consent Agenda Items (*no hearing required; approval requested unless noted*)

6. Receipt of communications (*no action required*).
7. Minutes of the regular meeting held January 4, 2021.
8. Report of Finance Committee on disbursement of funds: payroll disbursements of \$405,579.49; county and school disbursements of \$590,768.60, and total remaining disbursements of \$222,024.98.

Work Session

9. FY 2020-21 Goals & Objectives Update.
10. Budget Schedule for FY 2021-2022.

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*Public hearings will be held if noted in each agenda item. If no hearing is noted, comments should be made during "Public Comment" in Item 3. The City will provide reasonable auxiliary aids for individuals requiring them for effective communication in programs and services of the City. Notice must be made to the City five (5) days prior to the program or service requesting the specific auxiliary aid.*



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KATIE FAVALE  
MAYOR

**MEMORANDUM**

TO:            City Commissioners  
FROM:        Katie Favale, Mayor  
DATE:        January 6, 2021

RE:            Resolution of Support for Veterans Transportation Micro Pilot

Action Requested: That the City Commission consider adoption of a resolution supporting the micro pilot program for veterans transportation initiated by the West Michigan Veterans Coalition, Feonix/Mobility Rising, Disability Advocates of Kent County, and Kent County Veterans Services.

Background: At the City Commission meeting on January 4, the commission heard a presentation outlining a new program to provide transportation services to veterans and their family members in the Kent County area. Following the presentation, the commission asked that a resolution of support be prepared for adoption at their next meeting. A resolution prepared by Paul Ryan of the West Michigan Veterans Coalition is attached for consideration.

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Doug LaFave, Interim City Manager

kb/9652  
Attachment



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RESOLUTION

- WHEREAS, The 33,000 veterans who reside in Kent County, Michigan, and their families, work incredibly hard to create a high quality of life upon completion of military service but too often struggle to overcome logistical gaps separating them from services that can support their long-term wellbeing, and
- WHEREAS, Veterans suffering from mobility challenges such as inadequate transit options or absence of a working vehicle may experience a decline in physical health, as exemplified by increased frequency of Emergency Room visits, higher hospital admission rates, and decreased survival rates for illnesses such as lung and prostate cancer, and
- WHEREAS, A correlation is noted between the barrier to health care that travel-related obstacles create and veteran mental health, including post-traumatic stress disorder, and for veterans living more than thirty miles from a mental health treatment facility, treatment rates tend to be lower than for other populations, and
- WHEREAS, Veterans disadvantaged by mobility challenges can also experience negative outcomes with respect to employment, social isolation, and other aspects of quality of life, and
- WHEREAS, Four non-profit organizations – the West Michigan Veterans Coalition, Feonix/Mobility Rising, Disability Advocates of Kent County, and Kent County Veterans Services – have partnered to launch a force of volunteer drivers to make it easier for veterans, their family members and caregivers to access what they need for security and wellbeing by removing barriers to transportation, such as gaps in service areas, eligibility requirements, destination restrictions and prohibitive cost, thereby creating a path to improve the conditions that impact veterans’ social determinants of health and support their stability and engagement in activities that facilitate health and well-being, and
- NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the City of East Grand Rapids commends the West Michigan Veterans Coalition, Feonix/Mobility Rising, Disability Advocates of Kent County, and Kent County Veterans Services for their efforts in helping to create a better future for military-connected families and individuals, and encourages all veterans residing in Kent County who may need transportation assistance, for whatever reason, to seek such assistance from the aforementioned organizations through appropriate channels.

Adopted by the East Grand Rapids City Commission at  
their regularly scheduled meeting on January 19, 2021.

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Karen K. Brower, City Clerk

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COMMISSION  
CITY OF EAST GRAND RAPIDS

**Regular Meeting Held January 4, 2021**

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. She announced the meeting was also being held electronically as allowed by the recent amendment to the Michigan Open Meetings Act in response to the COVID-19 crisis. She invited any citizen attending by computer or phone to ask questions or offer comments during the public comment times.

Present in Person: Commissioners Hamrick and Mayor Favale

Present Virtually: Commissioners Arendshorst, Duncan, Hecksel, Pachla and Walters

Absent: None

Also Present: City Attorney Huff; Interim City Manager LaFave; Finance Director Seath; Public Safety Director Herald; City Clerk Brower; Parks & Recreation Director Bunn; Recreation Supervisor Fasbender; Recreation Supervisor Granstra; Recreation Supervisor Slater, Administrative Clerk Ritzke; Administrative Clerk Molenaar; Administrative Clerk Orrs; Shea Charles

2021-01. The agenda was approved as published.

2021-02. Recreation Supervisor Fasbender spoke on behalf of the Parks & Recreation Department employees to thank Fred Bunn for his years of leadership and commitment to the community and wished him well in his retirement.

Pete Ricketson, 6356 Durham (Whitehall), a Rapid bus driver, updated the commission on the contract negotiations between the Rapid and the transportation union and asked the city to contact the Rapid leadership and urge them to treat the employees honestly and fairly.

