



CITY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA

December 12th, 2022 – 7:00 pm

*This is an in-person meeting at Saugatuck City Hall, 102 Butler St, Saugatuck, MI 49453.
The meeting will also be available live, virtually on Zoom.*

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
3. **Roll Call**
4. **Consent Agenda:** *(Roll Call)*
 - A. Regular City Council Meeting Minutes – November 28, 2022
 - B. Accounts Payable in the amount of \$321,232.26
5. **Staff Reports:**
 - A. City Manager
 - B. Treasurer
 - C. Planning and Zoning
 - D. Department of Public Works
 - E. Fire
 - F. Police
 - G. Engineer
 - H. KLSWA
6. **Agenda Changes** (Additions/Deletions)
7. **Guest Speakers**
8. **Public Comment on Agenda Items Only** (Limit 3 minutes)
9. **Introduction of Ordinances**
10. **Public Hearings**
11. **Unfinished Business**
12. **New Business:**
 - A. Resolution 221212-A City Council 2023 Schedule of Meetings *(Voice Vote)*
 - B. Spear Street License Agreement *(Voice Vote)*
 - C. Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals Appointments *(Voice Vote)*

NOTICE:
Join online by visiting:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2698572603>

Join by phone by dialing:
**(312) 626-6799 -or-
(646) 518-9805**

Then enter "Meeting ID":
2698572603

Please send questions or comments regarding meeting agenda items prior to meeting to:
ryan@saugatuckcity.com

Requests for accommodations or interpretive services must be made 48 hours prior to this meeting. Please contact Saugatuck City Clerk at 269-857-2603 or JWolters@saugatuckcity.com for further information.

13. Public Comments (Limit 3 minutes)

14. Correspondence

15. Boards, Commissions & Committees Reports

16. Council Comments

17. Mayor's Comments

18. Adjourn (*Voice Vote*)



**CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES - Proposed
November 28, 2022**

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 Dean at 7:00 p.m.

Attendance:

Present: Mayor Dean, Mayor Pro-Tem Stanton, Councilmembers Baldwin, Gardner, Leo and Muncey.

Absent: Councilmember Lewis.

Others Present: City Manager Heise, Treasurer Stanislawski, DPW Superintendent Herbert, DPW Assistant Supervisor Hardy, Deputy Clerk/DPW Assistant Williams & Clerk Wolters.

Consent Agenda:

A. Regular City Council Meeting Minutes – November 14, 2022.

B. Accounts Payable in the amount of \$315,516.89.

Motion by Gardner, second by Stanton, to approve the consent agenda as presented. Upon roll call vote, motion carried 6-0.

Staff Reports:

City Manager, Treasurer, Zoning Administrator, DPW Superintendent, Engineer and Fire Chief submitted status reports of current activities since the last Council meeting on November 14th, 2022, for their respective departments. Lt. Ensfield was present for questions regarding his department.

Agenda Changes: Mayor Dean moved agenda item #12A before agenda item #7A.

Motion by Baldwin, second by Muncey to approve the agenda change. Upon voice vote, motion carried 6-0.

New Business:

A. Organizational Meeting Discussion for Committee, Commission, Chairperson

Appointments: Mayor Dean recommended the three following appointments:

- a. Councilmember Baldwin to the Parks and Public Works Committee
- b. Councilmember Lewis to the Historic District Commission
- c. Councilmember Gardner continuation his appointment on the Planning Commission

Motion by Stanton, second by Muncey to approve Mayor Dean's recommended appointments. Upon voice vote, motion carried 6-0.

Public Comment on Agenda Items Only:

Catherine Simon (resident): Opposed to the proposed removal of Councilmember Gardner from Planning Commission. Voiced her concerns with Council communicating with the City Attorney to justify various board changes.

Dan Fox (resident) (City Council Fire Board Representative): Informed Council of topics from the most recent Saugatuck Township Fire District Board meeting on November 21st.

Erin Wilkinson (resident): Opposed to Dan Fox giving the Fire Board update during public comment instead of during board reports or in the beginning of the meeting as he did in previous years. Commented on there being availability of the two Fire Board Representatives to the Council. Voiced her concern with Councilmember Gardner's proposed removal from Planning Commission.

Barry Johnson (resident): Noted the November 14th minutes were incorrect, there was no motion to approve the agenda changes- per Robert's Rules of Order, chair cannot depart from prescribed order of business without two thirds vote from Council. Regarding Councilmember Gardner's proposed removal from the Planning Commission, Charter 31.34 (B) states- Any member may, after a public hearing, be removed by the Mayor for inefficiency, neglect of duty, or malfeasance in office.

Gary Medler (resident): Voiced his concerns with the process of the proposed removal of Councilmember Gardner from Planning Commission.

Guest Speakers:

Ken Berthiaume, from the office of Berthiaume & Company CPA. Presented the City of Saugatuck annual audit and was available for questions.

Introduction of Ordinances: None

Public Hearings: None

Unfinished Business: None

New Business Continued:

- B. Spear Street Launch Agreement:** Request to renew yearly agreement with Star of Saugatuck, LLC.

Motion by Gardner, second by Baldwin, to table the agreement until Council has the updated agreement with the correct dates and names. Upon roll call vote, motion carried 6-0.

Public Comment:

Catherine Simon (resident): Informed Council and the public that former Mayor Lewis falsely identified Catherine's campaign as violating the Michigan campaign finance act by failing to include the required identification statement on her yard signs. She was interrogated relative to the signatures on her petition filings along with all other Council candidates. Commented that this all is a stain on the Community.

Jane Verplank (resident): Stated that Councilmember Lewis filed a complaint stating Jane's campaign signs did not have proper identification. Suggested Councilmember Lewis resign from Council.

Dan Fox (resident): Expressed his concerns with the City's ease of obtaining outside legal Counsel opinions and endorsements in favor of removing Councilmember Gardner from Planning Commission. He revisited the recent removal of Richard Crawford from the Planning Commission and the petitions filed from residents opposed to that appointment.

Barry Johnson (resident): He was asked to come speak in person to give the KLSWA report and he would not use his three-minute public comment time for that. He noted Richard Crawford was removed from the Planning Commission despite Charter 31.34 (B) which states public hearing should have taken place to do so and one did not happen.

Mark LaChey (resident): He is a member of the Planning Commission and supports Councilmember Gardner staying on Planning Commission. He is disgusted and ashamed of the residents public shamming of Councilmember Lewis which reminded him of the time a woman was railroaded off Council. Noted that procedures were not followed historically when the City entered into its most recent lawsuit.

Gary Medler (resident): Regarding the comment earlier on Council members who don't read their packets. He stated that two people are responsible for almost half of a million dollars in legal fees and if they had read their packets and asked questions the City would not be where they are regarding the lawsuit.

Correspondence: None.

Boards, Commissions & Committees Reports:

- Councilmember Gardner: The Planning Commission meets on December 15th.
- Councilmember Stanton: The Historic District Commission meets on Thursday December 1st.
- Councilmember Leo: Still awaiting word from MDOT.
- Councilmember Muncey: Interurban Board, not much to report all is well.
- Councilmember Baldwin: She is excited to be on the new Parks and Public Works Committee.

