

June 6, 2016

Minutes of the regular meeting of the city council of the City of Kingsford, County of Dickinson, and State of Michigan.

A regular meeting of the Kingsford City Council was held Monday, June 06, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. in the council room in City Hall.

Roll Call: Present: Councilmember Baldinelli, Erickson, Flaminio, Dixon-Miller and Groeneveld
Absent:

Also present were City Manager Anthony Edlebeck, City Attorney Bruce Brouillette, Public Safety Director Metras, Public Works Superintendent Justin Wickman, Floyd Lindholm, Lieutenant Bolda, Sam Conery, Holly Palmer, Tamara Gingrass, Rick Gingrass, Lola Johnson, Evan Reid, Brenda Wiltzius, Mitch Wiltzius, Howard Plante, Mary Calo, Tina Martinson, Dennis Martinson, Brian Smeester, Christine Doughman and Dave Lee. The pledge of allegiance was stated.

A motion was made by Councilmember Flaminio and supported by Councilmember Baldinelli to approve the May 16, 2016 City Council Meeting minutes as corrected to show Public Safety instead of Public Works Report. ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

A motion was made by Councilmember Baldinelli and supported by Councilmember Erickson to approve the agenda as presented.
ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

A motion was made by Councilmember Dixon-Miller and supported by Councilmember Erickson to approve the invoices for May 16 thru June 6, 2016 in the amount of \$222,162.91.
ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

The consent agenda consisted of the following:

Public Works Report for May 2016

Superintendent Wickman is requesting permission to finish specifications and obtain bids for the exterior cleaning of our two water storage tanks on Maplewood Ct. This hasn't been done for a number of years and is due for a thorough cleaning.

A motion was made by Councilmember Baldinelli and supported by Councilmember Dixon-Miller to authorize the Superintendent to finish specifications and obtain bids for the cleaning of the storage tanks.
ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

City Manager Edlebeck explained that the Noxious Weed Ordinance was published in The Daily News on Monday May 23rd. Weed notices will be going out early this week to residents that haven't complied with the ordinance. The Kingsford Middle School students have completed the raking project at Ford Park again this year.

A motion was made by Councilmember Erickson and supported by Councilmember Dixon-Miller to send a Thank You letter to the Kingsford Middle School students.
ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

A motion was made by Councilmember Baldinelli and supported by Councilmember Erickson to receive and place on file the Public Works Report for May 2016.
ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

Under Public Comment, Lieutenant Bolda, representing the Northern Stars Soccer Club, wanted to thank MJ Electric and Dave Carlson, Eric Kleiman and Kleiman Well Drilling, Shaun Bruns and Kingsford Ace Hardware, Rob Blazier, Tom Sullivan and UP Truck Center, Justin Wickman, Dennis Nelson, and Kristin Gendron of Arcadis for their contribution in installing the safety nets at Commemorative Soccer Field. Tom coordinated the effort to have the nets donated and installed.

The first item under communications is a letter from Dawn Thurston dated June 1, 2016 notifying the City of her pending retirement on July 31, 2016. It should be noted that she represented the city as the Assessor/Assistant Zoning for 20 years and 8 months.

A motion was made by Councilmember Baldinelli and supported by Councilmember Erickson to accept Thurston's resignation and authorize for the advertising of the position of assessor.
ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

A Public Hearing was held at 6:45 p.m. regarding the Zoning Amendment for lots 1 & 2, Block 2, Ford's Addition. The notice for the Public Hearing was published in The Daily News on May 5, 2016 and was read aloud by the City Manager. The purpose of this hearing will be to receive any public comments and

any objections to a requested change in zoning from R-1B One Family Residential to B-1 Community Business. No written or verbal comments have been received on this Zoning Amendment by the City Manager. The Mayor asked three times if there are any comments. No one responded.

A motion was made by Councilmember Baldinelli and supported by Councilmember Erickson to approve the Zoning Amendment for lots 1 & 2 of Block 2 of Ford Addition.

ROLL CALL: AYES: Flaminio, Groeneveld, Dixon-Miller, Baldinelli and Erickson
NAYES: none

The second item under Communications is a letter from the Sons of the American Legion Squadron 50 requesting a contribution for the Fourth of July Fireworks Fund.

A motion was made by Councilmember Baldinelli and supported by Councilmember Flaminio to authorize a \$400.00 contribution for celebration toward the Fourth of July Fireworks.
ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

The next item under Communications is a letter from ACE (Americans for Constitutional Enforcement) requesting the City of Kingsford share in the expense of the liability insurance for the 4th of July parade.

A motion was made by Councilmember Erickson and supported by Councilmember Baldinelli to authorize the contribution of \$287.50 for the liability insurance and requiring ACE to put the City as an additional insured party.
ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

The next item under Communications is a letter from Wisconsin Electric Power Company Case No. U-18019 regarding a notice of hearing for June 2, 2016.