2021-03. Commissioner Hamrick wished everyone a Happy New Year. She also welcomed Shea Charles to his first city commission meeting.

Commissioner Hecksel recognized the lasting effect Fred's enthusiastic and passionate leadership has had on the community.

Commissioner Walters noted Fred had been a great ambassador for the community and praised the department's efforts to continue offering recreation programs and outdoor recreation spaces during the COVID pandemic.

Commissioner Pachla also commended Fred Bunn on his career accomplishments and noted that he would be missed by so many. Mr. Pachla reminded residents that Christmas trees were being picked up by the Public Works Department until January 15.

Commissioners Duncan and Arendshorst thanked Mr. Bunn for his 30 years of service and wished him well after retirement.

Interim City Manager LaFave voiced his appreciation for Fred's leadership and his willingness to jump in and help in any situation needed. Mr. LaFave announced the next city commission meeting would be on Tuesday, January 19 due to the Martin Luther King holiday.

Mayor Favale presented Fred Bunn with a proclamation naming January 15, 2021 as "Fred Bunn Day" in East Grand Rapids to honor his retirement. She also announced that the planned multi-use trails at Manhattan Park would be named "the Fred Bunn Trails" as a tribute to Fred's commitment to all forms of recreation opportunities for the citizens of our area.

2021-04. Laura St. Louis of Disability Advocates of Kent County, Valerie Lefler of Feonix-Mobility Rising and Paul Ryan of the West Michigan Veterans Coalition presented information on their partnership to offer transportation to veterans and their families in the area.

Commissioner Hamrick asked that a resolution of support for this program be drafted for adoption at the next meeting.

2021-05. City Manager Employment Agreement.

City Attorney Huff outlined the basic terms of the contract with Shea Charles as the new city manager.

Shea Charles thanked Mr. Huff and Mayor Favale for working with him on the terms of the agreement and stated he hoped to begin work in early- to mid-February.

2021-05-A. Hamrick-Pachla. That a three-year employment agreement with Shea Charles as the new city manager be approved as outlined in the agenda materials.

Yeas: Arendshorst, Duncan, Hamrick, Hecksel, Pachla, Walters and Favale – 7  
Nays: -0-

2021-06. Pachla-Arendshorst. To approve the consent agenda as follows:

2021-06-A. Minutes of the regular meeting held December 21, 2020.

2021-06-B. The reappointment of David Bilardello to the Interurban Transit Partnership Board for a two-year term ending December 31, 2022.

Yeas: Arendshorst, Duncan, Hamrick, Hecksel, Pachla, Walters and Favale – 7  
Nays: -0-

2021-07. Mayor Favale reopened the meeting for public comment. No public comment was received.

The meeting adjourned at 6:42 p.m., subject to the call of the Mayor until January 4, 2021.

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Karen K. Brower, City Clerk



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DOUG LAFAVE  
ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Commissioners  
FROM: Doug La Fave, Interim City Manager  
DATE: January 12, 2021  
  
RE: FY 20-21 Goals and Objectives Update

Action Requested: N/A

Background: Department Directors will provide the City Commission with brief updates to FY 20-21 goals and objectives during the work session at the January 19 City Commission Meeting. As part of our FY 21-22 budget process staff has begun to update and review goals to share and dialogue with the City Commission to align with our Strategic Plan, Master Plan, Parks and Recreation Plan as well as internal process improvements. For purposes of the work session Department Directors will pick a few goals from the current FY that we are partially through to provide updates as noted and answer any questions. A PowerPoint presentation will be shared during the meeting with the City Commission and the public attending.

Included with materials is the FY 21-22 budget timeline/outline as well.

**CITY OF EAST GRAND RAPIDS**  
**2021-22 BUDGET TIMETABLE**

- 1/5/21 - Goals & Objectives packets distributed to departments
- 1/12/21 - Capital Improvement packets distributed to departments.
  - Budget information distributed to departments.
- 1/19/21 - Goals & Objectives due to City Manager.
- 1/26/21 - Capital Improvement entry deadline.
- 2/2/21 - Budget information entry deadline (BS&A).
  - Fee schedule changes due to Karen Brower
- 2/8/21  
to 2/12/21 - Goals & Objectives and CIP review with City Manager.
- 2/15/21  
to 2/19/21 - Budget meetings with City Manager & Finance Director
- 3/15/21 - Goals & Objectives reviewed at end of regular City Commission meeting.
- 4/14/21 - Budget and CIP documents sent out to City Commission.
- 4/16/21 - Finance Committee reviews vehicle replacements and fee schedule changes.
- 4/19/21 - City Commission Budget Overview at City Commission meeting.
- 5/3/21 - City Commission CIP work session following City Commission meeting.
- 5/17/21 - City Commission to hold a budget work session following City Commission meeting.
  - Set water/sewer rates
- 5/24/21 - City Commission to hold a budget work session at 6:00 pm. (if needed).
- 6/7/21 - City Commission to conduct public hearing on budget.
  - City Commission to conduct special meeting following regular City Commission meeting to adopt the budget, fee schedule and to set the millage rate.