Council Comments:

- Councilmember Gardner: Read a letter he sent the previous night to the City Manager regarding his representation on the Planning Commission.
- Lauren Stanton: Congratulated Councilmember Baldwin for her Parks and Public Works Committee appointment, Councilmember Lewis for her Historic District Commission appointment and Councilmember Gardner for continuing on the Planning Commission. She appreciated all of the correspondence regarding Councilmember Gardner. She noted Councilmember Lewis has served well and that all should respect everything she has done for the community.
- Councilmember Leo: Thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and it is important all were heard. The last year or two Council has done good job putting many initiatives forward. She hopes that things will change, and everyone can move forward professionally.
- Councilmember Muncey: Thanked all for coming to the meeting. He appreciated everyone for reaching out and submitting letters with their concerns. He noted he has been researching the Charter, Roberts Rules as well as attending MML training to learn his new position. Reminded everyone of the Christmas Parade happening on December 3rd at 12:30.
- Councilmember Baldwin: Echoed Councilmember Muncey's comments on the parade and thanked everyone for her appointment on PPW.

Mayor Comments:

- Mayor Dean – Welcomed Councilmember Muncy and Baldwin to the Council. Thanked everyone who was in attendance and assisted with the tree lighting event.

Adjournment:

Motion by Gardner, second by Stanton to adjourn, upon voice vote, motion carried 6-0, and Mayor Dean adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jamie Wolters
City Clerk

Vendor Name	Description	Amount
1. A-1 ASPHALT INC	BUTLER ST REPAIR	1,137.00
2. ACTION INDUSTRIAL SUPPLY CO	UNIFORMS & SAFETY EQUIPMENT	459.17
3. ALLEGAN COUNTY TREASURER	PROPERTY TAX	16,786.02
4. ASSESSING SOLUTIONS INC	ASSESSING SERVICES	2,582.50
5. BELL EQUIPMENT CO	STREET SWEEPER	550.92
	STREET SWEEPER	325.28
	TOTAL	876.20
6. BERTHIAUME & COMPANY	AUDIT	10,300.00
7. BURNETT & KASTRAN PC	LEGAL FEES	96.00
8. CAPITAL ONE	MENARDS	688.32
9. CERTASITE LLC	ALARM MONITORING & ANNUAL INSPECTION	724.37
10. CHIPS GROUNDCOVER LLC	HOLIDAY LIGHTING	2,800.00
	HOLIDAY LIGHTING	21,145.00
	TOTAL	23,945.00
11. CONSUMERS ENERGY	ELECTRIC	3,252.23
12. D & L TRUCK & TRAILER LLC	TRUCK 1 REPAIRS	3,817.73
13. ELHART GMC	REPAIRS	26.91
14. ETNA SUPPLY	PARK STREET	2,647.90
15. FAHEY SCHULTZ BURZYCH RHODES	LEGAL FEES	2,135.00
	LEGAL FEES ZONING	2,956.50
	FOIA NORTH SHORE	560.00
	LEGAL FEES AUDIT	770.00
	LEGAL FEES LAWSUIT	23,490.32
	LAWSUIT ELECTRICAL	11,427.00
	TOTAL	41,338.82
16. FIRST BANK CARD	ELECTION, HOLIDAYS, TRAINING & SUPPLIES	2,412.29
	TRAINING	303.46
	MAINTENANCE	413.45
	TOTAL	3,129.20
17. FLEIS & VANDENBRINK ENGINEERING INC	ENGINEERING FEES	6,218.57
18. FRONTIER	DPW GARAGE	195.74
	OVAL BEACH	68.83
	TOTAL	264.57
19. GATES ELECTRIC INC	CITY HALL	200.91
20. HOLLAND MEDI-CENTER	DOT PHYSICAL	50.00

Vendor Name	Description	Amount
21. HORIZON COMMUNITY PLANNER	PLANNING & HISTORIC DISTRICT	1,568.25
22. IHLE AUTO PARTS	PARTS	40.67
23. INTERURBAN TRANSIT AUTHORITY	PROPERTY TAXES	4,660.03
24. JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL	MAINTENANCE & PARTS	415.97
25. KALAMAZOO LAKE SEWER & WATER	WATER & SEWER	1,396.71
26. KATERBERG VER HAGE	WATER STREET SIDEWALK	64,172.12
27. LORRIE PASTOOR	CLEANING SERVICES	120.00
28. MERS	RETIREMENT	4,500.00
29. MICHIGAN GAS UTILITIES	CITY HALL	95.19
	BUTLER STREET BATHROOMS	160.24
	DPW GARAGE	318.43
	TOTAL	573.86
30. MICHIGAN MUNICIPAL LEAGUE	TRAINING	115.00
31. MIKE SCHAAP BUILDERS INC	REFUND SEWER TAP OVER PAYMENT	4,750.00
32. MINER SUPPLY CO	SUPPLIES	4,854.50
33. OVERISEL LUMBER COMPANY	SUPPLIES	891.52
34. PETER STANISLAWSKI	HOLIDAY LIGHTS, WREATHS, GARLAND & TREES	2,029.09
35. PRIORITY HEALTH	HEALTH INSURANCE	8,928.36
36. QUALITY DOOR COMPANY INC	DPW GARAGE DOORS	126.10
37. RICOH USA INC	COPIER LEASE	127.97
	COPIER LEASE	127.97
	TOTAL	255.94
38. SAUGATUCK CENTER FOR THE ARTS	TRAINING	300.00
39. SAUGATUCK DOUGLAS LIBRARY	PROPERTY TAXES	6,943.14
40. SAUGATUCK FIRE	PROPERTY TAXES	20,354.97
41. SAUGATUCK PUBLIC SCHOOLS	PROPERTY TAXES	71,641.28
42. SHANAHAN CATERING CO	TRAINING	375.00
43. SHORELINE TECHNOLOGY SOLUTIONS	COMPUTER SERVICES	1,220.00
44. SIGNS NOW	SUPPLIES	184.72
45. STANDARD INSURANCE COMPANY	INSURANCE	427.46
46. VALLEY CITY LINEN INC	SHOP TOWELS	50.00
47. WESTENBROEK MOWER INC	SUPPLIES	4.00
	OIL	318.98

Vendor Name	Description	Amount
	TOTAL	35.98
48. WONDERLAND TIRE COMPANY	TIRES	1,760.17
TOTAL - ALL VENDORS		321,232.26
FUND TOTALS:		
Fund 101 - GENERAL FUND		180,563.55
Fund 202 - MAJOR STREETS		1,667.86
Fund 203 - LOCAL STREETS		3,203.76
Fund 592 - WATER AND SEWER		4,750.00
Fund 661 - MOTOR POOL FUND		10,595.04
Fund 701 - CURRENT TAX FUND		120,385.44
Fund 715 - ROSE GARDEN		66.61



City Managers Report –Highlights

December 12th, 2022

Newish!

The City Council will be conducting their strategic planning session on Tuesday 9:30 AM. The meeting takes place at the Saugatuck Center for the Arts (SCA) and will be the third such meeting within two years. Council will review results of the citizen survey which included over 115 comments from the community! The meeting is open to the public, although public participation is limited.