A motion was made by Councilmember Baldinelli and supported by Councilmember Dixon-Miller to receive and place on file the letter from Wisconsin Electric.
ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

The next item under Communications is a letter from Michigan Municipal League dated May 10, 2016 thanking us for our membership and support of the Michigan Municipal League.

A motion was made by Councilmember Erickson and supported by Councilmember Baldinelli to receive and place on file the letter from the Michigan Municipal League.
ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

The last item under Communications is from MDOT/CUPPAD regarding the Local Road Safety Plan. There is a meeting scheduled for June 23, 2016 in Escanaba and City Manager Edlebeck would like to attend as well as Superintendent Wickman.

A motion was made by Councilmember Erickson and supported by Councilmember Baldinelli to authorize City Manager Edlebeck and Superintendent Wickman to attend the meeting in Escanaba.
ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

The Manager's Report was presented by Edlebeck. The City Hall and Public Works parking lot crack sealing and pavement marking has been completed. The painting project at City Hall has been completed. Four maple trees have been planted in the city hall lawn. Funding was provided by the American Transmission Company Arbor Day Program. The Public Safety Department was approved for a Homeland Security Grant in the amount of \$29,939.00 to be used for fire equipment per the agreement and requires a 4.76% match.

A motion was made by Councilmember Baldinelli and supported by Councilmember Erickson to authorize the 4.75 % match to receive the grant funds.
ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

The next item under the Manager's Report is the Breen Avenue Project. Construction is scheduled to begin on June 7th. A notice has been sent to the Daily News and the Business owner in the area notifying them of construction in the area.

A motion was made by Councilmember Baldinelli and supported by Councilmember Erickson to recess and reconvene as the Zoning Board of Appeals.
ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

A Public Hearing was held at 7:00 p.m. for the Variance Request for 400 Lane Avenue. A Notice of Public Hearing was published in The Daily News on May 19, 2016 and the City Manager read aloud. There have been no comments verbal or written. The Mayor asked three times if there were any comments. No one responded.

A motion was made by Councilmember Erickson and supported by Councilmember Flaminio to allow the shed to be placed 1 foot from the undeveloped alley right of way instead of the required 10 feet.

ROLL CALL: AYES: Flaminio, Groeneveld, Dixon-Miller, Baldinelli and Erickson
NAYS: none

A motion was made by Councilmember Erickson and supported by Councilmember Flaminio to adjourn the public hearing and reconvene the City Council.
ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

The last item under the Manager's Report is step 3 of a grievance pertaining to Section 44 of the AFSCME Contract with the Public Works Department. It is customary for the negotiating committee to represent the City council and meet with them.

A motion was made by Councilmember Erickson and supported by Councilmember Flaminio to authorize the negotiating committee to schedule a meeting to address the grievance and report back to the Council.
ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

A motion was made by Councilmember Baldinelli and supported by Councilmember Dixon-Miller to receive and place on file the Manager's Report dated June 6, 2016.
ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

The only item under Old Business is the Master Plan Update distribution. The Planning Commission recommends that the City Council authorize CUPPAD to distribute the plan update to area agencies for review and comment.

A motion was made by Councilmember Baldinelli and supported by Councilmember Dixon-Miller to authorize the distribution of the Master Plan update.
ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

The first item under New Business is the Appointment of Treasurer. Holly Palmer has been working as the Acting Treasurer since February 17, 2016 and City Manager Edlebeck is recommending that the City Council appoint Holly Palmer as the City Treasurer at this time.

A motion was made by Councilmember Erickson and supported by Councilmember Dixon-Miller to appoint Holly Palmer to the position of Treasurer.
ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

The second and third items under New Business is a proposed resolution regarding water and sewer rate increases. The City Manager explained the City of Kingsford and the Iron Mountain – Kingsford Waste Water Plant has realized a significant reduction in sewer treatment revenues primarily due to implementation of cost efficiency modifications at the Grede LLC foundry.

The city has experienced a reduction in revenue in order to process and distribute drinking water and maintain the system along with conveying the wastewater through the city, maintaining the sewer system and treatment of wastewater at the Iron Mountain – Kingsford Wastewater Plant.

Calculations reflect an average 3,000,000 gallon per month reduction in water sales equating to a loss in revenues of \$6,500 / month and equates to a needed \$0.38/1000 gallon increase in rates to balance the revenue loss.

Calculations reflect an average 3,000,000 gallon per month reduction wastewater conveying and treatment by the City. The wastewater sale reduction reflects 3,000,000 gallons equating to a loss in revenues of \$4,170/month and equating to a \$0.30/1000 gallon increase in rates to balance the revenue loss.

