

**GRAND LEDGE CITY COUNCIL**  
**310 GREENWOOD ST.**  
**GRAND LEDGE MI 48837**  
**(517) 627-2149**

**CITY COUNCIL MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING**  
**MONDAY, 12 JANUARY 2026 – 7:00 P.M.**  
**COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL**  
**310 GREENWOOD ST., GRAND LEDGE MI 48837**

- I. ROLL CALL OF COUNCIL** – Mayor Keith Mulder; Mayor Pro-Tem Rick Lantz; and Council Members Brett Gillespie, Tom Jancek, Dave Logel, and Don Willems  
– Council Member Lynne MacDowell was excused
- OTHERS PRESENT** – Adam Smith, City Manager; Ameer King, Assistant City Manager; Gregory Newman, City Clerk; Ron Erickson, Chief of Police; Rich Morrison, Community Development Director; Dave Gutchess, Public Services Superintendent

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Mulder led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**III. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

The public did not comment.

**IV. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Motion** – To approve the Monday, 12 January 2026 City Council consent agenda, as follows:
- i. Financial transactions and bills.
  - ii. Monday, 08 December 2025 City Council minutes.
  - iii. Resolution #01 of 2026 – To amend the City of Grand Ledge Poverty Exemption Guidelines.
  - iv. Change Order No. 5 for the Well No. 2 Raw Water Main.

COUNCIL MEMBER GILLESPIE MOVED, COUNCIL MEMBER LOGEL SECONDED, TO APPROVE THE MONDAY, 12 JANUARY 2026 CITY COUNCIL CONSENT AGENDA. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**V. APPROVAL OF REGULAR AGENDA**

- A. Motion** – To approve the Monday, 12 January 2026 City Council regular agenda.

COUNCIL MEMBER GILLESPIE MOVED, COUNCIL MEMBER LOGEL SECONDED, TO APPROVE THE MONDAY, 12 JANUARY 2026 CITY COUNCIL REGULAR AGENDA.

COUNCIL MEMBER LANTZ MOVED, COUNCIL MEMBER LOGEL SECONDED, TO AMEND THE MONDAY, 12 JANUARY 2026 CITY COUNCIL REGULAR AGENDA BY STRIKING ITEM IX. C., A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE A FIVE-YEAR EXTENSION AND AMENDMENT OF THE CITY MANAGER EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT WITH ADAM SMITH. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOTION TO APPROVED THE MONDAY, 12 JANUARY 2026 CITY COUNCIL REGULAR AGENDA, AS AMENDED BY STRIKING ITEM IX. C., A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE A FIVE-YEAR EXTENSION AND AMENDMENT OF THE CITY MANAGER EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT WITH ADAM SMITH, CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**B. Presentation** – Ev Effect Foundation Pay-It-Forward grant.

Laura Guild, Ev Effect, explained information about the Ev Effect Foundation and its Pay-It-Forward Grant.

Charlie Fredericks, Beagle Middle School Student, explained why he chose to donate the Pay-It-Forward Grant to the Jaycee Park Universally Designed ADA Accessible Playground.

Mayor Mulder thanked Charlie Fredericks for his donation to the Jaycee Park Universally Designed ADA Accessible Playground.

MAYOR MULDER DECLARED A RECESS OF THE MONDAY, 12 JANUARY 2026, CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING, AT 7:09 P.M.

MAYOR MULDER RECONVENED THE MONDAY, 12 JANUARY 2026, CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING, AT 7:11 P.M.

**VI. COMMITTEE AND BOARD REPORTS**

**Abrams Municipal Airport Advisory Commission**

Adam Smith, City Manager, reported the Abrams Municipal Airport Advisory Commission did not have a quorum at its 06 January 2026 meeting.

**Board of Cemetery Trustees**

Adam Smith, City Manager, reported the Board of Cemetery Trustees met on 16 December 2025 and discussed the Oakwood Cemetery Rules and Regulations for burials of non-immediate family.

**Downtown Development Authority**

Adam Smith, City Manager, reported the Downtown Development Authority met on 10 December 2025 and approved the 2026-2027 Downtown Development Authority Priorities.

### **Parks and Recreation Commission**

Adam Smith, City Manager, reported the Parks and Recreation Commission met on 11 December 2025 and approved Dance Walk signs at Fitzgerald Memorial Ball Field, recommended Rowe Professional Services Company for the Parks and Recreation Master Plan update, and set 18 April 2026 for Earth Day activities.