Main objectives for the meeting include:

- Review results from strategic planning from December of 2021
- Discussion on Council Manager form of Gov't (Council Training)
- Define Key Result Areas for annual planning
- Review results of Resident Survey
- Prioritize projects for upcoming year
- Discuss current Council meeting dates and Staff preparation
- Review current boards & committees

Newish!

City staff has finalized their agreement with donors of the art piece “Whispers.” Many thanks to Mike and Wally of Amazwi Contemporary Art for the generous donation that will further the art scene in Saugatuck and “the Michigan Art Coast.” Additionally, a big thank you to Maryjo Lemanski for coordinating the acquisition. Install of “Whispers,” planned for the spring.

Parks and Public Works Committee!

Excitement continues with Parks and Public Works Committee. Study group assignments for various projects were reviewed and committee assignments appointed. Discussion focused on transparency and bottom-up process for presenting ideas to Council. Study groups will include other stakeholders outside of the committee with certain expertise and experience.

Meeting with Consumers Energy on possible substation at “Airport Property”

Working with Consumers on potential locations for their desired substation for improved electrical infrastructure. At the same time we are discussing potential synergies with adding additional electrical capacity to the “Airport Property,” along with capacity for community solar.

Blue Star Highway- Michigan Natural Resource Trust Fund (MNRTF) Grant & TAP

I’m pleased to inform you that we’ve received the official letter from MDOT on the conditional commitment for the TAP funding award. As noted in the thread below this not an award but does provide clarity on a few key issues as it relates to the Blue Star Bridge crossing and archaeological survey scope, in that the state has placed no special conditions beyond federal and state standards for safe bridge crossings (2012 AASHTO standards); “standards in the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) Guide for the Development of Bicycle Facilities, 2012 edition.” The crossing was designed to the AASHTO standard.

Congrats! \$1.34 Million is a significant award. We are still waiting on word from our friends at the Michigan Natural Trust Fund Application on the \$300,000.00 grant.

Discussions continue with Allegan County Conservation District

Allegan Conservation District (ACD) has begun conducting surveys for treating Hemlock trees for hemlock woolly adelgid (HWA) this will include all public property with Hemlock Trees. Also willing to assist with other invasive species treatment in the area. A meeting hosted by Saugatuck Township Manager was held on 11.10.22 with the (ACD) Director to discuss shared resources and opportunities.

Newish!- Cellular Service Discussions Continue with AT&T & Verizon Update

AT&T Update

- A continued thanks to Jill Dunham (Broadband Project Coordinator for Allegan County) for understanding how important this project is for safety and her assistance with aggressively pushing this project forward. Ms. Dunham continues to be in contact with City staff.
- Continued discussions with the AT&T government liaison to begin discussions on install/service agreement.
- AT&T has expressed interest in partnering with infrastructure improvements to facilities at Mt. Baldhead, potentially including new restrooms and stairs.

Engineering work continues at Mt Baldhead site.

- o They have completed their radio frequency test from within the ball and all appears good according to the engineers.
- o Feasibility study has been completed and the site is viable.

Department of Public Works Continues Discussions with Donor on New and Improved Swing Sets at Oval Beach

Finalizing – Thank you do our generous donors for the new swing sets at Oval Beach. Install planned for the spring.

Ongoing- Kalamazoo Lake Sewer and Water (KLSWA) Agreement

City/Township Managers continue to discuss the Asset Management Plan, along with our respective attorneys and engineers.

KLSWA prefers to begin with negotiating the asset management plan for sewer to utilize as a roadmap for the water agreement. Legal counsel has been engaged and provided initial comments.

Ongoing- Oval Beach Staffing and Operations

Discussions on safety improvements, operational improvements, staff retention and recruitment continue. Beach Community Summit conducted in South Haven was helpful. Next year's summit to be held in Saugatuck.

Ongoing- Road resurfacing (and utility) projects- on your agenda

Engineers have concluded their road assessment and have met with City staff to review preliminary findings. Results were reviewed with Council.

Old news- Dune Ridge Waterfront Update

Litigation continues... Which includes deposition of the opposing party.

City Hall

Pre-bid meeting conducted with potential vendors for City Hall exterior repairs.



Treasurer Report

Below is a summary of notable activities carried out by the Treasurer's Office since the last council meeting on 11/28/2022:

- Paid routine bills
- Completed and disseminated bi-weekly payroll
- Collecting winter tax bills



Planning, Zoning and Project Report

December 12, 2022

Planning and Zoning

- Set up Planning Commissioner and ZBA Member interviews.
- Completed MSU Extension Zoning Administrator Certificate Program pre-requisites. Registered for in person sessions in February.
- Attended meetings with planning consultant and legal regarding various zoning matters.
- Reviewed 631 Perryman PUD historical documents.
- Reviewed Maple St. lot split historical documents.
- Attended Historic District Commission meeting.
- Sent letters to expired and soon to be expired short term rental owners.
- Reviewed ZBA Decision Forms from recent cases and corresponded with ZBA Chair.
- Completed planning and zoning casework as outlined in the chart below.

Projects

- Set up new Council Member orientation for January 11.
- Reviewed annual audit.
- Reviewed historical documents related to water/sewer connection fees.
- Attended City Hall exterior pre-bid meeting with prospective bidders. Bids are due December 20.

Planning and Zoning Casework

640/650 Water Street	Inquiry	Met with applicants and consultant to discuss non-conforming rights and options under the zoning ordinance.
700 Maple Street	Lot Split Request	Continued review with planning consultant. After extensive review and research, application is being referred to the Planning Commission. Applicant advised they did not wish for their application to be considered at the December meeting.
383 Dunegrass Circle	New Home	Located in 631 Perryman PUD residential overlay. Was scheduled for site plan review by Planning Commission in November but a quorum (per bylaw requirements) was not available. Continued extensive review with consultant and legal. Scheduled for December 15 Planning Commission meeting.
525 Butler St	ZBA Dimensional Variance Request and Historic District review	ZBA granted variance request for side yard setback and lot coverage for addition of a new bedroom, new covered porch, and living room extension. Historic District Commission approved on 12/1 with conditions.
1021 Allegan St	Water/Sewer Connection and Street Cut	Followed up with builders to collect connection fees.
647 Butler	Historic District Review	Historic District application received for various work including new windows, roof, doors, lights, fence and new deck and porch addition. Will be heard at January HDC meeting. Applicant advised zoning permit will also be needed.
150 Dunegrass	Inquiry	Questions about driveway slope. Coordinated with Fire Authority.
560 Mill St	New Fence	Historic District and fence permit application received. Permits issued for both. Talked with applicant about landscaping concerns raised by a complainant.
1044 Holland (1034 Holland)	New Home	Zoning permit application and water/sewer connection application submitted for new home. Applicant revised floor area ratio calculations. Sent to consultant for review. Coordinated water/sewer connection review with city engineer and provided applicant with feedback.

