



**CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES
October 18, 2023**

The City Council met for a Workshop Meeting at 4:00 p.m.
City Hall
102 Butler St., Saugatuck, MI 49453.

1. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Dean at 4:00 p.m.

2. Attendance:

Present: Mayor Dean, Councilmembers Baldwin, Gardner and Muncey.

Absent: Leo, Stanton and Lewis.

Motion by Baldwin, second by Gardner to excuse Stanton, Lewis and Leio from today's Council workshop. Via voice vote, motion carried 4-0.

Others Present: City Manager Heise, Director of Planning, Zoning, & Project Management Cummins, Treasurer Stanislawski, City Attorney Witte, Clerk Wolters.

3. Agenda Changes: Councilmember Gardner requested to include a brief discussion about Friday's open house for the airport property.

Motion by Gardner, second by Muncey to include the airport property as 6D. Via voice vote, motion carried 4-0.

4. Guest Speaker: None.

5. Public Comments on Agenda Items Only (Limit 3 minutes):

Dan Fox, resident:

Council representative to the Fire District Board. He noted he will not be in attendance for the City Council meeting on Monday. He will send Clerk Wolters a report to include in the packet.

6. Discussion Items:

Discussion of Playground Naming- Bekken-

Councilmember Gardner mentioned the following:

- Mark Bekken is the longest serving Council member with 42 years of service.
- He is a big sports enthusiast.
- A multipurpose court should be named after him.
- Asked if there was a policy on Park naming. There should be a policy put in place for the future if one is not existing.

Treasurer Stanislawski wasn't aware if there is a policy on naming parks in the City. Councilmember Muncey asked if there was a policy when Jones Park was named. Mayor Dean asked City Manager Heise to bring recommendations in term of a policy. He would like DPW to assist on when they will be updating the basketball court, so it is in pristine shape for dedication and the right time of year. Councilmember Gardner would like to see this topic at the first workshop in November. Mayor Dean will leave it up to City Manager Heise to judge when he can bring it to a workshop.

Right of Way Permit- Ugly Sweater Pub Crawl:

April Gundy submitted a permit application to hang a banner on the Saugatuck palette sign to promote the Ugly Sweater Pub Crawl to take place on 12-2-23.

Special Event Application- Veterans Day:

Robert Boyce on behalf of the American Legion Post 137 for the Veterans Day Celebration to be held on November 11, 2023.

ODC Open House for Airport Property:

Councilmember Gardner asked for details about an open house on Friday by the ODC called SOAR.

Councilmember Baldwin who is the chair of the Parks and Public Works Committee explained that it is a public meeting to analyze strengths, opportunities, results, and aspirations. It is open for the public to make comment about what they think would be great at the property.

7. Public Comments (Limit 3 minutes): None.

Dan Fox, resident:

Asked Council to consider the accounting aspect of the property. It is 170 acres, average acre of farmland in Michigan is \$5,850/acre. That is \$994,000 piece of land. Having the data of an appraisal of the land would assist in deciding what is best for the property.

8. Correspondence: None.

9. Council Comments:

- Councilmember Muncey: He was nominated to serve as the interurban treasurer by the board. He is excited to take on that new role. Make-A-Wish benefit is Saturday at 9:20 p.m.
- Councilmember Gardner: None.
- Councilmember Baldwin: Thanked everyone for the discussion and reminded everyone about the SOAR analysis this Friday at 3 p.m. in the Council chamber.
- Mayor Dean: Thanked Mayor Pro-Tem Stanton for standing in for him the past couple of meetings. He is certified with CPR and AED.

10. Adjourn (Voice call):

Motion by Gardner, second by Muncey to adjourn, upon voice vote, motion carried 4-0, and Mayor Dean adjourned at 4:36 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jamie Wolters
City Clerk