### **Planning Commission**

Adam Smith, City Manager, reported the Planning Commission met on 08 January 2026 to recommend the Master Plan.

## **VII. STAFF REPORTS**

### **Manager's Office**

Amee King, Assistant City Manager, reported on personnel interviews Abrams Municipal Airport taxiway lighting issues, mowing contract requests for proposals, the Downtown Development Authority 2026-2027 Priorities, and City Hall biannual maintenance.

### **Community Development Office**

Rich Morrison, Community Development Director, reported on the Planning Commission's recommendation on the Master Plan, the transition to interim Zoning Administrator work, the Jaycee Park ADA Observation Platform project, and the Parks and Recreation Commission's recommendation of Rowe Professional Services Company for its Master Plan update.

### **Department of Public Services**

Dave Gutchess, Public Services Superintendent, reported on Wastewater Treatment Plant statistics, the Wastewater Treatment Plant and Collection System Improvements CWSRF Project #5825-01, street maintenance, leaf collection, snow and ice removal, catch basin cleaning and debris removal, Iron Removal Plant statistics, water quality testing, the Well No. 11 project, MISS DIG activity, and utility billing shut-offs.

The City Council discussed the utility billing shut-offs, and thanked staff for the snow and ice removal efforts and the recent boil water notifications.

### **Assessing Department**

Adam Smith, City Manager, mentioned the Assessing Department monthly report is included in the packet of supporting material for tonight's meeting.

### **Building Department**

Adam Smith, City Manager, mentioned the Building Department monthly report is included in the packet of supporting material for tonight's meeting.

- A. Motion** – To receive and place on file the December 2025 staff reports from the Manager’s Office, Community Development Office, Department of Public Services, Assessing Department, and Building Department.

COUNCIL MEMBER LOGEL MOVED, COUNCIL MEMBER GILLESPIE SECONDED, TO RECEIVE AND PLACE ON FILE THE DECEMBER 2025 STAFF REPORTS FROM THE MANAGER’S OFFICE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OFFICE, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICES, ASSESSING DEPARTMENT, AND BUILDING DEPARTMENT. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- A. Motion** – To adopt the 2026 & 2027 City Council Priorities.

COUNCIL MEMBER GILLESPIE MOVED, COUNCIL MEMBER LOGEL SECONDED, TO ADOPT THE 2026 & 2027 CITY COUNCIL PRIORITIES.

Adam Smith, City Manager, explained the development of the 2026 & 2027 City Council Priorities.

MOTION TO ADOPT THE 2026 & 2027 CITY COUNCIL PRIORITIES, CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- B. Resolution #02 of 2026** – To amend the Agreement for Police Services with the Grand Ledge Public Schools.

COUNCIL MEMBER GILLESPIE MOVED, COUNCIL MEMBER LANTZ SECONDED, TO ADOPT RESOLUTION #02 OF 2026, TO AMEND THE AGREEMENT FOR POLICE SERVICES WITH THE GRAND LEDGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

Adam Smith, City Manager, explained the second amendment to the Agreement for Police Services with the Grand Ledge Public Schools extends the term for an additional five years and mentioned the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education is considering the agreement on its agenda tonight.

The City Council debated the two Police Officers assigned to Beagle Middle School and Grand Ledge High School, and thanked city and school staff for the five-year agreement.

MOTION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION #02 OF 2026, TO AMEND THE AGREEMENT FOR POLICE SERVICES WITH THE GRAND LEDGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS, CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**IX. NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Motion** – To adopt the Fiscal Year 2027 budget calendar.

COUNCIL MEMBER LANTZ MOVED, COUNCIL MEMBER GILLESPIE SECONDED, TO ADOPT THE FISCAL YEAR 2027 BUDGET CALENDAR.

Adam Smith, City Manager, explained the Fiscal Year 2027 budget calendar and the work already underway.

MOTION TO ADOPT THE FISCAL YEAR 2027 BUDGET CALENDAR, CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- B. Resolution #03 of 2026** – To approve a bid award to Rowe Professional Services Company for the Parks and Recreation Master Plan Update.

COUNCIL MEMBER LOGEL MOVED, COUNCIL MEMBER JANCEK SECONDED, TO ADOPT RESOLUTION #03 OF 2026, TO APPROVE A BID AWARD TO ROWE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES COMPANY FOR THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MASTER PLAN UPDATE.

Adam Smith, City Manager, explained the Parks and Recreation Commission recommends approving the bid award to Rowe Professional Services Company for the Parks and Recreation Master Plan update, and mentioned the need for supplemental funding through a future budget amendment.

