

Councilor Zabinski introduced the following resolution and moved for its adoption:

RESOLUTION 15-48

**RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR THE POLYMET MINING PROJECT
CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS, MINNESOTA**

WHEREAS, the City of Grand Rapids, Minnesota, is aware that the PolyMet Mining project, which is not located in the Boundary Waters watershed, is proceeding through the joint State and Federal environmental review and permitting process; and

WHEREAS, the metals that PolyMet Mining will mine are essential for daily life – copper, nickel, cobalt, platinum, palladium and gold – found in countless products including cell phones, computers, joint replacements, medical treatments and devices, wind turbines and catalytic converters; and

WHEREAS, the combination of strict Minnesota regulations and PolyMet’s commitment to mining in a way that protects the environment will serve as a global template for responsible, ethical and successful mining practices; and

WHEREAS, the proposed mining and processing operation will create 360 direct jobs and over 600 indirect jobs in St. Louis County alone; and

WHEREAS, it is anticipated that the PolyMet Mining project will require two million hours of labor during its construction phase; and

WHEREAS, PolyMet Mining will diversify and expand the economy by contributing millions of dollars to local cities, school districts and the State through net proceeds taxes, occupation taxes, and sales taxes; and

WHEREAS, PolyMet Mining will enter into a land exchange with the U.S. Forest Service that will result in approximately 6,700 acres of new, formerly private lands, being opened to public recreation; and

WHEREAS, Grand Rapids will benefit through distributions of the Net Proceeds Tax to the Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation Board and the public grants that are offered through their programs; and


WHEREAS, Grand Rapids is home to several construction contractors and mining industry suppliers and vendors who, along with their employees, will benefit by providing construction and on-going operational services to Polymet Mining.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Grand Rapids strongly support the PolyMet Mining project.

Adopted by the Council this 13th day of July, 2015.


Dale Adams, Mayor

ATTEST:


Kimberly Gibeau, City Clerk

Council member Zeige seconded the foregoing resolution and the following voted in favor thereof: Zeige, Blake, Zabinski, Christy, Adams ; and the following voted against same: None; whereby the resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.