

**REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

**March 26, 2024**

The Regular City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Mallory in the Council Chambers at City Hall at 7:00 p.m.

**Roll Call:**

Present: Bedwin, Mallory, Darling, and Mills.

Absent: Kwiatkowski, Dodd, and Raab

**Public Comments on Agenda Items Only:**

- None.

**Approval of Agenda and Receive and File all Communications:**

- Councilwoman Mills moved to approve the agenda and receive and file all communications. Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Bedwin. Motion carried.

**Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes:**

- Mayor Pro Tem Bedwin moved to approve the Regular City Council meeting minutes of March 12, 2024, as presented. Seconded by Councilwoman Darling. Motion carried.

**Communications and Petitions:**

- Mark Bronson – Housing Commission Update.
  - Mark Bronson, President of the Housing Commission, gave a Housing Commission update to Council. Bronson discussed the meeting the Housing Commission recently had. At that meeting, the Commission approved four resolutions to keep the housing rehabilitation project moving forward. Bronson discussed the addition of a new Commissioner, staffing issues in the office on Cuyler Street, extending the current Executive Director’s contract for one month, and transitioning to a management team, explaining that duties and jobs will change. Bronson and Council discussed the start of the rehabilitation project.

**Departments, Board and Commissions:**

- Cheboygan Police Department, February Report.
  - Councilwoman Darling inquired about the Property Inspection statistic. Chief Rifenberg explained.

**General Business:**

- Consideration of Bids for Independent Contracted Services for Maintenance, Interments, and Sexton Services at Pine Hill Cemetery.

- Councilwoman Mills moved to authorize the City Manager to negotiate and sign a contract with Gracie Larson for Maintenance, Interments, and Sexton Services at Pine Hill Cemetery. Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Bedwin.
- Councilwoman Mills discussed the contract and shared her research regarding Sexton wages.
- Council, City Manager Sabolsky and Clerk Singles discussed the Sexton position.
- A roll call vote was taken. Motion carried.

**City Manager's Report:**

- Sabolsky explained to Council the reason why some of these lightbulbs are out in Chambers.
- Sabolsky met with the Historical Society regarding the Bodman Building. He also met with Kristen Baggot about her proposal. Sabolsky reported that we are still trying to figure out what to do with the building. Sabolsky discussed his negotiations with Jim Conboy. He will update Council with more details when he knows more.
- Sabolsky reported that the DNR has reached out to him as they are interested in purchasing more land near the land we sold them a few years ago on Western. Sabolsky reported that the parcels are zoned Industrial. Sabolsky discussed his concerns. Sabolsky also spoke to the DNR about getting an easement for the property on US-23 that Billy Jewell is assisting the City with.
- Sabolsky told Council that there will be a Planning Commission public hearing regarding a rezoning of some parcels. Those parcels would go from Local Business (B-1) to Multi-Family Residential (R-M). Sabolsky said a large apartment development would probably be placed there.
- Sabolsky discussed the Armory building and the Repurposing Overlay Council approved. The property owner had 18 months to work on that and they did not. The owner is looking at selling that property and Sabolsky explained that it is zoned back to Residential.
- Sabolsky discussed the resolution regarding the deeds for Major City Park. Sabolsky discussed the blue building that is being worked on near the adult baseball field. We are also working on fixing up the two dugouts. The City will be working with some of the baseball organizations to raise funds for some projects.
- Sabolsky discussed the Spark grant that we received. We are seeking bids for an architect and project manager.
- Sabolsky reported that the Court Street project should start up again in the beginning of April. We are working with HRC to add more parking space to Filmore Street for Veterans Park.
- We made an offer to an individual to fill the vacant Water/Wastewater Operator position. Four Officers will be taking the Segreant written exam come May.
- Sabolsky reported that we will probably have a work session before the April 9<sup>th</sup> meeting regarding the budget.
- Regarding the concession stand, we are finalizing our contractors and subcontractors. Sabolsky discussed the progress regarding the concession stand.
- Councilwoman Mills asked regarding the access to Veterans Park on Memorial Day. Sabolsky has discussed this issue with HRC to see what can be done for accessibility.
- Sabolsky told Council that the work for Ball Street and Bailey Street/Court Street and S. Huron Street has been put out for bid. Council and Sabolsky discussed the projects.

**Clerk's Comments:**

- Clerk Singles commented on Gracie Larson’s work as the Pine Hill sexton.

**Public Comments:**

- Tom Frazier commented regarding his home on Dresser Street. The home was built in 1871. Frazier commented that there is some extensive foundation and structure issues. Frazier came to Council looking for resources or suggestions to help with the cost of repair. Sabolsky told Frazier to call City Hall and ask for Executive Assistant Martin to set up a meeting.

**Committee Updates:**

- Councilwoman Mills said Bronson gave her report.
- Councilwoman Darling reported that the Parks and Recreation Commission did not have a quorum. It was mentioned that maybe the Commission should have five members instead of seven so a quorum could be had with three. Discussion was had regarding the Commission and the number of members. The ordinance says the Commission can have a minimum of five, maximum of seven Commissioners. Dale Rieger gave an update regarding the dog park. Rieger and Council discussed the size and possible location of the park.

**Messages and Communications from Mayor and Council Members:**

- Councilwoman Darling discussed the Easter egg hunt happening this weekend.
- Councilwoman Mills discussed a grant available from DTE. However, you need to be a 501(C)(3) organization to receive the grant.
- Mayor Pro Tem Bedwin thanked the Fraziers for coming to the meeting. