

December 21, 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 and the most recent MDHHS Order, the regular meeting of the Kingsford City Council was held electronically via Zoom on Monday, December 21, 2020 at 6:30pm.

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

Also present via Zoom were City Manager Anthony Edlebeck, Asst City Manager Mike Stelmaszek, City Attorney Bruce Brouillette, Public Safety Director Brian Metras, Public Works Superintendent Jeff DeMuri, Treasurer Holly Palmer, Deputy Clerk Tanya Hiltonen, Maggie Lanthier [The Daily News], Floyd Lindholm, Gordon Sorenson and Dale Tchokreff.

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 Baldinelli and supported by Councilmember Flaminio to approve the December 7, 2020 City Council Meeting minutes as presented.

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

A motion was made by Councilmember Baldinelli and supported by Councilmember Dixon-Miller to approve the December 15, 2020 Board of Review minutes as presented.

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

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

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

A motion was made by Councilmember Remer and supported by Councilmember Dixon-Miller to approve the invoices for December 8, 2020 through December 21, 2020 in the amount of \$274,236.18.

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

The consent agenda consisted of the following:

- Public Safety Report – November
- Treasurer’s Report – November

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

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

There was no Public Comment.

The first item under Communications was the Annual Summer Tax Resolution from Breitung Township Schools requesting the City of Kingsford collect taxes on the school’s behalf.

A motion was made by Councilmember Baldinelli and supported by Councilmember Flaminio to receive and place on file the Annual Summer Tax Resolution from BTS and to proceed with collection as requested.

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

The final item under Communications was a memo from DPW Supt. DeMuri re: VFD Project and Sewer Lining Project. This memo was to notify the councilmembers that the integration of two new VFD’s at Well 6 & 7

control building has been completed and tested by VanErt, GEI Consultants and the City Water Department. In addition, the sanitary sewer main repair [located under M-95 at the intersection of Nelson Drive and East Blvd] was completed at a fraction of the cost of a traditional method of replacement.

Supt. DeMuri gave an explanation of both projects and advised the councilmembers that a final report with before and after video of the sewer repair will be available in the next couple weeks.

A motion was made by Councilmember Dixon-Miller and supported by Councilmember Remer to receive and place on file the memo from DPW Supt. DeMuri.

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

The Manager's Report was presented by Stelmaszek.

- o The 2020 Fall Archery Hunt started October 1st and runs through January 1st. As of December 18th, 17 deer have been harvested. Harvest updates will be provided at the council meetings.
- o Our current web service provider, MediaPro, is phasing out web services. We have started the migration process to 906 Technologies, Inc. The cost for their services will be similar to that of MediaPro. We hope to improve services through the City's website and will bring alternatives forward for your consideration once the migration is complete.
- o The annual audit is in the process of being finalized. A copy will be provided for review once complete.
- o Reminder that the City Hall and Public Works Dept. will be closed December 24th and 25th & December 31st and January 1st in observance of the Christmas and New Year's holidays. Thursday's garbage collection will be collected on Wednesday for both weeks.
- o Asst Manager Stelmaszek wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

A motion was made by Councilmember Baldinelli and supported by Councilmember Flaminio to receive and place on file the December 21, 2020 Manager's Report.

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

The only item under Old Business was the DRAFT Ordinance 290 re: Amending Accessory Building Code. This was introduced at the last meeting for the City Council's consideration. It was the recommendation of the Planning Commission and Assistant City Manager Stelmaszek to approve the amendment to Ordinance 290. Councilmember Flaminio asked how long before this would take effect after the council's approval. His concern for the 120-day timeframe for "grandfathered" containers would be the spring thaw and the difficulty of moving such a heavy item during that time of year. City Attorney Brouillette stated if the City Council adopted this amendment as of this date, it would not come into effect for 21 days. If the City Council would like to extend the 120-day timeframe currently stated in the amendment, this would alleviate any issue with the spring thaw concern as mentioned by Councilmember Flaminio.

A motion was made by Councilmember Baldinelli and supported by Councilmember Flaminio to extend the time to comply from 120 days to 150 days and to adopt Ordinance No. 290 amendment as otherwise written.

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

The first item under New Business was two applications for the Planning Commission. Applications from Mr. Daniel Freeman and Mr. James C. Cain were received. The PC currently has one open seat to fill. Both applications were reviewed. Mayor Groeneveld asked whether anyone had any personal knowledge of either applicant. City Manager Edlebeck reviewed the qualifications of both candidates, and a brief discussion took place. Councilmember Dixon-Miller wanted it noted that the application for the candidate not selected should remain on file for future consideration.

A motion was made by Councilmember Baldinelli and supported by Councilmember Dixon-Miller for each councilmember to select his/her candidate during the roll call vote and the first candidate to get three votes will be selected to fill the open seat on the Planning Commission.

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

By majority vote, Mr. Daniel Freeman was appointed to the Planning Commission. Mr. James Cain's application will remain on file for future consideration.

The final item under New Business was a memo from Assistant Manager Mike Stelmaszek re: Deputy Clerk Duties and Compensation. Stelmaszek summarized the content of the memo, stating due to the compliance responsibility and work load of municipal clerks, he is requesting a salary increase for the Deputy Clerk. This will also include additional responsibilities, which were highlighted for the council's review. Stelmaszek stated his research confirmed a comparison to the City Assessor's salary/responsibilities to be similar to the added responsibilities of the Deputy Clerk. The Personnel Committee has reviewed this matter and concur with the recommendation. Stelmaszek requested the City Council's support in the proposed new job description and increased salary of \$53,025/year for the Deputy Clerk position. A discussion took place.

A motion was made by Councilmember Baldinelli and supported by Councilmember Flaminio to approve the Deputy Clerk salary increase to \$53,025/year with the job description revisions as recommended.

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

Mayor Groeneveld extended his congratulations to Deputy Clerk Hiltonen.

There was no Public Comment.

Under Councilmember's Privilege, Councilmember Flaminio congratulated Deputy Clerk Hiltonen on her promotion and wished everyone a safe and Merry Christmas. Councilmember Remer concurred with Flaminio as did Councilmember Baldinelli. Baldinelli also stated to take this pandemic seriously, wear your mask and stay safe. Councilmember Groeneveld extended holiday wishes to everyone and said to stay safe.

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

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


Mayor


Clerk