Planning and Zoning Casework Continued

423 Grand St	New Home	Zoning permit application and water/sewer connection application submitted for new home. Sent to consultant for review. Coordinated water/sewer connection review with city engineer and provided applicant with feedback.
233 Lucy St	Home Alteration and Addition	Zoning permit application received for a front porch demolition and rebuild. HDC previously approved. Application not complete. Researching non-conforming setbacks with consultant.
726 Water St	Short Term Rental Application	Existing STR units. Renewing. Sent to Fire Department for inspection.
15 Park St	Inquiry	Questions about replacing existing (60-year-old) tennis court and whether permits needed. Same footprint. May extend fence 1 ft at later date. Reviewed prior site plan approvals and site plan review triggers. Sent to consultant for review.
602 Francis	Short Term Rental Application	Existing STR. New Owner. Sent to Fire Department for inspection.
255 Spear St	Short Term Rental Application	Existing STR changed ownership. Sent to Fire Department for inspection.
807 Lake #7	Short Term Rental Application	Existing STR renewing. Sent to Fire Department for inspection.
712 Lake St	Short Term Rental Application	Existing STR renewing. Sent to Fire Department for inspection.
201 Butler	Inquiry	Questions about permitting and requirements to add a "lobby ATM with enclosure" outside the drug store. Sent to consultant for review. Reviewed history and other code of ordinance provisions. Advised applicant survey will be needed.

Planning and Zoning Casework Continued

Sugar Hill (previously Vine Street Cottages)	Land Division Application	Lot split application. Did not use current application so it was not complete. Provided current application and checklist.
275 North St	Inquiry	Discussed preliminary lot split plans with applicant. Discussed zoning ordinance requirements and provided resources. Provided same to surveyor.
510 Butler St	Inquiry	Questions about turning an accessory structure into an ADU and renting it as another unit of the B&B. Advised this is not allowable without a ZBA variance.
890 Simsonson	Inquiry	Questions about water connection fees for proposed new home. Fees provided.
35 and 37 Park St	Inquiry	Questions about separating water service lines. Provided application. City Engineer reviewed unique circumstances and provided feedback.
560 Mill St	Inquiry	Questions about setbacks and historic district requirements for possible renovation. Provided requested information.
749 Holland St	Inquiry	Questions about front and rear lot lines on irregular shaped lot. Provided zoning ordinance definitions.
149 Griffith	Inquiry	Questions about permitting for remodeling. Contributing structure in the historic district. Restaurant use historically. Provided resources and forms depending on type of work as well as MTS info. Advised Planning Commission reviews may be needed.
143 West	Inquiry	Questions about prior building plans.
16 Park St	Inquiry	Questions about ADU requirements. Discussed prior approvals and current zoning regulations.



Department of Public Works

Below is a summary of notable activities carried out by the Department of Public Works since the last council meeting on 11/28/2022:

Brush and Leaf Collection – Mild weather has allowed for an additional brush and leaf collection which took place December 6th and 7th. It is anticipated that this will be the last collection for 2022.

Final Detailing of City Parks – Detail work included cleaning leaves, dead-heading plants, etc.

Equipment Maintenance – Emphasis was placed on small engine park equipment (backpack blowers, weed whackers, hedge trimmers, riding mower, zero-turn mower, and chainsaws)

First Snow Event of the Year – Staff and equipment were prepared to tackle snow and ice control during and after the first snow event of the year.

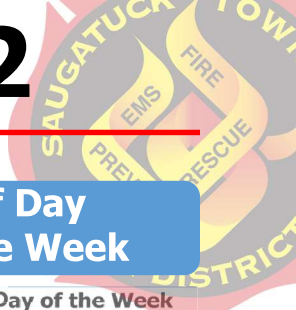
Oval Beach Sand – Typical fall high wind events have mandated the removal of large volumes of sand that accumulates on the parking lot areas of the park.

Commercial Driver's License (CDL) – At the time this report is being made, Equipment Operator/Maintenance Worker, Ellis Mack, is taking his final road test to acquire his CDL Class B with Air Brake Endorsement. This license will allow him to operate the City's International dump trucks and begin training to provide snowplowing services for the City. Please check your mailboxes to ensure structural integrity.

Arborist Services – Conducted site visits with a certified arborist to begin evaluations of trees of concern within the City.

Staff Meetings – One-on-One meetings were conducted with the Public Works Superintendent and DPW staff. The next quarterly meetings will be held in March. The City is fortunate to have such a talented and devoted team of Public Works professionals.

Incidents end of November 2022

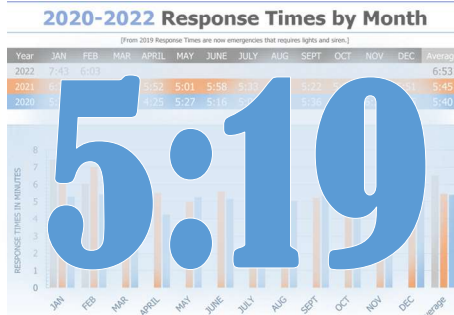


Incidents by Month



November recorded 96 calls total compared to 75 in 2021. A third straight month of record call volume. Total year to date is 932 calls an 8.2% increase compared to same time last year.

Response times



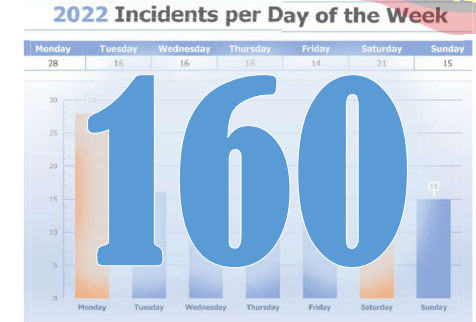
Our November response time improved compared to October. Average response time for the month was 5:19. For the year the average is down to 5:50.

Emergent Calls



October showed 48 emergent calls (lights and siren) up from 44 in November last year. A difference of 9.1%. Total for this year is 495 emergent calls compared to 531 in 2021.

Time of Day Day of the Week



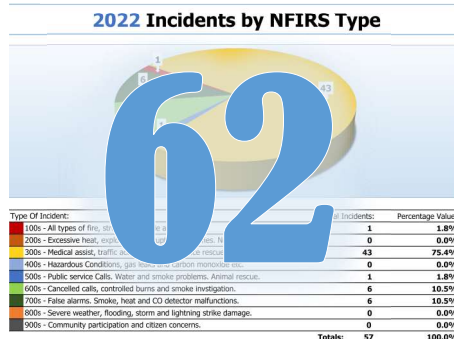
Monday and Saturday are still the busy days compared to the rest of the week within the 157-160 range. The hours from 8AM-9PM count for the busy time of the day.

Overlapping Calls



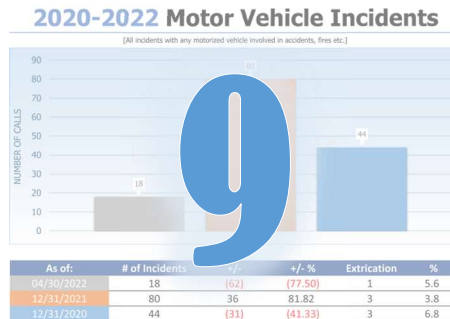
39 overlapping calls shows an increase compared to 26 in October 2021. 40.6% of our calls in October were overlapping. For the year to date, 33.6% of our calls are overlapping.

