

June 15, 2020

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 on Monday, June 15, 2020 at 6:30pm in the council room in City Hall.

Roll Call: Present: Councilmember Flaminio, Groeneveld, Remer and Dixon-Miller (6:32pm)
Absent: Baldinelli (via phone)

City staff also present were City Manager Anthony Edlebeck, City Attorney Bruce Brouillette, Public Safety Director Brian Metras, Public Works Superintendent Jeff DeMuri, KPSD Sgt. Ken Wood, Treasurer Holly Palmer, Andy Paul [DPW], Maggie Lanthier [The Daily News], Floyd Lindholm and Terese Higgins.

Mayor Pro-tem Flaminio conducted the meeting on behalf of Mayor Baldinelli.

The pledge of allegiance was stated.

A motion was made by Councilmember Remer and supported by Councilmember Dixon-Miller to approve the June 1, 2020 City Council Meeting minutes as presented.
ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

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

A motion was made by Councilmember Flaminio and supported by Councilmember Dixon-Miller to approve the invoices for June 2, 2020 through June 15, 2020 in the amount of \$212,087.20.
ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

The consent agenda consisted of the following:

- Public Safety Report
- May Treasurer's Report

Councilmember Flaminio asked KPSD Director Metras to relay a message to KPSD Lieutenant Joe Menghini commending his performance and professionalism during a recent call.

A motion was made by Councilmember Dixon-Miller and supported by Councilmember Remer to receive and place on file the consent agenda.
ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

Under Public Comment, Terese Higgins of 1401 Woodward Ave addressed the council pertaining to the recent Woodward Avenue paving project. She has a concern pertaining to topsoil that was used during that project which left large rocks in her lawn. She requested the areas where this topsoil was used be raked to remove the rocks left behind. Edlebeck stated he and DPW Supt DeMuri will look at the area and obtain a cost estimate to bring in screened top-soil.

The only item under Communications was a memo from the KPSD Director Metras dated June 11, 2020. The memo stated On May 28th, 2020, KPS Officer Kowalkowski passed his Firefighter I and II Certification tests; results were received on June 11th. When an officer completes that training and test, his pay is raised to the level of PSO II. Officer Kowalkowski had met the training requirements, and he was scheduled to take the test on April 2nd, 2020. However, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the testing was suspended. Due to the unusual circumstances surrounding this delay, Director Metras is requesting consideration for Officer Kowalkowski to receive back pay for PSO Firefighter II to April 4th as this date would be consistent to the typical test notification time following an exam and the originally scheduled test date.

A motion was made by Councilmember Groeneveld and supported by Councilmember Dixon-Miller to approve the back pay for PSO Kowalkowski as requested.
ALL AYES. NO NAYS. 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 and guidance for our area. The Stay at Home order has been lifted, but social distancing, disinfecting, mask wearing and group gathering sizes remain in effect. City parks are open as of June 10th, and signs are posted on restrooms and pavilions reminding users of social distancing guidelines and notifying them that equipment, picnic tables and restrooms are not disinfected. Park users are reminded to adhere to group size limits and social distancing practices as they are updated. The City Hall will remain closed to the general public except for required appointments. It is encouraged that all

appointments, correspondence and information be done remotely or by other means as it has been the previous 3 months. Restrictions will be relaxed as time progresses. Public meetings will be held in the City Hall while maintaining social distancing and group limits. Surgical masks will be made available.

- o Included in your packet are amendments to the 2019-2020 General Fund Budget, Major Street Fund Budget and the Local Street Fund Budget. Edlebeck gave a brief explanation and recommended the City Council approve the amendments.

A motion was made by Councilmember Groeneveld and supported by Councilmember Remer to approve the budget amendments 2020/06/15.1 for fiscal year 2019-2020 as presented.

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

- o Two summer college students were hired, both graduates of Kingsford High School and residents of the city.
- o The Safe Routes to School Project continues and is progressing from Westwood Avenue to the East. The preparation work is progressing, and the concrete crew can lay concrete following the prep work. It is anticipated that the project will be completed in early July as planned.
- o The new phone system is scheduled to be installed this week. There could potentially be minimal service interruption during that time.
- o We received 5 applicants for the Public Works Department vacancy and are in the process of interviewing these applicants. We anticipate an offer will be made this week.
- o Options are being evaluated for upgrading the two sanitary lift stations in the Kingsford Heights Area. These were originally installed in 1958 and upgraded in 1987. Some intermittent issues have been occurring, and upgrade options are being reviewed. Edlebeck will keep the City Council informed of future needs for major expenditures. A brief discussion took place.
- o Edlebeck is reviewing the major and local street financials along with the projected revenue for the coming year. He anticipates that a recommendation can be made to repave Pyle Drive from Westwood Avenue to the Evergreen Court this season and before the start to school in August. He will let the councilmembers know more at the next meeting.
- o Variable Frequency Drive Project on Wells 6 & 7 is scheduled to begin the first week in August.

A motion was made by Councilmember Dixon-Miller and supported by Councilmember Remer to receive and place on file the June 15, 2020 Manager's Report.
ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

There was no Old Business.

The only item under New Business was a request to purchase property on 200 block of Balsam Street. Edlebeck provided a sketch of two City-owned residential lots on the 200 block of Balsam Street. These lots were recently released of the Reverter Clause held by the State of Michigan. Edlebeck was approached by an interested party to purchase the lots to construct a duplex. Assessor Amy Payant advised him that the current value of the two lots is approximately \$6,500. Edlebeck requests authorization from the City Council to negotiate a purchase and development agreement with this party for the construction of a new duplex with the customary conditions that construction begins within 1 year of the purchase date and construction is not to exceed 2 years.

A motion was made by Councilmember Dixon-Miller and supported by Councilmember Groeneveld to authorize the City Manager to negotiate a purchase and development agreement with this party for the construction of a new duplex with the conditions as specified.
ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

There was no Public Comment.

Under Councilmember's Privilege, Councilmember Dixon-Miller said she was happy to be back at City Hall. Councilmember Flaminio made a comment about the topsoil for Woodward Avenue.

An Executive Session was then held to discuss collective bargaining.

A motion was made by Councilmember Groeneveld and supported by Councilmember Dixon-Miller to recess the regular city council meeting and begin the executive session.

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

A motion was made by Councilmember Dixon-Miller and supported by Councilmember Remer to reconvene as the regular city council.
ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

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



Mayor



Clerk