

May 18, 2020

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

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the regular meeting of the Kingsford City Council was held electronically via Zoom on Monday, May 18, 2020 at 6:30 pm.

Roll Call: Present: Councilmember Baldinelli, Flaminio, Groeneveld, Dixon-Miller and Remer  
Absent: none

City staff also present via Zoom were City Manager Anthony Edlebeck, City Attorney Bruce Brouillette, Public Safety Director Brian Metras, Public Works Superintendent Jeff DeMuri, KPSD Sgt. Tim Olsen, Treasurer Holly Palmer Deputy Clerk Tanya Hiltonen and David Holmes [Breitung Township Schools].

Note: Since the meeting is held via Zoom, all motions require a roll call vote.

The pledge of allegiance was stated.

A motion was made by Councilmember Flaminio and supported by Councilmember Remer to approve the May 4, 2020 City Council Meeting minutes as presented.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Baldinelli, Flaminio, Groeneveld, Dixon-Miller and Remer  
Nays: None  
MOTION CARRIED.

A motion was made by Councilmember Groeneveld and supported by Councilmember Dixon-Miller to approve the May 12, 2020 Special City Council Meeting minutes as presented.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Baldinelli, Flaminio, Groeneveld, Dixon-Miller and Remer  
Nays: None  
MOTION CARRIED.

A motion was made by Councilmember Remer and supported by Councilmember Dixon-Miller to approve the agenda as presented.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Baldinelli, Flaminio, Groeneveld, Dixon-Miller and Remer  
Nays: None  
MOTION CARRIED.

A motion was made by Councilmember Dixon-Miller and supported by Councilmember Remer to approve the invoices for May 5, 2020 through May 18, 2020 in the amount of \$265,182.58.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Baldinelli, Flaminio, Groeneveld, Dixon-Miller and Remer  
Nays: None  
MOTION CARRIED.

The consent agenda consisted of the following:

- Public Safety Report
- April Treasurer's Report

A motion was made by Councilmember Flaminio and supported by Councilmember Remer to receive and place on file the consent agenda.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Baldinelli, Flaminio, Groeneveld, Dixon-Miller and Remer  
Nays: None  
MOTION CARRIED.

Under Public Comment, Mr. David Holmes, principal of Breitung Township Schools addressed the council regarding the graduation parade listed later on the agenda. He requested to speak at this time rather than at the time the topic was listed on the agenda due to a schedule conflict requiring him to attend another meeting. On behalf of BTS, he requested authorization to close Pyle Drive for approximately an hour on Saturday, June 6<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am to allow a caravan of Kingsford High School Class of 2020 Graduates to participate in a parade to celebrate their graduation. This is a contingency plan as it is unlikely an in-person graduation ceremony will be permitted to take place. Mr. Holmes explained the plan and answered questions by the councilmembers.

Since Mr. Holmes had a school board meeting afterwards, a motion was made by Councilmember Groeneveld and supported by Councilmember Flaminio to authorize the Kingsford High School to proceed with holding a KHS Class of 2020 Graduation Parade down Pyle Drive from Woodland Elementary to the Kingsford High School as presented.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Baldinelli, Flaminio, Groeneveld, Dixon-Miller and Remer  
Nays: None  
MOTION CARRIED.

The only item under Communications was a Michigan Public Service Commission Notice of Hearing for the Electric Customers of Upper Michigan Electric Resources Company Case No. U-20751 to be held in Lansing, Michigan on June 2, 2020 at 10:00am.

A motion was made by Councilmember Remer and supported by Councilmember Dixon-Miller to receive and place on file the Michigan Public Service Commission Notice of Hearing for the Electric Customers of UMERC Case No. U-20751.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Baldinelli, Flaminio, Groeneveld, Dixon-Miller and Remer  
Nays: None  
MOTION CARRIED.

Copies of all communications are affixed to and made a part of the permanent record.

The Manager's Report was presented by Edlebeck.

- In regard to the COVID-19 (coronavirus) concerns, the Dickinson-Iron Health Department continues to be the lead agency accumulating and providing information for our area. The units of government and critical agencies in Dickinson County meet via teleconference once to twice a week to share updates and to jointly provide information to our residents. All residents should be commended for cooperation in adhering to the CDC guidelines and orders by the Governor's office. As you are aware, the Governor has extended the stay at home order for non-essential employees and to encourage any of those workers to work from home, as possible through May 28<sup>th</sup>. The Supreme Court in Wisconsin has overridden Governor Ever's closing of bars and restaurants. This has opened up the border UP communities to potential problems. At this time, the City buildings will remain closed to the general public.
- The plow/dump truck has been delivered and has been recommended for final payment.
- The Safe Routes to School Project commenced on May 11<sup>th</sup> and is progressing from Westwood Avenue to the East. Concrete pouring is anticipated to take place up to Balsam Street this week.
- The City's parks continue to be posted for limited use due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Signs have been placed at all entrances and play area locations. The local communities and the County parks are maintaining the guidelines as long as the "Stay Home Stay Safe" order is in place. The water system for the Cowboyy Lake Park is being disinfected in preparation of opening, but facilities at all parks will remain closed at this time.
- Some restrictions will be lifted in the Upper Peninsula on May 22<sup>nd</sup>, but social distancing, mask and disinfection protocols will remain in place.
- We received few applications for summer employment. Modifications may need to be made to the requirements (i.e. the post-secondary student requirement).

