

August 16, 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, August 16, 2021 at 6:30pm in the council chambers at City Hall.

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

Also present were City Manager Mike Stelmaszek, City Attorney Bruce Brouillette, Public Safety Director Brian Metras, Public Works Superintendent Jeff DeMuri, Treasurer Holly Palmer, Maggie Lanthier [The Daily News], Floyd Lindholm, Mike Gatzow [GEI] and Ryan Morgan [GEI].

The pledge of allegiance was stated.

A motion was made by Councilmember Baldinelli and supported by Councilmember Dixon-Miller to approve the August 2, 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 agenda as presented.  
ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

A motion was made by Councilmember Flaminio and supported by Councilmember Baldinelli to approve the invoices for August 3, 2021 through August 16, 2021 in the amount of \$254,246.34.  
ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

The consent agenda consisted of the following:

- Public Safety Report – July
- Treasurer's Report – July

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

There was no Public Comment.

There was no Communications.

The Manager's Report was presented by Stelmaszek.

- During routine water sampling of the City's groundwater storage tank, we had a positive test for levels of coliform bacteria that exceeded the minimum levels set by EGLE. Coliform bacteria are generally not harmful themselves, but are used as an indicator that other potentially harmful bacteria may be present. A second test was also positive necessitating a need to add Chlorine to our water system starting on Friday, August 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Hydrants were flushed the following day to get the Chlorine in the system faster. A notice was put in the paper on Tuesday, August 10, 2021 and added to the City's website informing the public of the process undertaken by the City. There is not a need for a boil advisory.

- We have received another Tax Tribunal petition from one of our city businesses. After the initial review, the City Manager feels the current assessment is proper or even low because of prior obsolescence granted that are no longer valid. City Assessor Kyle Mulka is working with the City Attorney to make an initial response. The City of Kingsford secured Atty Jack VanCoevering for two prior cases initiated in 2018. Provided he [VanCoevering] give us this same rate or a rate not to exceed a 10% increase, the City Manager requested the City Council's approval to once again use his services.

A motion was made by Councilmember Baldinelli and supported by Councilmember Dixon-Miller to authorize the City Manager to retain the services of Atty. Jack VanCoevering for the tax tribunal case recently filed with the City, provided his rate is the same as the previous cases or a rate not to exceed a 10% increase.  
ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

- We are going into the last year with our current Auditor (Scott Kenney) who will be retiring after the upcoming audit. To have these services in place for next year, Stelmaszek requested approval to place a Request for Proposals (RFP) for a three-year agreement for auditing services.

A motion was made by Councilmember Baldinelli and supported by Councilmember Dixon-Miller to authorize the City Manager to seek RFP's for a three-year agreement for auditing services, with an option to terminate services after year one if City's standards are not met.  
ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

- After a review of each bid for the cleaning of two water tanks, KLM Engineering met the specification and was the low bidder at \$6,100 per tank.

- o Due to the Labor Day Holiday the next Council Meeting will be Tuesday, September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

A motion was made by Councilmember Baldinelli and supported by Councilmember Flaminio to receive and place on file the August 16, 2021 Manager's Report.  
ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

There was no Old Business.

The first item under New Business was Resolution 2021/8/16.1 Establishing Paid Sick Leave Benefit for Dennis Nelson as provided for AFSCME Union Members in the 2021-2024 CBA. In 2019, Dennis Nelson was promoted to the non-union position of Assistant Public Works Superintendent. The AFSCME 2021-2024 CBA approved the payout of 75% of unused sick leave [up to 1000 hours] upon retirement. City Manager Stelmaszek is requesting the City Council's support in granting this same benefit to Dennis Nelson as his union co-workers.

A motion was made by Councilmember Flaminio and supported by Councilmember Baldinelli to adopt Resolution No. 2021/8/16.1 Establishing Paid Sick Leave Benefit for Dennis Nelson as provided for AFSCME Union Members in the 2021-2024 CBA.

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

The final item under New Business was a Presentation and Update on the Kingsford Heights Watermain Project by GEI Consultants. Mike Gatzow, of GEI Consultants, addressed the councilmembers and reviewed the PowerPoint presentation, which was included in the council packets. Ryan Morgan, GEI Project Manager, also attended the meeting. Mr. Gatzow gave a progress update since the inception of the project and discussed some of the funding considerations that the City has available. The area where the watermain upgrades includes the area of Wilson Avenue, Harrison Street, Cleveland Avenue, Saratoga Street, Bell Court and Rexford Avenue. The total estimated construction cost for this project is \$3.66 million. Mr. Gatzow gave a detailed description of all the funding options and recommendations. The presentation concluded with a scheduled list of important deadline dates and was opened up for questions. A lengthy discussion took place.

There were no scheduled public hearings.

There was no Public Comment.

Under Councilmember's Privilege, Councilmember Flaminio stated he hoped Filverfest was successful and that they were able to raise ample funds for the school. Councilmember Baldinelli noted the Kingsford Centennial dates are scheduled for August 3-5, 2023.

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

  
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Mayor

  
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Clerk