



## **CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

**December 11, 2023**

The City Council met for Regular Council Meeting at 7:00 p.m.  
City Hall  
102 Butler St., Saugatuck, MI 49453.

### **Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Stanton at 7:00 p.m.

### **Attendance:**

Present: Mayor Stanton, Mayor Pro-Tem Baldwin and Councilmembers Anderson (via Zoom), Dean, Gardner, Muncey and White.

Absent: None.

Others Present: City Manager Heise, Director of Planning, Zoning & Project Management Cummins, Treasurer Stanislawski, Department of Public Works Assistant Superintendent Herbert, Attorney Kyle O'Meara and Clerk Wolters.

### **Mayor's Comments:**

Mayor Stanton thanked April Gundy for coming in last second to oversee the holiday parade along with the Christmas Pub Crawl following. She did an amazing job and if there was a way to nominate her for Citizen of the Year, she deserves it. She thanked DPW, Sheriff's department and Fire department for changing the route at the last minute. It was a wonderful time.

**City Manager Comments:** City Manager echoes Mayor Stanton's comments on April Gundy.

**Agenda Changes:** None.

**Guest Speakers:** None.

### **Public Comment on Agenda Item Only:**

Nancy Kimble, resident: Member of PPW Committee and on the board for Friends of the Blue Star Trail. Spoke in favor of item 15C, Blue Star Trail. It will be a positive addition to the community and a benefit not only residents but visitors as well. The trail presents an opportunity to improve both the safety and aesthetics of the intersection at Blue Star Hwy and Lake St.

## **Consent Agenda:**

A. Regular City Council Meeting Minutes – November 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

*Motion by Dean, second by Baldwin to approve the regular city council meeting minutes from November 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.*

## **Staff Reports:**

City Manager, Director of Planning & Zoning, Treasurer, DPW Superintendent and Engineer submitted status reports of current activities since the last Council meeting on November 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023, for their respective departments.

## **Boards, Commissions & Committees:**

### Fire District Administration Board, Dan Fox:

- The next meeting is a week from tonight at 4:00 p.m.
- The sub-committee met for the second time on the ambulance discussion.
  - Three board members are on the team including Chief Janik and Chris Mantels.
    - Learned more in that meeting about challenges, opportunities, and potential changes in ambulance service structure within the Fire District than in the past two years.
    - Next meeting most likely within the first two weeks in January.

### Interurban Board, Councilmember Muncey:

- Next meeting on December 19<sup>th</sup>.
- They had a sub-committee meeting about extending hours.
- Their audit is almost finished and will have a copy at the next meeting to review.
- They are waiting on plans from their engineer regarding the building expansion.

KLSWA, Barry Johnson: None.

### Kalamazoo Lake Harbor Authority, Mayor Stanton:

- They are meeting in January.

Zoning Board of Appeals: None.

### Historic District Commission, Councilmember Gardner:

- Had his first HDC meeting on December 7<sup>th</sup>.
- They had one application; 245 Francis St. and the application was tabled.

### Planning Commission, Chair Councilmember Anderson:

- The next meeting is December 21<sup>st</sup>.
  - They will be discussing waterfront properties and short-term rentals.
- Mayor Stanton noted she and Chair Manns will be interviewing candidates for the open Planning Commission seat.

Parks and Public Works Committee, Mayor Pro-Tem Baldwin: None.

Tri-Community Non-Motorized Trail Study Committee, Councilmember Dean: He has not met with the Committee yet.

Tri-Community Recycling Ad-Hoc Committee: None.

**Request for Payment:** None.

**Approval of Accounts Payable:**

- A. Accounts Payable in the amount of \$166,439.46.

Mayor Stanton noted City Manager Heise request to pull item number eleven for additional review.

*Motion by Anderson, second by Baldwin to approve the accounts payable in the amount of \$164,355.46. Via roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.*

**Introduction of Ordinances:** None.

**Unfinished Business:** None.

**New Business:**

Waterfront Moratorium Extension- Resolution 231211-B:

*Motion by Dean, second by Baldwin to approve Resolution No. 231211-B, A Resolution Extending the Temporary Waterfront Commercial Development and Construction Moratorium. Via roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.*

Council Approval of STR Police Powers:

*Motion by Dean, second by White to authorize the Planning Commission to make police-power ordinance recommendations regarding short-term rentals. Via voice vote, motion carried unanimously.*

Blue Star Trail:

*Motion by Baldwin, second by Anderson to allow staff and legal to approve the Blue Star Trail amendment with a not to exceed cost of \$55,800 as presented in the amendment. Via roll call vote, motion carried 5-2. Yes- Anderson, Baldwin, Dean, Stanton and White. No- Garnder and Muncey.*

Poverty Guidelines- Resolution 231211-C:

*Motion by Muncey, second by Dean for the approval of the 2024 Poverty exemption guidelines. Via roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.*

Council Meeting Dates- Resolution 231211-A:

*Motion by Muncey, second by Anderson to approve Resolution 231211-A listing the City Council schedule of meetings for the year 2024. Via roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.*

**Public Comment:** None.

**Correspondence:** None.

**Council Comments:**

- Councilmember Anderson: None.
- Councilmember Gardner: Thanked fellow Councilmembers and staff for listening to him when he talks about issues of concern to him as a Councilmember.
- Mayor Pro-Tem Baldwin: She volunteered for the holiday parade and the pub crawl and continued to be inspired by a lot of the people that work to effect some positive change in the community. She agrees with Councilmember Gardner on fiscal responsibility. There are certain things that they need to be spending money on. As a taxpayer she just wants to know what she is getting for happily paying them. She is happy to see that they are putting the money in the right direction.
- Councilmember Dean: Echoed Mayor Stanton on thanking April Gundy and the volunteers and first responders that made the holiday parade such a success.
- Councilmember Muncey: Explained his vote on item 15C- Blue Star Trail. I certainly supports it and always has, he just can't honestly vote on something that he didn't know much about. He missed the workshop meeting and didn't have enough time to read everything about it.
- Councilmember White: None.

**Adjournment:**

*Motion by Gardner, second by Dean to adjourn the meeting. Upon voice vote, motion carried unanimously. Mayor Stanton adjourned at 7:49 p.m.*

Respectfully Submitted

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Jamie Wolters, City Clerk