A motion was made by Councilmember Flaminio and supported by Councilmember Groeneveld to receive and place on file the May 18, 2020 Manager's Report.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Baldinelli, Flaminio, Groeneveld, Dixon-Miller and Remer  
Nays: None  
MOTION CARRIED

The first item under Old Business was the Engineer's Bid Recommendation for Well 6 & 7 System Upgrade. A letter was provided from Brett Baij, Senior Project Engineer at GEI Consultants stating after review of the 5 bids opened at the May 4<sup>th</sup> City Council meeting, it was their recommendation to award to the low bid submitted by VanErt Electric Company. Also included was a notice to proceed for VanErt Electric with a request to authorize the City Manager to sign documents on behalf of the City of Kingsford.

A motion was made by Councilmember Remer and supported by Councilmember Flaminio to approve the low bidder, VanErt Electric Company in the amount of \$107,383.00 for the Well 6 & 7 System Upgrade and to authorize City Manager Edlebeck to sign documents on behalf of the City of Kingsford.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Baldinelli, Flaminio, Groeneveld, Dixon-Miller and Remer  
Nays: None  
MOTION CARRIED.

The second item under Old Business was a memo regarding proposed water and sewer rates. Following the special council meeting held on May 12<sup>th</sup>, with budget concerns deriving from the effects of Covid-19 and state funding, Edlebeck provided a memo with further information for the 2020-2021 Water & Sewer Budget. A discussion took place. City Manager recommended a minimum \$5.25/month increase to the water and sewer flat fees [broken down as follows: \$3.50/month for water & \$1.75/month for sewer] to provide revenue to balance the water and sewer fund for this budget year. Additional rate increases may be needed in the future.

A motion was made by Councilmember Baldinelli and supported by Councilmember Dixon-Miller to table this item until more information can be provided.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: None  
Nays: Baldinelli, Flaminio, Groeneveld, Dixon-Miller and Remer  
MOTION CARRIED.

A motion was made by Councilmember Flaminio and supported by Councilmember Groeneveld to raise the flat fees in the amount of \$5.25/month as recommended by the City Manager [\$3.50/month increase for water & \$1.75/month increase for sewer].

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Baldinelli, Flaminio, Groeneveld, Dixon-Miller and Remer  
Nays: None  
MOTION CARRIED.

The last item under Old Business was the introduction of DRAFT Ordinance No. 288 for Irrigation Water Meters. City Manager Edlebeck read the ordinance as written. If the City Council chooses to introduce this ordinance, it will be advertised in The Daily News and on the City's website. The ordinance action will be addressed at the June 1<sup>st</sup> council meeting. The ordinance would become effective 14 days after approval by the City Council.

A motion was made by Councilmember Flaminio and supported by Councilmember Remer to introduce Ordinance No. 288 addressing the regulating of irrigation water services.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Baldinelli, Flaminio, Groeneveld, Dixon-Miller and Remer  
Nays: None  
MOTION CARRIED.

The first item under New Business was a request to close Pyle Drive for Graduation Parade on June 6<sup>th</sup>.  
[This item was addressed earlier in the meeting.]

The second item under New Business was a Resolution Recognizing Bike Month. May is National Bicycle Month and Michigan Bicycle Month each year. Bike to Work Day is usually the third Friday in May, but this year has been changed to September 21 to 25, 2020 due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

A motion was made by Councilmember Remer and supported by Councilmember Groeneveld to adopt Resolution No. 2020/05/18.1 Recognizing National and Michigan Bike Month.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Baldinelli, Flaminio, Groeneveld, Dixon-Miller and Remer  
Nays: None  
MOTION CARRIED.

The last item under New Business was an application for the Citizens Advisory Committee. An application for the Citizen's Advisory Committee was received from Mr. Stephen B. Hodgins. Edlebeck reviewed the details of the application and stated Mr. Hodgins would be an asset to the committee and to the City. Edlebeck's recommendation was to approve the application from Mr. Hodgins to be appointed to the Citizen's Advisory Committee.

A motion was made by Councilmember Groeneveld and supported by Councilmember Remer to appoint Mr. Steve Hodgins to the Citizen's Advisory Committee.


ROLL CALL: Ayes: Baldinelli, Flaminio, Groeneveld, Dixon-Miller and Remer  
Nays: None  
MOTION CARRIED.

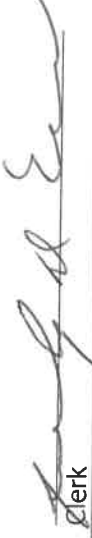
There was no Public Comment.

Under Councilmember's Privilege, Councilmembers Flaminio thanked Mr. Hodgins for his interest in the Citizen's Advisory Committee. Councilmember Groeneveld's comment was to the city departments to remain vigilant and safe with the opening of bars and restaurants. Councilmember Remer and Councilmember Baldinelli also said to stay safe.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Councilmember Dixon-Miller and supported by Councilmember Groeneveld to adjourn the meeting.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Baldinelli, Flaminio, Groeneveld, Dixon-Miller and Remer  
Nays: None  
MOTION CARRIED.

  
Mayor

  
Clerk