



City of Grand Forks  
Staff Report

Committee of the Whole: **October 11, 2021**  
City Council – **October 18, 2021**

**APPROVED & ACCEPTED**  
by City Council

10/18/2021

*Maureen Storstad*  
Maureen Storstad  
City Auditor

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**Agenda Item: Appointment to Grand Forks Historic Preservation Commission**

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**Submitted by: Mayor Brandon Bochenski**

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**Staff Recommended Action: Confirm appointment for new Member (legal background)**

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**Committee Action:** Motion by Weber, second by Dachtler to approve. Motion carried unanimously.

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**Council Action:** Motion by Weber, second by Kvamme, to approve. Motion carried unanimously.

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**BACKGROUND:** The Grand Forks Historic Preservation Commission provides research, resources, and expertise in the exercise of the City's preservation goals and needs. The Commission provides local review for historic projects which would otherwise be reviewed by the state or federal government; time is saved and local control is maintained. The city's budget allocation is doubled through the Commission's grant writing efforts, and the City's economic development efforts are enhanced by historic building preservation projects which the Commission actively promotes and facilitates. Grand Forks is more attractive and vibrant as a result of its commitment to historic preservation evidenced by the work of the Historic Preservation Commission.

The Grand Forks Historic Preservation Commission consists of eleven community members from Grand Forks. Those members are appointed by the mayor and shall be persons who, in the opinion of the mayor, have demonstrated outstanding interest and knowledge in historical or architectural development. A majority of the commission members shall be made up of persons from among professionals in the disciplines of architecture, history, architectural history, planning, archeology or other historic preservation related disciplines, such as urban planning, American studies, American civilization, cultural geography or cultural anthropology, to the extent that such professionals are available in the community.

**ACTION:**

After reviewing the attached application and upon the endorsement of the Grand Forks Historic Preservation Commission I recommend the appointment of Ms. Jacey Johnston to serve as a member (with legal background) for a two year term.

With an interest in historic commercial and residential properties, Ms. Johnston has expressed a keen interest in serving on the Commission. She holds current law licenses as well as a realtor's license in both North Dakota and Minnesota.



# JOHNSTON FAMILY LAW

Relationships Are *Our* Business

August 31, 2021

City of Grand Forks  
Attn: Historic Preservation Commission

To Whom it May Concern:

I am submitting an application to join the Historic Preservation Commission as a law trained member, at the request of Judy Swisher.

I am a 2007 graduate of the University of North Dakota School of Law and a licensed attorney in the State of North Dakota. I also hold law licenses with the State of Minnesota, as well as the Federal District Court of North Dakota. Additionally, I hold a realtor's license in both North Dakota and Minnesota. All of the foregoing licensures are in good standing.

I am a native of Crookston, MN moving to Grand Forks in 1998 where my children were raised. I am a small business owner, and do have interest in commercial and residential properties in Grand Forks.

Sincerely,  
*/s/ Jacey Johnston*  
Jacey Johnston  
Attorney at Law