Type of Calls



October recorded 62 calls in EMS which counts for 65% of our total volume for October. The most common EMS call type is falls, 160 such incidents this year, or 26.2% of the reported 610 total EMS calls. 33 more than in 2021!

MVI



9 MVIs (motor vehicle incidents, i.e., crashes, fires etc.) 59 incidents YTD. Intersection of Blue Star Highway and Old Allegan Road have still not seen an incident for more than a year. The flashing stop sign works!

Location



Location of calls shows Township (including I-196) accounts for 389 calls or 44% compared to Douglas at 262 or 29% and Saugatuck City at 241 or 27%.



Allegan County Sheriff Report

Below is a summary of notable activities carried out by the Allegan County Sheriff's Deputies since the last council meeting on 11-28-2022:

- A reminder for residents receiving deliveries and to eliminate any temptation for theft. Please make arrangements for someone to pick up, send to alternate location or for a neighbor to grab them if you will not be home.

**City of Saugatuck
Status Report of Engineering Activities
December 8, 2022**

General Consultation

- Water Street Sidewalk: Project is complete. Will review grass restoration in the spring.
- Water System Asset Management Plan: The Intent to Apply deadline for EGLE's Drinking Water Revolving Fund was submitted to meet the November 1 deadline. Preliminary scoring is anticipated to be available late this year or early next. If it looks favorable, the next step will be preparing a Project Plan and other application materials early next year.
- Olde Mill Apartments Water Service: Quotes have been received. We are preparing a background memo to summarize what limited information is available to assist council with making decisions on whether to proceed, cost sharing, etc.
- City Hall Exterior Renovations: The project is out for bids. Bids are due December 20. The work is slated for spring 2023.
- Spark Grant: There are two rounds of funding in 2023, \$25M each. It will be a competitive program, but if the City has a park-type project (or projects, up to 3 can be submitted), we can assist with conceptual design/planning work and submitting the application.
- Private Development: Assisting City staff with plan review and construction observation for several projects.

Maple Street Improvements

- Met with the affected property owner on November 15 and finalized the study for council consideration.

Capital Improvements Planning

- The CIP has been revised based on feedback from council and incorporated into the EGLE Intent To Apply. The section of Park Street at the chain ferry has been prioritized and included in the application.
- Prepared a proposal for design phase services for the East/West/Takken/Taylor project. It is a resurfacing project with drainage improvements that was prioritized by staff.

Blue Star Highway Bridge Navigation Lighting

- We are working with the Coast Guard to finalize lighting details.
- Once the details have been finalized, we will assist the communities with soliciting quotes for light installation.



City Council Agenda Item Report

FROM: Jamie Wolters
MEETING DATE: December 12, 2022
SUBJECT: City Council Schedule of Meetings for the year 2023

DESCRIPTION:

Michigan’s Open Meetings Act (Public Act No. 267 of 1976, as amended) states that within 10 days of the first meeting of the public body in each calendar or fiscal year, the body must publicly post a list stating the dates, times, and places of all its regular meetings at its principal office.

Section 4.13 of the City Charter- Regular meetings of the council shall be held at least twice in each calendar month at the usual place of holding meetings of the Council. If any time set by resolution of the Council for the holding of a regular meeting of the council shall be a holiday, then such regular meeting shall be held on the next following secular day which is not a holiday or on such other day as may be set by the Council.

Regular City Council meetings will be held at Saugatuck City Hall, 102 Butler Street, Saugatuck, MI 49453 at 7:00 p.m. on the second and fourth Monday of each month.

BUDGET ACTION REQUIRED:

N/A

COMMITTEE/COMMISSION REVIEW:

N/A

LEGAL REVIEW:

N/A

SAMPLE MOTION:

Motion to **approve/deny** Resolution 221212-A listing the City Council schedule of meetings for the year 2023.

**City of Saugatuck
County of Allegan
State of Michigan**

RESOLUTION NO. 221212-A

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING CITY COUNCIL SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS FOR 2023

Council Member _____, offered the following resolution and moved for its adoption, seconded by Council Member _____:

WHEREAS, Section 4.13 for the City Charter requires that regular meetings of the City Council shall be held at least twice in each calendar month and;

WHEREAS, Michigan’s Open Meetings Act (Public Act No. 267 of 1976, as amended) states that within 10 days of the first meeting of the public body in each calendar or fiscal year, the body must publicly post a list stating the dates, times and places of all its regular meetings at its principal office.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOVED THAT:

1. Regular City Council meetings will be held at Saugatuck City Hall, 102 Butler Street, Saugatuck, MI 49453 at 7:00 p.m. on the second and fourth Monday of each month.
2. Special and Irregular meetings of the City Council require a notice posted indication the date, time, and place at least 18 hours before the meetings.
3. The City Council adopts the following meeting schedule for the regular City Council meetings for 2023.

January 9, 2023	May 8, 2023	September 11, 2023
January 23, 2023	May 22, 2023	September 25, 2023
February 13, 2023	June 12, 2023	October 9, 2023
February 27, 2023	June 26, 2023	October 23, 2023
March 13, 2023	July 10, 2023	November 13, 2023
March 27, 2023	July 24, 2023	November 27, 2023
April 10, 2023	August 14, 2023	December 11, 2023
April 24, 2023	August 28, 2023	December 25, 2023

YEAS: _____

NAYS: _____

ABSTAIN: _____

ABESTN: _____

ADOPTED this 12th day of December 2022

Signed: _____
Scott Dean, Mayor

Jamie Wolters, City Clerk

Certification:

I, Jamie Wolters, the duly appointed clerk of the City of Saugatuck do hereby certify the foregoing is true and complete copy of resolution adopted by the Saugatuck City Council at a regular meeting held on December 12, 2022, in compliance with the Open Meetings Act No. 267 of the Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, as amended, the minutes of the meeting were kept and will be or have been made available as required by said Act.

Attest:

Jamie Wolters, City Clerk



FROM: Ryan Heise
MEETING DATE: 12.7.22
SUBJECT: Spear Street Launch ramp Operation

DESCRIPTION:

The CITY OF SAUGATUCK, a Michigan home rule city with offices located at 102 Butler Street, Saugatuck, Michigan 49453 (“City”) and Star of Saugatuck, LLC of 716 Water St., Saugatuck, Michigan 49453 (collectively, “Operator”), enter into the attached Launch Ramp Management Agreement (“Agreement”).

BUDGET ACTION REQUIRED

N/A

COMMITTEE/COMMISSION REVIEW

None

LEGAL REVIEW

No.

SAMPLE MOTION:

Approve the continuation of the Spear Street Launch Agreement with “Star of Saugatuck,” agreement begins March 1, 2023 to November 30, 2023.

LAUNCH RAMP MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT

The CITY OF SAUGATUCK, a Michigan home rule city with offices located at 102 Street, Saugatuck, Michigan 49453 (“City”) and Star of Saugatuck, LLC of 716 Water St., Saugatuck, Michigan 49453 (collectively, “Operator”), enter into this Launch Ramp Management Agreement (“Agreement”).

