

June 7, 2021

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 7, 2021 at 6:30pm in the council chambers at City Hall.

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

Also present were City Manager Mike Stelmaszek, City Attorney Bruce Brouillette, Public Safety Director Brian Metras, Public Works Supt. Jeff DeMuri, Treasurer Holly Palmer, Maggie Lanthier [The Daily News], Chris Katona [MMRMA], Sharon Ray [Northwoods Garden Club], Fay Mannon-Rahoi [Northwoods Garden Club] and Floyd Lindholm.

The pledge of allegiance was stated.

A motion was made by Councilmember Baldinelli and supported by Councilmember Dixon-Miller to approve the May 17, 2021 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 May 19, 2021 Special City Council Meeting minutes as presented.
ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

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

A motion was made by Councilmember Remer and supported by Councilmember Dixon-Miller to approve the invoices for May 18, 2021 through June 7, 2021 in the amount of \$340,596.98.
ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

The consent agenda consisted of the following:

- Public Works Report – May

A motion was made by Councilmember Baldinelli and supported by Councilmember Remer to authorize Supt. DeMuri to solicit bids for a leaf vacuum machine as requested.
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 consent agenda.
ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

Under Public Comment, Fay Mannon-Rahoi, representing the Northwoods Garden Club, thanked the City Council once again for their support and contributions towards the Gazebo repairs. She thanked Okler Roofing for providing materials and labor toward this project. The Strawberry Social is scheduled for July 11th and all the councilmembers were invited to attend.

The first item under Communications was the Loyal to Local Support Request. A request was received from the Dickinson Area Economic Development for the annual Loyal to Local Pledge in the amount of \$250.00.

A motion was made by Councilmember Baldinelli and supported by Councilmember Dixon-Miller to approve the Loyal to Local Pledge for 2021-2022 in the amount of \$250.00.
ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

The second item under Communications was a letter from the Sons of American Legion Squadron 50 requesting support for the Fourth of July Fireworks celebration. Last year due to the pandemic, the City of Kingsford contributed support in the amount of \$800.00 [from the usual \$400.00], since there was no parade allowing an opportunity to raise funds through "Pass the Boot". A brief discussion took place. Councilmember Baldinelli suggested the City Council split the difference and raise the support to \$600.

A motion was made by Councilmember Baldinelli and supported by Councilmember Dixon-Miller to receive and place on file the letter from the Sons of the American Legion Squadron 50 and to approve the \$600.00 monetary support for the July 4th Fireworks celebration.
ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

The last item under Communications was EGLE letter on PFAS investigation. As stated in a letter from the State of Michigan EGLE, the Ford Airport is near a suspected source of PFAS. To ensure the safety of the area's ground water, they are requesting permission to test the drinking water at no cost to the City. The City Manager completed the Access Agreement and Questionnaire to authorize the testing of the drinking water for PFAS and for the results to be provided to the City at no cost.

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

The Manager's Report was presented by Stelmaszek.

- o During the recent Budget Work Session, I made a recommendation to raise sewer rates. After further research, it was determined that last year's rate increase of the sewer service fee was partially to account for the Joint Sewage Authority's request of an 11-cent per 1,000-gallon increase for this current budget year. This means the only current issue to account for is the 5-cent per 1,000-gallon increase requested for the upcoming budget year. I feel current revenues are sufficient to cover this cost increase. I withdraw my recommendation to increase sewer consumption rates for the upcoming budget year.
- o Shortly after the City Council's proposal to the Northwoods Garden Club (NWGC) was reported in The Daily News, the City Manager received a call from Ryan Okler, owner of Okler Roofing. Mr. Okler graciously offered to supply the materials and replace the roof on the Gazebo as a service to the community. Stelmaszek referred him to NWGC personnel, who he [Okler] contacted and made the same proposal. The NWGC is elated with this offer. Okler is requesting \$540 to cover the cost of OSB sheeting (estimate was attached) to deck the roof before completing the roof work. In their estimate, Okler also recommended approximately \$800 to \$1,200 in additional repairs that they feel should be done to the gazebo. These issues have been verbally conveyed to the City Manager by the NWGC, who also requested the City's \$2,000 reimbursement previously approved by the City Council be used toward the OSB sheeting and other needed repairs to their request to use the City's \$2,000 reimbursement offer on the OSB sheeting and other needed repairs to the Gazebo as recommended by Okler. The City Manager respectfully requested the City Council support this modification of the City's previous offer to the NWGC.