MOTION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION #03 OF 2026, TO APPROVE A BID AWARD TO ROWE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES COMPANY FOR THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MASTER PLAN UPDATE, CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**X. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

The public did not comment.

**XI. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL**

The City Council wished everyone a Happy New Year.

Council Member Gillespie encouraged residents to contact their federal and state representatives about infrastructure funding.

Council Member Jancek thanked staff for their work during the holidays on snow and ice removal, and commented on the city's professional management, Mayor, and Council Members.

Mayor Mulder recognized the new Grand Ledge Area Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Laura Guild; and reappointed Helen Hagg, Daniel Harris, Tom Jancek, Darrek Laderman, Lynne MacDowell, Keith Mulder, and Bobby Prater to the Abrams Municipal Airport Advisory Commission; reappointed Robin Bessette to the Board of Cemetery Trustees; reappointed Amy Hoyes, Lynne MacDowell, Keith Mulder, and Don Willems to the Board of Review; reappointed Todd Gute, Mike Stevens, and Rodney Young to the Construction Board of Appeals; reappointed Terrance Augustine, Dana Beattie, and Chris Fata to the Downtown Development Authority; reappointed Mike Krombeen, Amber Slocum, and Casey McDonnell to the Parks and Recreation Commission; reappointed Todd Gute and Mike Stevens to the Planning Commission; and appointed

Denise Hedlund and reappointed Tim McClung, Tom Nelson, and Carol Weigel to the Zoning Board of Appeals.

COUNCIL MEMBER GILLESPIE MOVED, COUNCIL MEMBER LOGEL SECONDED, TO APPROVE THE MAYOR'S REAPPOINTMENT OF HELEN HAGG, DANIEL HARRIS, TOM JANCEK, DARREK LADERMAN, LYNNE MACDOWELL, KEITH MULDER, AND BOBBY PRATER TO THE ABRAMS MUNICIPAL AIRPORT ADVISORY COMMISSION. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

COUNCIL MEMBER GILLESPIE MOVED, COUNCIL MEMBER LANTZ SECONDED, TO APPROVE THE MAYOR'S REAPPOINTMENT OF ROBIN BESSETTE TO THE BOARD OF CEMETERY TRUSTEES. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

COUNCIL MEMBER LANTZ MOVED, COUNCIL MEMBER LOGEL SECONDED, TO APPROVE THE MAYOR'S REAPPOINTMENT OF AMY HOYES, LYNNE MACDOWELL, KEITH MULDER, AND DON WILLEMS TO THE BOARD OF REVIEW. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

COUNCIL MEMBER LOGEL MOVED, COUNCIL MEMBER JANCEK SECONDED, TO APPROVE THE MAYOR'S REAPPOINTMENT OF TODD GUTE, MIKE STEVENS, AND RODNEY YOUNG TO THE CONSTRUCTION BOARD OF APPEALS. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

COUNCIL MEMBER GILLESPIE MOVED, COUNCIL MEMBER JANCEK SECONDED, TO APPROVE THE MAYOR'S REAPPOINTMENT OF TERRANCE AUGUSTINE, DANA BEATTIE, AND CHRIS FATA TO THE DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

COUNCIL MEMBER LOGEL MOVED, COUNCIL MEMBER JANCEK SECONDED, TO APPROVE THE MAYOR'S REAPPOINTMENT OF MIKE KROMBEEN, CASEY MCDONNELL, AND AMBER SLOCUM TO THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

COUNCIL MEMBER GILLESPIE MOVED, COUNCIL MEMBER LANTZ SECONDED, TO APPROVE THE MAYOR'S REAPPOINTMENT OF TODD GUTE AND MIKE STEVENS TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

COUNCIL MEMBER GILLESPIE MOVED, COUNCIL MEMBER JANCEK SECONDED, TO APPROVE THE MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF DENISE HEDLUND AND REAPPOINTMENT OF TIM MCCLUNG, TOM NELSON, AND CAROL WEIGEL TO THE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**XII. CLOSED SESSION**

**XIII. ADJOURNMENT**

COUNCIL MEMBER LOGEL MOVED, COUNCIL MEMBER GILLESPIE SECONDED, TO  
ADJOURN THE MONDAY, 12 JANUARY 2026 CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING, AT  
7:47 P.M. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.



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Gregory I. Newman, City Clerk

*Keith O Mulder*

[Keith O Mulder \(Jan 30, 2026 09:46:12 EST\)](#)

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Keith O. Mulder, Mayor