RECITALS

1. The City owns a boat launch ramp located at the intersection of Spear Street and Water Street (“Ramp”) and used by the general public.
2. The City requested proposals from qualified persons to operate and manage the Ramp, and the Operator submitted a bid in response to the City’s request.
3. The City is willing to accept the Operator’s bid provided the Operator enters into this Agreement.
4. The Operator is willing to enter into this Agreement and operate and manage the Ramp according to the terms of this Agreement.

AGREEMENT

The parties agree as follows:

1. Term. The term of this Agreement shall extend from March 1, 2023 through November 30, 2023, unless sooner terminated as provided in this Agreement. The Operator will provide services under this Agreement from March 1 through November 30 during each calendar year of the term.
2. Operator Obligations. The Operator shall, at its sole cost and expense, manage and operate the Ramp. The Operator’s obligations shall include:
 - 2.1. Overseeing the use of the Ramp, it being understood by the Operator that the Ramp has historically been used by the public from March through November and during both daylight and non-daylight hours; provided, however, that the minimum hours of supervision by the Operator required under this Agreement shall be from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. for the months of March, April, May, September, October and November and from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. for the months of June, July and August unless otherwise agreed to by the City Manager;
 - 2.2. Collecting (including personally and via secured collection boxes) fees from users of the Ramp according to the schedule of fees adopted by the City (“User Fees”), and remitting such fees to the City on not less than a monthly basis;

- 2.3. Maintaining accurate records of all persons using the Ramp during the hours specified in Section 2.1 and all fees assessed and collected. The Operator will also use best efforts to prepare a list of those persons who use the Ramp during the hours of operation described in Section 2.1 but fail to pay User Fees. This provision will not require the Operator to conduct any investigation to determine the identity of users who fail to pay user fees, but the Operator will maintain records containing identifying information concerning such users, such as vehicle license plate numbers and/or watercraft MC numbers ;
- 2.4. Providing access for those persons using the Ramp to the bathroom facilities located on the Operator's property adjacent to the Ramp during the hours the Operator's facilities are open to the public; and
- 2.5. Overseeing the use of the Ramp and adjacent street end in a good faith effort to control, and promptly reporting to the City any instance of, misuse or improper use of the Ramp, such as: (1) the operation of boats causing damage to the Ramp or areas adjacent to it; (2) the mooring of boats at the Ramp; and (3) the conduct of commercial activities at the Ramp.

The parties agree that the Operator's obligations shall not include maintenance, repair or replacement of the Ramp except to the extent such maintenance, repair or replacement is necessitated by the acts of the Operator or its agents or employees. The Operator agrees to promptly notify the City of any damage to, or condition of, the Ramp and signage which may need repair or replacement. The Operator shall perform its obligations in compliance with all federal, state and local laws.

3. Operator Compensation. In consideration of its obligations hereunder, the City shall pay to the Operator 50% of all User Fees collected and remitted to the City by the Operator, which payment shall be made in accordance with City payment policies. Remittance of the User Fees to the City shall be accompanied by all documents the City may reasonably request. The Operator shall remit User Fees on at least a monthly basis, or more frequently if the Ramp is used frequently. Additionally, the City may request at any time during the term of this Agreement that the Operator provide to the City reports and other documents regarding the use of the Ramp.
4. Expenses. The Operator shall, at its sole expense, provide all supplies, equipment and labor for performing, and shall pay all expenses associated with the performance of, its obligations under this Agreement; provided, however, that the City shall pay the expenses with respect to the printing of launch passes to be used by the Operator.
5. Relationship of the Parties. The Operator shall act as an independent contractor. Nothing herein shall be deemed to grant to the Operator any legal or equitable interest in the Ramp.
6. Termination. Either party may terminate this Agreement at any time upon material breach of this Agreement by the other party. Further, either party may terminate this Agreement without cause upon 10 days prior written notice; provided, however, that the Operator shall not terminate this Agreement without cause from March through November. Upon termination, the Operator shall remit to the City the User Fees collected through the date of termination, and provide the City with all supporting documentation, and upon such remittance, the City shall pay the Operator as provided in Section 4.

7. Indemnity. Each party (“**Indemnifying Party**”) agrees to hold the other party, including such other party’s officers and employees (collectively, “**Indemnified Party**”), harmless from, indemnify the Indemnified Party for, and defend the Indemnified Party (with legal counsel reasonably acceptable to Indemnified Party) against any liability for damages, injury or other casualty and any costs and expenses, including reasonable attorneys’ fees, caused or arising from: (1) any act or omission by Indemnifying Party or its agents or employees with respect to Indemnifying Party’s obligations under this Agreement; and (2) a breach by Indemnifying Party of any of its obligations under this Agreement.
8. Insurance. The City shall maintain general liability insurance with respect to the Ramp, as well as property insurance with respect to any damage or destruction of the Ramp. The Operator shall be responsible for maintaining general liability insurance with respect to the performance of its obligations hereunder and with respect to the services it will provide pursuant to this Agreement. Additionally, the Operator shall maintain automobile insurance in such amounts as the City may reasonably request.
9. No Assignment. This Agreement shall not be assigned, in part or in whole, without the prior written consent of the City in the City’s sole and absolute discretion.
10. Third-Party Beneficiary. No person shall be deemed to be a third-party beneficiary of this Agreement.
11. Miscellaneous. This Agreement is written pursuant to the laws of the State of Michigan and was made in Allegan County, Michigan. This is the entire agreement between the parties regarding its subject matter. There are no contemporaneous agreements. It may not be modified or amended except in writing, signed by both parties. More than one copy of this Agreement may be signed, but all constitute but one agreement.

Executed this 12th day of December, 2022.

CITY OF SAUGATUCK

Date _____

By _____

Scott Dean
Its Mayor

Date _____

And by _____

Jamie Wolters
Its City Clerk

OPERATOR

Date _____

By _____

Date _____

And by _____

391565.04



City Council Agenda Item Report

FROM: Ryan Cummins

MEETING DATE: 12/12/2022

SUBJECT: Planning Commission Appointments

DESCRIPTION:

The City Clerk provided notice that the city is accepting applications for the Planning Commission. Six applications were received for the open seats. Copies of the applications were provided in the December 7 workshop meeting packet. All six applicants were contacted to participate in an interview with Mayor Dean, Chairperson Manns and myself on December 9.

One applicant elected to pass on the Planning Commission interviews and instead interview for the open Zoning Board of Appeals seat. A second applicant withdrew their application for family reasons.

Michael Kenny, Christopher Bagierek, Holly Anderson and William Donahue were interviewed on Friday. After consulting Chair Manns and myself and unanimous agreement, Mayor Dean is recommending that Christopher Bagierek and Holly Anderson be appointed to the Planning Commission.

The City Clerk also provided notice that the city is accepting applications for the Zoning Board of Appeals. Two applicants are interested in the open seat. One of the applicants is a current ZBA alternate member who wishes to be considered for the regular seat. Both applicants were contacted to participate in an interview with Mayor Dean, Chairperson Kubasiak and myself on December 14.