The IM-K Waste Water Authority has calculated a need of a \$0.13/1000 needed to balance the revenue loss due to the reduction in wastewater being treated at the plant. The Authority Board has approved a \$0.13/1000 gallon increase due to loss of revenue and is asking the City Councils to approve an increase.

The City Manager's recommendation is to raise the water rate by \$0.40/1000 gallons and the total sewer rate by \$0.40/1000 gallons (\$0.13/1000gallons for the WWTP and \$0.27/1000 gallons for the city) as reflected in the enclosed resolutions.

A discussion was held regarding this increase with comments from resident Brian Smeester and Lola Johnson.

A motion was made by Councilmember Baldinelli and supported by Councilmember Erickson to recess and reconvene as the Zoning Board of Appeals.
ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

A Public Hearing was held at 7:15 p.m. for the Variance Request for 409 Newton Avenue. A Notice of Public Hearing was published in The Daily News on May 19, 2016 and read aloud by the City Manager. The resident is requesting a variance for a porch to be 2 feet 9 inches less than the required 25 foot

variance that is required. There have been no comments verbal or written received. The Mayor asked three times if there were any comments. No one responded.

A motion was made by Councilmember Flaminio and supported by Councilmember Erickson to allow the variance requested for 409 Newton Avenue.

ROLL CALL: AYES: Flaminio, Groeneveld, Dixon-Miller, Baldinelli and Erickson
NAYS: none

A motion was made by Councilmember Baldinelli and supported by Councilmember Dixon-Miller to adjourn and reconvene as the City Council.
ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

Continuing under New Business regarding Sewer and Water Rate Increases comments were made by Mary Calo. A discussion took place regarding the increase in rates.

A Public Hearing was held at 7:30 p.m. for the 2016-2017 Annual Appropriations Budget Hearing. City Manager Edlebeck explained that the General Fund Millage rate has been recommended to be increased to 18.000 mills due to recommendations to increase revenues for capital expenditures. Primarily, this is to establish a fund for capital expenses for the replacement of equipment in excess of 30 years old. Public comments were made by Brian Smeester regarding the property tax increase. Christine Doughman also addressed the Council regarding the tax increase. Howard Plante addressed the Council regarding the tax increase. Mary Calo addressed the Council regarding the proposed tax increase. Councilmember Dixon-Miller commented that the City should cut something else out of the budget instead of increasing the millage. Councilmember Baldinelli commented that we need a new fire truck and to replace outdated equipment. Councilmember Flaminio commented that it may have been wiser to slowly increase the tax amount over the years instead of all at once. Councilmember Groeneveld commented that nobody wants to raise taxes but it is now necessary. Councilmember Erickson commented that the fire truck is necessary.

A motion was made by Councilmember Erickson and supported by Councilmember Flaminio to finalize the specifications for the fire truck and go out for bids.
ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

A motion was made by Councilmember Baldinelli and supported by Councilmember Erickson to adopt Resolution 2016/6/6.1 for the General Appropriations Act 2016-2017.

ROLL CALL: AYES: Flaminio, Groeneveld, Baldinelli, Erickson
NAYES: Dixon-Miller

Continuing under New Business there are Resolutions regarding rate increases on water and sewer charges. Councilmember Groeneveld commented that even with the rate increase Kingsford would have the 2nd lowest rates in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan.

A motion was made by Councilmember Baldinelli and supported by Councilmember Erickson to adopt Resolution No. 2016/6/6.2 Increasing Wastewater Treatment Sewer Rates.

ROLL CALL: AYES: Flaminio, Groeneveld, Dixon-Miller, Baldinelli, Erickson
NAYS: none

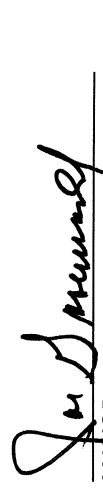
A motion was made by Councilmember Flaminio and supported by Councilmember Groeneveld to adopt Resolution No. 2016/6/6.3 Increasing Water Rates.

ROLL CALL: AYES: Flaminio, Groeneveld, Dixon-Miller, Baldinelli, Erickson
NAYS: none

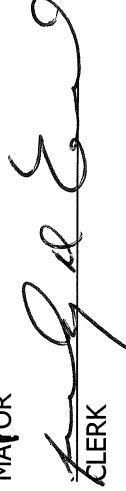
Under Public Comments, Mary Calo addressed the City Council regarding the Hosking Tire building.

Under Council Member's Privilege, Councilmember Erickson commented that it was appreciated to have citizens come out and participate in the meeting. Councilmember Groeneveld agreed with Erickson.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Councilmember Erickson and supported by Councilmember Dixon-Miller to adjourn.
ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.



MAYOR



CLERK