

August 17, 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, August 17, 2020 at 6:30pm in the council room in City Hall.

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

City staff also present were City Manager Anthony Edlebeck, City Attorney Bruce Brouillette, Public Safety Director Brian Metras, Public Works Superintendent Jeff DeMuri, Treasurer Holly Palmer, Lois Ellis [DAEDA], Maggie Lanthier [The Daily News], John Koehler [Frog Country Radio], Mike Stelmaszek and Floyd Lindholm.

The pledge of allegiance was stated.

A motion was made by Councilmember Dixon-Miller and supported by Councilmember Remer to approve the August 3, 2020 City Council Meeting minutes as presented.  
ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

A motion was made by Councilmember Groeneveld and supported by Councilmember Dixon-Miller to approve the August 7, 2020 Special City Council Meeting minutes as presented.  
ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

A motion was made by Councilmember Dixon-Miller and supported by Councilmember Remer to approve the agenda as amended. [Addition to New Business: Governor Whitmer's Reappointment of Victoria Enyart to the Michigan Tax Tribunal.]  
ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

A motion was made by Councilmember Remer and supported by Councilmember Dixon-Miller to approve the invoices for August 4, 2020 through August 17, 2020 in the amount of \$338,556.05.  
ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

The consent agenda consisted of the following:

- Public Safety Report
- July Treasurer's Report

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.

There was no Public Comment.

The first item under Communications was a thank you card from Terese & Bill Higgins of 1401 Woodward Avenue expressing their gratitude for the new topsoil and seeding along Woodward Avenue.

A motion was made by Councilmember Remer and supported by Councilmember Dixon-Miller to receive and place on file the thank you card from Terese & Bill Higgins.  
ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

The second item under Communications was the Notice of MDOT Annual Rural Elected Officials Meeting. This year's session will be held virtually on Wednesday, August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 9:00am EST. This meeting provides the opportunity for rural elected officials, Tribal leaders and regional planning commissions to work with MDOT in developing MDOT's Five Year Road and Bridge Program and the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP).

A motion was made by Councilmember Groeneveld and supported by Councilmember Flaminio to receive and place on the notice from MDOT Annual Rural Elected Officials Meeting.  
ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

The third item under Communications was a request to hold a Life-Line Health Screening Event. Edlebeck was contacted by a representative of Life-Line Screening requesting use of our council chambers to hold a health screening event on Wednesday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> from 8:30am to 5:30pm.

A motion was made by Councilmember Remer and supported by Councilmember Baldinelli to authorize the use of the council chambers for the Life Line Screening Event to be held on December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2020 as requested.  
ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

The fourth item under Communications was Michigan Public Service Commission Notice of Hearing for the Electric Customers of Upper Michigan Electric Resources Company Case No. U-20727 to be held in Lansing, Michigan on September 2, 2020 at 9:30am.

A motion was made by Councilmember Dixon-Miller and supported by Councilmember Groeneveld to receive and place on file the Michigan Public Service Commission Notice of Hearing for the Electric Customers of UMERC Case No. U-20727.

ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

The final item under Communications was letter from the Michigan State Housing Development Authority dated July 31, 2020. A memo provided by City Manager Edlebeck stated this letter was to notify the City of Kingsford that the Michigan State Housing Development Authority has issued a Reservation for Low-Income Housing Tax Credits to PK Pine Bluff LDHA of 677 and 679 South Westwood Avenue Pine Bluff Apartments. This is a new developer of the Pine Grove and Diamondhead Apartments on Westwood Avenue. Edlebeck was informed by Mr. Chad Benson, Acting Director of Development MSHDA that Pine Bluff Apartments plan to make improvements to the properties as part of the application process.

A motion was made by Councilmember Groeneveld and supported by Councilmember Remer to receive and place on file the letter from MSHDA.

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.

- The Zero Gravity Outreach Event held on August 9<sup>th</sup> at Lodal Park went very well from reports. The showtimes were at 1pm and 6pm. They conducted prescreening health checks per Covid-19 protocol at the gate and most attendees wore masks. The crowd was limited to 500, so participation was down from previous years.
- The Annual Michigan Municipal League Convention that had been planned to be held on Mackinaw Island September 30<sup>th</sup> – October 2<sup>nd</sup> will be held as a Virtual Convention Event. There will be no cost associated with attending this event. Edlebeck will provide information as it becomes available or anyone interested may visit [www.mml.org](http://www.mml.org).
- The Safe Routes to School Project is substantially complete. Any punch list items will be finalized in the next couple of weeks.
- The section of Pyle Drive from Westwood Avenue to Evergreen Court has been milled and resurfaced by Bacco Construction Co. with new asphalt pavement on August 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>.
- The well 6 & 7 VFD project has been delayed due to unapproved submittals by the mechanical contractor. The engineers will not approve moving forward until the appropriate valve equipment submittals meet the specifications.
- The engineers are completing the Kingsford Heights water main preliminary plans and finalizing cost estimates for our review prior to moving forward with the funding applications.
- The 2020 MDNR Passport Grant Application for Lodal Park is currently under review. Preliminary scores are expected to be out in September. We will have time to provide additional information to improve the score if needed, prior to final project selections.

At this time, the public hearing scheduled for 6:45pm began to address the Commercial Rehabilitation Exemption Certificate by RR DOWNTOWN, LLC for Venue 906 located at 900 W. Breitung Avenue. A copy of the public hearing advertisement [which was published on July 24, 2020] was given to the councilmembers. The notice was also sent to all the required taxing units, Breitung Township Schools, DIISD and the Dickinson County Controller & Board. Edlebeck received no comments, for or against, verbally or in writing.