Following the interviews, a recommendation to Council on who to appoint will be made by Mayor Dean:

ZBA Interview Schedule	
Wednesday, December 14	
11:00	Kate McPolin
11:30	Jane Verplank

BUDGET ACTION REQUIRED:

N/A

COMMITTEE/COMMISSION REVIEW:

Planning Commission Chairperson, Steven Manns, was provided with a copy of the applications and interview questions, participated in the interviews, and provided his recommendations to Mayor Dean.

Zoning Board of Appeals Chairperson, Bob Kubasiak, has been provided with a copy of the applications and interview questions and advised he will be attending the interviews on December 14.

LEGAL REVIEW:

N/A

SAMPLE MOTION:

Motion to appoint Christopher Bagierek and Holly Anderson to the Planning Commission.

Jamie Wolters

From: Jim Bouck <jamesbouck@protonmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, November 27, 2022 5:24 PM
To: Ryan Heise; Jamie Wolters; Russ Gardner
Subject: Fwd: City Council membership on Planning Commission

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

I ask that this letter in support of Russ Gardner's continuation as the Saugatuck City Council representative on the Saugatuck Planning Commission be included in the official records of the next meeting

Jim Bouck
638 Spear
Saugatuck Michigan

Sent from Proton Mail for iOS

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Jim Bouck<jamesbouck@protonmail.com>
Date: On Sun, Nov 27, 2022 at 12:45 PM
Subject: Fwd: City Council membership on Planning Commission
To: Scott Dean <sdean@saugatuckcity.com>, Russ Gardner <russ@saugatuckcity.com>, hleo@saugatuckcity.com <hleo@saugatuckcity.com>, lstanton@saugatuckcity.com <lstanton@saugatuckcity.com>, Gregory Muncey <gmuncey@gmail.com>, Helen@Saugatuckcity.com <Helen@Saugatuckcity.com>, glewis@saugatuckcity.com <glewis@saugatuckcity.com>
Cc: mannssteven@hotmail.com <mannssteven@hotmail.com>, Ann Broeker <annbroeker@hotmail.com>, bagaunt@comcast.net <bagaunt@comcast.net>, mwlachey@gmail.com <mwlachey@gmail.com>, richardh@landscapeforms.com <richardh@landscapeforms.com>

Dear City Council:

There are multiple rumors that the City Council may consider replacing Russ Gardner with another City Council member as their representative on the City Planning Commission.

My thoughts are as follows:

§ 31.31 TERMS OF OFFICE.

The membership of the City Planning Commission shall consist of a member of the City Council who shall be selected by the Council and whose term of office shall correspond with his or her term as a Council member; and six residents of the city who shall be appointed by the Mayor, subject to the approval by a majority vote of the members elect of the City Council. (Ord. passed 5-13-2002; Am. Ord. 191209-2, passed 12-9-2019)

According to the City Charter, inclusion of the word **shall** makes City Council membership on the Planning Commission mandatory and the direct responsibility of the entire City Council.

For the current City Council to imply that Russ Gardner's representation as that mandatory City Council representative was not official would confirm that the prior City Council had no official representative and intentionally violated the City Ordinance and perhaps the State of Michigan Planning Enabling Act.

It seems that recognizing Mr. Gardner as that representative member was the method chosen to fulfill the legal requirement binding on the City Council. By failing to appoint another Council member as the required representative, Mr. Gardner's Planning Commission position was formally recognized.

Mr. Gardner's term on the PC must be the same as his City Council term unless removed following public charges of malfeasance and a public hearing.

Mr. Gardner has served with integrity, honesty and honorably as a Planning Commission member and deserves our full support.

Sincerely

James Bouck
638 Spear Street
Saugatuck, Michigan

Sent with [Proton Mail](#) secure email.

GARY E. MEDLER

gary.medler@yahoo.com

461 Vine Street PO Box 461

Saugatuck, Michigan 49453

312-848-2453

November 28, 2022

BY EMAIL DELIVERY

Jamie Wolters
City Clerk
City of Saugatuck
102 Butler Street/PO Box 86
Saugatuck, Michigan 49453
jwolters@saugatuckcity.com

Ryan Cummins
Director, Planning, Zoning & Proj. Mngt.
rcummins@saugatuckcity.com

David M. Jirousek, AICP
Consultant

Re: City Council Meeting Agenda
November 28, 2022, Agenda Item 12 (A)
Organizational Meeting Discussion for
Committee, Commission, Chairperson Appointments

Dear Ms. Wolters:

This comment letter is submitted for inclusion in the Record for the City Council Meeting set for November 28, 2022.

At the September 26, 2022, City Council Meeting, the Fahey firm presented an opinion regarding the effect of Garnett Lewis’ admission to the Petition to Rectify an Abuse of Process in the appointment of commission members. Quoting the Fahey firm:

PLANNING COMMISSION

Steven Manns, Chair
Ann Broeker, Vice Chair
Bobbie Gaunt
Russ Gardner
Richard Heriford
Mark LaChey

CITY COUNCIL

Scott Dean, Mayor
Lauren Stanton, Mayor Pro-Tem
Garnett Lewis
Holly Leo
Russ Gardner
Gregory Muncey
Helen Baldwin

“We think it is significant that state law ... provides for the removal of a member of the Planning Commission or Zoning Board of Appeals only in the event of very specific circumstances which involves misfeasance, malfeasance or nonfeasance in office by that appointee ... so under State law there’s really no grounds to invalidate these appointments.”

Despite what Garnett Lewis “should have” done in the process of her appointments, the Fahey firm labeled the policy variations which surrounded the appointments as “harmless error.”

Today, Council is proposing to void the Russ Gardner selection as Council Representative on the Planning Commission from November 3 and 8, 2021, because the Fahey firm stated Russ “should have” resigned his citizen position and “should have” been nominated to be Council Representative.

City Code Section 31.31 states:

The membership of the City Planning Commission shall consist of a member of the City Council who shall be **selected** by the Council and whose term of office shall correspond with his or her term as a Council member; and six residents of the city who shall be appointed by the Mayor, subject to the approval by a majority vote of the members elect of the City Council (emphasis added).”

The Council Representative is “selected” and the citizen members must be Mayor appointed and confirmed by a majority of the Council.

At the November 3, 2021, City Council Workshop, Russ Gardner was clearly and affirmatively removed from citizen representative and “selected” as Council Representative to the Planning Commission without objection. At the November 8, 2021, City Council Meeting, Mark Bekken confirmed Russ Gardner’s selection as Council Representative. Since selection in November 2021, Mr. Gardner has served as Council Representative without question by Council.

While the Fahey firm asserts Mr. Gardner “should have” resigned (despite there being no such requirement) and “should have” been nominated by Council (City Code requires no such action, only selection), there is simply no grounds to invalidate Mr. Gardner’s “selection.” Consistent with the Fahey opinion in the Garnett Lewis abuse of power appointments, the offered “should have” process (resignation/nomination) constitute “harmless error.”

Making the false determination Mr. Gardner’s selection was invalid raises significant legal issues and possible City exposure for actions taken during Mr. Gardner’s position on the Planning Commission.

