

October 4, 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, October 4, 2021 at 6:30pm in the council chambers at City Hall.

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

Also present were 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] and Mark Marsden.

The pledge of allegiance was stated.

A motion was made by Councilmember Flaminio and supported by Councilmember Baldinelli to approve the September 20, 2021 City Council Meeting minutes as presented.
ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

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

A motion was made by Councilmember Remer and supported by Councilmember Flaminio to approve the invoices for September 21, 2021 through October 4, 2021 in the amount of \$289,429.72.
ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

The consent agenda consisted of the following:

- Public Works Report – September

A motion was made by Councilmember Flaminio and supported by Councilmember Baldinelli to authorize DPW Supt DeMuri and Water Crew Leader Stearns to attend the Michigan Rural Waterworks Association in Iron Mountain on October 26-28 instead of the [previously approved] Annual UP Water Works Fall Meeting in Harris, MI.
ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

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

There was no Public Comment.

There were no Communications.

The Manager's Report was presented by Stelmaszek.

- Kingsford's application for ARPA Funds has been approved in the amount of \$518,214. We have received the first payment of \$259,107. One of the approved uses for these funds is to recoup Covid-19 related losses incurred by the City. To date [including the agenda item under "New Business"], these expenses total \$74,232 (\$41,200 for Covid Bonuses and \$33,032 for reimbursement of Covid-19 related Sick Leave). The City Manager will keep the councilmembers apprised of the results of the reporting process and will propose initiatives for use of the remaining funds.
- The Civil Service Commission had a total of three applicants for the exam that was recently advertised. Two of these applicants met the minimum qualifications to take the exam; however, only one agreed to take the exam. The exam was held Friday, October 1st, 2021. The candidate was graded, and the results have been posted at City Hall.
- The City closed on the land purchase of the property adjacent Bancroft Street last Thursday.
- The recent tour of the Waste Water Treatment Plant went well and was very informative.
- The Dickinson County Healthcare System (DCHS) will be holding a special community leader and business community event on October 12th starting at 11:30am. The City Manager is planning to attend. He asked if anyone else is interested in attending to notify him by Tuesday to be included with his RSVP. The itinerary was included in the packet.
- The Auditor will be here on Wednesday, October 6th to begin the FY 2020-2021 audit.

A motion was made by Councilmember Remer and supported by Councilmember Baldinelli to receive and place on file the October 4, 2021 Manager's Report.
ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

The first item under Old Business was the Bid Opening for the HVAC Control System Upgrade for the Public Works building. The two bids were as follows:

1. Energy Control & Design, Inc. – Appleton, WI – \$6,481.00
2. Automated Comfort Controls, Inc. – Appleton, WI – \$6,112.00

A motion was made by Councilmember Baldinelli and supported by Councilmember Flaminio award the project to the low bidder, provided all specifications are met.
ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

The final item under Old Business was a Request from the Citizen's Advisory Committee. The City Manager updated the CA Committee on the outcome and the decision by the City Council not to place a street light in the alley adjacent to Ford Park. A lengthy discussion by the CA Committee members resulted in a motion to "send a recommendation to the City Council requesting authorization to allow the CA Committee to revisit the issue of the street light addition in the alley near Ford Park due to the lack of lighting in the alley, parking issues and subsequent safety concerns for residents and various school activities." The City Manager provided the minutes from the CA Committee dated September 13, 2021. A discussion took place. Mayor Groeneveld stated if the CA/Parks & Recreation Committee wants to revisit the issue, then they should do so. The CA Committee can submit a new recommendation to the City Council for consideration. City Manager Stelmazek noted that another public hearing may need to be scheduled should a new recommendation be submitted for the City Council's consideration pertaining to the addition to a street light.

A motion was made by Councilmember Baldinelli and supported by Councilmember Remer to allow the CA Committee to revisit the issue of a street light addition in the alley adjacent to Ford Park and return to the City Council at a later date.

ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

The first item under New Business was a Peninsula Fiber Network (PFN) Request. PFN is requesting permission to bury cable along Carpenter Avenue and East Boulevard. They will also need to bore under East Boulevard to get to their destination at the new site for Midway Sales & Rental. Representatives for the City of Kingsford do not have any issues granting this request. Section 12.4 of the Charter states: "The Council may grant a permit upon any street, alley or public place." The City Manager was presenting the request for the City Council's consideration and recommended the City Council grant the request. City Attorney Brouillette noted the permit is revokable by the City Council at any time.

A motion was made by Councilmember Baldinelli and supported by Councilmember Remer authorize the PFN Request as presented and to authorize the City Manager to sign the documents on behalf of the City.
ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

The final item under New Business was Resolution No. 2021/10/4.1 Establishing a \$400 Covid-19 Bonus to all Non-Union, Non-Public Safety Staff. The outcome of DPW's mediation for their Collective Bargaining Agreement resulted in a \$2,000 bonus while the non-union DPW and City Hall staff received \$1,600. The City Manager drafted a resolution for the City Council's consideration to grant an additional \$400 Covid-19 bonus to the 8 non-union, non-public safety employees. The cost of this bonus would total \$3,200, and if approved, the City Manager requested a portion of the ARPA funds be used for this purpose.

A motion was made by Councilmember Flaminio and supported by Councilmember Baldinelli to adopt Resolution No. 2021/10/4.1 Establishing a \$400 Covid-19 Bonus to all Non-Union, Non-Public Safety Staff and to utilize the ARPA funds for this purpose.

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

There were no scheduled public hearings.

There was no Public Comment.

Under Councilmember's Privilege, Councilmember Flaminio mentioned his recent visit to San Francisco and the terrible taste of the ice cubes in the beverages. He wanted to say how fortunate we are to have access to the water system we have in our area. Mayor Groeneveld [in reference to the resolution passed during the meeting] wanted to say that he truly appreciates all the work that all the City employees do for Kingsford.

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

ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.


Mayor


Clerk