A motion was made by Councilmember Baldinelli and supported by Councilmember Remer to modify the previous offer to the NWGC to allow the City's \$2,000 reimbursement be used toward the OSB sheeting and other needed repairs to the Gazebo as recommended by Okler.
ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

At this time, the public hearing scheduled for 6:45pm began to address the 2021-2022 Annual Appropriations Budget.

City Manager Stelmaszek gave a brief overview of the millages as stated in the proposed resolution.

Mayor Groeneveld asked three times if there was any public comment; there was none.

A motion was made by Councilmember Baldinelli and supported by Councilmember Dixon-Miller to adopt Resolution No. 2021/6/7.1 General Appropriations Act 2021-2022.

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

The public hearing was concluded.

Stelmaszek continued with the Manager's Report.

- o Outstanding utility bills for the City still total approximately \$20,000. This is down from a high of \$65,000. People have made attempts to address these outstanding bills. Becky, the Utility Billing Clerk, feels the current shut off policy has had a positive effect on providing residents with payment alternatives that are meaningful, while helping residents avoid having their water shut off.
- o Assessor Kyle Mulka began his employment with the City on May 24th; he is acclimating well to his new position.
- o Stelmaszek is scheduled to be on vacation starting Tuesday, June 8th through Tuesday, June 15th for an annual family camping trip. He will stay in touch with the City Staff and return if needed.
- o The City Hall and Public Works Facilities will be closed on Monday, July 5th in observance of Independence Day. The City Council meeting normally held on that day will be held on Tuesday, July 6th, 2021.

A motion was made by Councilmember Baldinelli and supported by Councilmember Dixon-Miller to receive and place on file the June 7, 2021 Manager's Report.
ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

The first item under Old Business was the Bid Opening for Alley Paving Projects. The two bids were as follows:

1. Payne & Dolan, Inc. – Gladstone, MI – \$143,250.00
2. Bacco Construction Co. – Iron Mountain, MI – \$119,915.00

A brief discussion took place.

A motion was made by Councilmember Baldinelli and supported by Councilmember Remer to award the 2021 Alley Paving project to the lowest bidder who meets specifications.
ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

The last item under Old Business was the Planning Commission Recommendation re: Storage Containers in B2 Districts. The request by Midway Rental & Sales to permit storage containers on their property was reviewed by the Planning Commission at their May 24th meeting. It is the Planning Commission's recommendation to amend Ordinance No. 290 to allow Storage Containers within B-2 General Business Districts that adjoin Industrial-zoned property, provided the containers are enclosed within a 6'-high fenced-in area with no less than 50% visibility.

The City Manager requested a public hearing be scheduled for July 6th at 6:45pm to address the Ordinance 290 amendment.

A motion was made by Councilmember Baldinelli and supported by Councilmember Dixon-Miller to schedule a public hearing for July 6th at 6:45pm to address the Ordinance 290 amendment.
ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

The first item under New Business was MMRMA Liability Insurance Proposal. Stelmaszek submitted a memo to the City Council to explain the current liability insurance provider (MML/Meadowbrook) and their proposed renewal for the upcoming year. The MML Proposal was included for the councilmembers' review. He introduced Chris Katona, representative for MMRMA, and briefly described the two policy premium proposals, which were also provided to the councilmembers. Chris Katona made a presentation to the councilmembers to explain the two types of MMRMA policies, what MMRMA offers to their members, etc. A lengthy discussion took place. Mayor Groeneveld recommended tabling the MMRMA proposals until the next scheduled City Council meeting to allow Councilmember Flaminio [who was absent from this meeting] and the remainder of the councilmembers the opportunity to thoroughly review the information.

A motion was made by Councilmember Baldinelli and supported by Councilmember Remer to table the MMRMA proposals until the next scheduled City Council meeting.
ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

The second item under New Business was the Flivverfest Park Use Application. Mark Novara submitted the Park Use application for Flivverfest to be held at Lodal Park on July 29-31. Stelmaszek also noted they intend to place a banner to advertise the event across Carpenter Avenue in front of City Hall as they have in the previous years.

A motion was made by Councilmember Baldinelli and supported by Councilmember Dixon-Miller to approve the Park Use application for Flivverfest to be held at Lodal Park on July 29-31, provided the necessary insurance is provided.
ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

The last item under New Business was Resolution No. 2021/6/7.2 re: Delinquent Water and Sewer Bills.

A motion was made by Councilmember Baldinelli and supported by Councilmember Dixon-Miller to adopt Resolution No. 2021/6/7.2 re: Delinquent Water and Sewer Bills.

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

There was no Public Comment.

Under Councilmember's Privilege, Mayor Groeneveld welcomed Kyle Mulka to his new role as Assessor for the City of Kingsford.

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