With all due respect for the Fahey firm, before City Council takes any action on invalidating Mr. Gardner's Planning Commission selection, Council should seek clarification from the Fahey firm as to the distinction between the Abuse of Power Appointments and the selection of Mr. Gardner to the Planning Commission. There clearly is no distinction.

Sincerely

Gary E. Medler

Jamie Wolters

From: Bill Hess <wwh71@comcast.net>
Sent: Sunday, November 27, 2022 9:02 PM
To: Ryan Heise
Cc: Jamie Wolters
Subject: Planning Commission: Council Representative

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Saugatuck City Council Members,

I strongly support keeping Russ Gardner as Council representative to the Planning Commission.

As a 5th generation Saugatuck resident, Russ brings a knowledge of our City and perspective to the Planning Commission that newer residents of the City do not possess.

I also believe you would be setting a very bad precedent if you replace a sitting Commission member whose term has not expired, has not resigned and wants to remain a member of the Commission.

I do not understand the motivation for removing Russ from the Planning Commission. It just doesn't make sense to me.

Bill Hess,
Former Saugatuck Mayor and 12 year Council member

I request that this message be included as correspondence at the regular City Council meeting of November 28, 2022.

specifically requesting that your message be included as correspondence at the November 28, 2022 regular council meeting.

Sent from my iPhone

Jamie Wolters

From: Bobbie Gaunt <bagaunt@comcast.net>
Sent: Sunday, November 27, 2022 6:35 PM
To: Ryan Heise; Jamie Wolters
Cc: Scott Dean; Lauren Stanton; 'Steven Manns'
Subject: Saugatuck City Council representation on the Planning Commission

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Dear Ryan and Jamie - I would appreciate it if this can be included as correspondence at the City Council meeting tomorrow, November 28, 2022; please confirm. Thank you, Bobbie

To Mayor Dean, Mayor Pro-tem Stanton, and City Council Members:

This is to request that you reconsider the plan to replace Russ Gardner with Garnet Lewis as the Council representative to the Planning Commission. Why you would consider this action is not at all clear to me. In my approximate 13-month tenure on the Commission, Councilmember Gardner has provided excellent representation for both the Commission and the Council, and to City residents; to my knowledge, all commissioners hold Russ in the highest regard based on his thorough preparation, the consistent quality of his advice, and his willingness to use his years of experience in the City to provide both ideas and introductions. Given this and "31.31 Terms of Office" which stipulates in part that "The membership of the City Planning Commission shall consist of a member of the City Council who shall be selected by the Council and whose term of office shall correspond with his or her term as a Council member;...", I ask, why members of the City Council seem intent on replacing him?

This is the latest example of what concerns me re the relationship between the City Council and its Planning Commission. In my short tenure, and without, to my knowledge, any consultation or advice to the Commission, the Zoning Administrator resigned; a Planning/Zoning Manager was hired; a PC decision was over-ridden without any consultation of or advice to the PC; a long-standing member of the Planning Commission was moved and replaced; and, now the Council is planning to move the Commission's Council representative, again with no advice or consultation of the Commission (to my knowledge). Open, inclusive, and respectful dialogue is critical to good governance in my opinion. The Council may not have an "official" obligation to keep its Planning Commission informed on every issue, but I personally believe Council has a professional responsibility to do so ... relationship building is important and essential, especially considering the times in which we live.

Let me be clear, my position on this matter has nothing to do with Garnet Lewis - Garn is a smart and skilled and dedicated public servant. My position has everything to do with respect for our fellow Council, Commission, and Board members, AND respect for our ordinances ... adherence to ordinances is not optional.

Respectfully,

Bobbie Gaunt
Planning Commission Member
Saugatuck

Jamie Wolters

From: Daniel Fox <danielwfox101@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, November 27, 2022 9:51 AM
To: Jamie Wolters
Subject: Fwd: Pending City Council Planning Commission Appointment

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Jamie,

I got an "out of office" automatic reply when I sent a copy of this to Ryan Heise, so I'm forwarding a copy to you simply for information.

Thanks.

Dan Fox

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Daniel Fox <danielwfox101@gmail.com>
Date: Sun, Nov 27, 2022 at 9:49 AM
Subject: Pending City Council Planning Commission Appointment
To: Scott Dean <sdean@saugatuckcity.com>, Lauren Stanton <lstanton@saugatuckcity.com>, Holly Leo <hleo@saugatuckcity.com>, Gregory Muncey <gmuncey@gmail.com>, <helen@saugatuckcity.com>

With the new City Council ready to make appointments tomorrow, I'm writing to urge independent thinking and a new commitment to good and fair government in one such action.

As you probably know, the prior Council leadership, in the person of the then-mayor, knowingly failed to follow the officially enacted protocol--one she had authored and sponsored just a year earlier--for making commission appointments. That was neither accidental nor done without an agenda: she wanted to make her preferred appointments without oversight. It was a pure political power play, the opposite of the transparency and good-government commitment we hear about so often. To generate even a weak and grudging

apology from the then-mayor, it took a formal abuse-of-power petition signed by more than 100 Saugatuck residents.

No longer the mayor, she's at it again: looking for a way to force her own appointment to the Planning Commission by replacing a fellow Council member, Russ Gardner, who has faithfully served with distinction as the Council's representative to that commission for some years now. If he is removed from the Planning Commission, it will be another unsavory political power-play, and reward backroom dealing over the proven interests of the city and its citizens and the demonstrated performance of a true public servant. My hope is that the new City Council shows itself to be better than that.

A final point: The twin "justifications" being offered for Mr. Garner's replacement are entirely without merit. First, considering the entirety of his long service to Saugatuck, he, not the power-play replacement, has amassed more total years of Planning Commission service and experience. Second, the notion that his replacement has some special "in" with the Michigan Municipal League is a specious fabrication. The MML is wide open to all its member jurisdictions (Saugatuck is a full member) and very responsive to every request from those members. Indeed, suggesting that "special relationships" are required to get the full benefit of MML membership is as insulting to the organization as it is false. (An MML staffer privately volunteered that anyone making such a claim is lying.)

I apologize for the long message, but I consider the subject to be of paramount importance to the public, and to the future of the new Council.

Thank you for your attention to this, and for your service to the City.

Dan Fox

Jamie Wolters

From: Victor Bella <deltuck@aol.com>
Sent: Sunday, November 27, 2022 6:16 PM
To: ryan@saugtuckcity.com
Cc: Jamie Wolters
Subject: Saugatuck Planning Commission Representative

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Dear Mr. Heise:

As a voter and long-time resident of Saugatuck, I want to totally support the continuation of Russel Gardner's position on the Planning Commission. I'm concerned that the recent move to have him replaced is not only illegal but smells of third world politics. What in the world is going on?

I have worked closely over the last several months with Russ on the Radar Tower project and have always found him to be a hard worker, professional, congenial and up front. What is the mayor's rational for replacing the perfect guy on the Planning Commission?

I request that this letter of support be included as correspondence at the November 28, 2000, regular council meeting.

Sincerely,

Victor Bella