

CITY OF GRAYLING
CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Monday, July 12, 2021

I. Meeting called to order by Mayor Forbes at 6:30 P.M.

II. Roll Call

Members Present: Forbes, Moshier, Sloan, Schreiner

Members Absent: Kersey,

Vacant Seats: None

Also, in Attendance:

Via Phone/Video: Doug Baum, City Manager, Lisa Johnson, Clerk/Treasurer, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Goodwin, Erich Podjaske, Economic Development Officer, Rae Gosling, Main Street Manager, City Attorney Edwards and other members of the public. (See attached)

III. Public Comment

Podjaske explained a variance request that he had received and that it would be coming to the Zoning Board of Appeals at the August 9, 2021 meeting.

IV. Approval of Agenda

Mayor Forbes asked to add item #I New council Member discussion and #J Set Public Hearing for Crawford AuSable School expansion/road closure request. under new business,

21-080

Moved by Schreiner seconded by Sloan to approve the agenda with addition of item # new council member discussion and #J set public hearing for Crawford AuSable School expansion request/road closure.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: 4 Nays: 0, Abstain 0, Absent: 1, Vacant 0

Motion Carried

V. Approval of Consent Agenda

21-081

Moved by Schreiner seconded by Sloan to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: 4 Nays:0, Abstain:0, Absent: 1, Vacant 0

Motion Carried

VI. Review of Council Members Code of Conduct

Mayor Forbes explained she feels the Code of Conduct needs to be reviewed and reevaluated. General discussion took place. She also mentioned letters received that went to the City Attorney and his reply and letters were handed out for members to read. She felt no need to read the letters.

Mayor Forbes asked for a motion to hold work sessions

21-082

Moved by Schreiner seconded by Forbes to approve holding work sessions on the 4th Monday of the months not having two meetings.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: 4 Nays:0, Abstain:0, Absent: 1, Vacant 0

Motion Carried

Mayor Forbes asked that members email her topics they wish to discuss so she knows what to set the workshops for.

Member Sloan mentioned the Code of Conduct says Council shall hold 2 meetings per month at 7 pm.

City Clerk/Treasurer Johnson mentioned that Council motioned a few years ago to only hold one meeting per month and if needed schedule a second meeting and also changed the times of the meetings.

Attorney Edwards mentioned the City Charter only requires one meeting per month.

Mayor Forbes mentioned this is why she brought this up for discussion, changes are needed to the Code of Conduct.

Member Schreiner asked when the workshops would begin.

Member Moshier mentioned there were not two meetings scheduled for this month.

Mayor Forbes mentioned that July is a busy month for Grayling with the Canoe Marathon and felt September would be a good time to start the workshops having the Council Code of Conduct on that agenda to discuss.

VII. Council member Kersey to address board and accept her resignation

Mayor Forbes explained that she had forwarded the request from member Kersey and her reasons for her resignation from the board.

21-083

Moved by Sloan seconded by Schreiner to accept the resignation received from member Kersey as requested.

Member Moshier recommends not to accept the resignation from member Kersey, he as well has come up with a lot of opposition and they need to go to the MML conferences to learn. Feels it is a made-up excuse and is not in favor of accepting the resignation.

Mayor Forbes said that she and past member Ross did attend the MML conference and member Kersey was to attend a different one on a different date, is unsure if she did attend one. Mayor Forbes feels she had reasons and doesn't feel she is walking away.

Member Moshier mentioned he is not in favor of accepting her resignation.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: 3 Nays: Moshier, Abstain:0, Absent: 1, Vacant 0

Motion Carried

VIII. City Managers Report

City Manager Baum explained his report and the Northern Market project. Member Schreiner asked what the updated cost for the project has gone to. City Manager Baum said it was at 18 million and it is now at 20 million

IX. Mainstreet Managers Report

Mainstreet Manager Gosling mentioned the current vibrancy grants were out 10 to 15 weeks and should see changes this fall. She also mentioned the clock has been ordered and is also a few weeks out for delivery.

Mayor Forbes asked where the clock would be placed.

Mainstreet Manager Gosling said there are two locations being considered. It would either be the bump out in front of the railroad tracks or in front of the train depot.

X. Project Updates

City Manager Baum said nothing new.

XI. Unfinished Business

None

XII. New Business

A. Approve Application/resolution for NEZ-Sawmill Loft

Podjaske explained the application/resolution for the Neighborhood Enterprise Zone Certificate needed to be approved per the State of Michigan.

21-084

Moved by Schreiner seconded by Sloan to waive the reading of the resolution.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: 4 Nays:0, Abstain:0, Absent: 0, Vacant 1

Motion Carried

21-085

Moved by Sloan seconded by Schreiner to approve Resolution 21-085 approving an application for a neighborhood Enterprise Zone (New/Rehabilitated) Certificate for Sawmill Lofts, LLC as presented.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: 4 Nays:0, Abstain:0, Absent: 0, Vacant 1

Motion Carried

B. Approve Local Governmental Unit Approval for Social District Permit- AuSable Hospitality-Ray's

Mainstreet Manager Gosling explained there are additional businesses eligible to serve in the Social District.