The Mayor asked if there was any public comment. Lois Ellis of the Dickinson Area Economic Development Alliance thanked the council for taking this application for tax abatement into consideration for 900 W. Breitung. She continued with gratitude and excitement to see the property having a purpose again and how it is a positive step for our community. She mentioned how the second stage of development will be a much larger investment and will offer housing in our area which is much needed. There were no other public comments made.

Edlebeck provided a draft resolution for the council's consideration.

A motion was made by Councilmember Groeneveld and supported by Councilmember Flaminio to adopt Resolution No. 2020/8/17.1 Approving the Commercial Rehabilitation Exemption Certificate by RR DOWNTOWN, LLC for Venue 906 located at 900 W. Breitung Avenue.

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

The public hearing was concluded.

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Edlebeck continued with the Manager's Report.

- o Reminder to residents of Kingsford, Iron Mountain, Norway, Breitung Township and Norway Township that the 2020 Passenger Tire Grant Program through the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy (EGLE) is continuing until December 1<sup>st</sup> or until funds run out. Residents can bring passenger tires only to the Dickinson County Solid Waste Transfer Station in Quinnesec for free disposal. A driver's license and property tax receipt are required for proof of residency.
- o Reminder that Labor Day is September 7, 2020. The city offices and public works facility will be closed for the day. The regular City Council meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 8<sup>th</sup> at the regular time of 6:30pm. Garbage collection for the week will be one day later than normal.

A motion was made by Councilmember Dixon-Miller and supported by Councilmember Remer to receive and place on file the August 17, 2020 Manager's Report.  
ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

The first item under Old Business was the City Manager Recommendation by the Personnel Committee. After a lengthy search and numerous interviews, Mayor Baldinelli stated the Personnel Committee's recommendation was to appoint Mr. Mike Stelmaszek as the City Manager upon Edlebeck's retirement and that he be appointed as the assistant administrator until that time. Baldinelli shared Mr. Stelmaszek's qualifications, job history and community involvement.

A motion was made by Councilmember Flaminio and supported by Councilmember Groeneveld to approve the recommendation by the Personnel Committee to hire Mr. Mike Stelmaszek as the next City Manager upon Edlebeck's retirement and to appoint him as the Assistant Administrator effective August 18, 2020.  
ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

Edlebeck reviewed the draft resolution which included details of salary, vacation and contribution to a City-approved deferred compensation plan.

A motion was made by Councilmember Dixon-Miller and supported by Councilmember Remer to adopt Resolution No. 2020/8/17.2 Establishing the Salary and Compensation to be Paid to Appointed Officers and Certain Other Employees of the City [Assistant City Manager & City Manager].

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

The last item under Old Business was a resolution to sell lots 171 & 172 Plat of the Village of Breitung. William Neuens Realty LLC is interested in purchasing this property to construct a new duplex. The City Council approved the purchase price at a previous meeting; this resolution is to finalize the sale. Edlebeck's recommendation is to adopt this resolution and to authorize the City Manager and Mayor to sign the documents on behalf of the City of Kingsford.

A motion was made by Councilmember Remer and supported by Councilmember Dixon-Miller to adopt Resolution No. 2020/8/17.3 Sale of Lots 171 & 172, Village of Breitung in the City of Kingsford to William Neuens Realty, LLC for the sum of \$6,500.00.

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

The first item under New Business was the Lease Agreement Renewal for Kingsford Funeral Home located at 1000 S. Carpenter Avenue. This is a 10-year renewal for the lease of the property located at the corner of Breitung Avenue and Carpenter Avenue and sits on property owned both by Kingsford and Iron Mountain.

A motion was made by Councilmember Dixon-Miller and supported by Councilmember Remer to approve the renewal of the Kingsford Funeral Home lease for the period of 10 years and to authorize the Mayor and City Manager to sign the documents on behalf of the City of Kingsford [contingent on Iron Mountain's lease approval].

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

The second item under New Business was the Michigan Municipal League Annual Meeting Notice. The letter from the MML states the requirement to designate by action of its governing body an official who will be in attendance at the convention as an official representative to cast the vote of the municipality at the Annual

Meeting, and if possible, to designate one other official to serve as an alternate. It has been past practice to assign the Mayor as the primary delegate with the Mayor Pro-tem as the alternate.

A motion was made by Councilmember Dixon-Miller and supported by Councilmember Remer to authorize the Mayor as the primary delegate and the Mayor Pro-tem as the alternate delegate for the MML Annual Meeting. ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

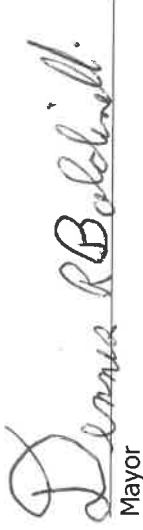
The final item under New Business was a Letter to the Governor re: Victoria Enyart. Mayor Baldinelli requested the City of Kingsford send a letter to the Governor opposing the reappointment of Ms. Enyart to the Michigan Tax Tribunal due to her support of Dark Store issues.

A motion was made by Councilmember Baldinelli and supported by Councilmember Groeneveld to authorize the City Manager to draft a letter to the Governor stating the City Council of the City of Kingsford opposes the reappointment of Ms. Victoria Enyart to the tax tribunal. ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

There was no Public Comment.

Under Councilmember's Privilege, Councilmembers Groeneveld, Remer and Dixon-Miller welcomed Mike Stelmaszek to his new role with the City.

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

  
Mayor

  
clerk