21-086

Moved by Sloan seconded by Schreiner to Approve Local Governmental Unit Approval for Social District Permit- AuSable Hospitality-Ray's as presented.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: 3 Nays: Moshier, Abstain:0, Absent: 0, Vacant 1

Motion Carried

C. Approve Local Governmental Unit Approval for Social District Permit- Spike's Keg-O-Nails

21-087

Moved by Schreiner seconded by Sloan to Approve Local Governmental Unit Approval for Social District Permit- Spike's Keg-O-Nails as presented.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: 3 Nays: Moshier, Abstain:0, Absent: 0, Vacant 1

Motion Carried

D. Approve Local Governmental Unit Approval for Social District Permit- Michigan Brew

21-088

Moved by Sloan seconded by Forbes Approve Local Governmental Unit Approval for Social District Permit- Michigan Brew as presented.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: 3 Nays: Moshier, Abstain:0, Absent: 0, Vacant 1

Motion Carried

E. Letter of support for Commission on Aging

Member Schreiner asked members to authorize the mayor on behalf of council to submit a generic letter of support for the Commission on Aging. Costs have gone up since the new building was voted in and they are now looking for other grant funds to help with the additional cost.

Member Moshier asked if that made Member Schreiner a voting member.

Member Schreiner said no, he only sits on a committee and is helping to get support letters from the community.

City Manager Baum mentioned it is not a conflict of interest.

21-089

Moved by Sloan seconded by Moshier to authorize Mayor Forbes to send a letter of support on behalf of the council to the Commission on Aging.

Ayes: 4 Nays: 0, Abstain:0, Absent: 0, Vacant 1

Motion Carried

F. Set July 26, 2021 as a regular meeting.

Mayor Forbes explained this was no longer needed. The item will be discussed later in the meeting.

G. Set Council Work Session Dates

No action is needed, already motioned to set work session dates earlier in the meeting.

H. Council Packet Disbursement

City Manager Baum explained this is on the agenda due to complaints and the need for a better way to distribute council packets. He mentioned he has checked with other communities and most send out the agenda and then council members stop at the office to pick up their packets when convenient for them. This would then allow the Police Officers to work on other needed items.

Member Sloan mentioned he would like his delivered.

Member Schreiner is ok with picking his up

Mayor Forbes is ok with either having them delivered or picking it up.

Member Moshier said why change if it's not broken.

Member Sloan is ok with the Police Officers doing it.

City Manager Baum explained the officers were accused of looking in windows.

Member Moshier said keep it as is.

Member Schreiner is ok either way.

City Manager Baum said he will figure it out.

I. New Council Member Discussion

Mayor Forbes asked of the process of appointing a new council member

City Clerk/Treasurer explained that in the past an ad was placed in the paper and on the city website. Applications were received and Council reviewed and interviewed at a regular council meeting.

General discussion took place.

21-090

Moved by Schreiner seconded by Sloan to place an opening in the paper for two weeks have applications due by August 4th and place the item on the next regular scheduled meeting on August 9, 2021 to interview applicants.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: 4 Nays: 0, Abstain:0, Absent: 0, Vacant 1

Motion Carried

Clerk/Treasurer Johnson mentioned this would be to complete the current term and then it would go on the next regular election in November of 2022

- J. Set Public Hearing for Crawford AuSable School expansion for August 9, 2021 regular meeting.**

21-091

Moved by Schreiner seconded by Forbes to hold a public hearing on August 9, 2021 for the Crawford AuSable School expansion/road closure request.

Ayes: 4 Nays: 0, Abstain:0, Absent: 0, Vacant 1

Motion Carried

City Manager Baum mentioned he would be asking the school Superintendent for more information before the public hearing.

XIII. Reports

Mayor Forbes asked if any members had questions on the reports.

Member Schreiner mentioned he liked the new reports from the Fire Department.

No other questions were asked.

XIV. Public Comment

Matt LaFontaine asked if council has had any more discussion on allowing non residents that owned businesses within the city to sit on council.

City Manager Baum said it is not allowed, it is mandated by state law.

XV. Council Member Comments

Member Moshier brought up the chain link fence that member Schreiner brought up last month and wondered if anything was changed.

Podjaske mentioned he had to write the letter to have it removed as he was doing his job based on following the Zoning Ordinance. He mentioned nothing further has been discussed

since this issue came up as the Planning Commission hasn't held a meeting, but that it would be on their next agenda for next week's meeting.

Member Moshier asked if there was going to be a public hearing on that, he would like to change that as others were grandfathered in.

Member Schreiner mentioned he has come up with an idea for items like this that will be going to planning. It would be a list of 3 criteria's that the Zoning Officer could look at and if they meet these, he could then allow such items.

Mayor Forbes mentioned that the home owner never checked the city ordinance or called the city to check on if a chain link fence was allowable and never pulled a permit as well.

She mentioned the next Planning Commission meeting is next Tuesday and everyone was welcome to attend and give input.

Podjaske mentioned that if there were changes to be made, the Planning Commission would hold the Public Hearing and not City Council. Once that is completed then it would come to City Council for approval.

City Clerk/Treasurer Johnson mentioned this process would take a few months to be completed.

Mayor Forbes again encouraged members to come to the next Planning Commission to give input.

XVI. Correspondence

None

XVII. Adjournment

21-092

Moved by Schreiner seconded Sloan that the meeting is adjourned.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: 4 Nays:0 Abstain:0, Absent: 0, Vacant 1

Mayor Forbes adjourned the meeting at 7:19 pm.

Lisa K Johnson

City Clerk/Treasurer

Approved Minutes can be found on our website: www.cityofgrayling.org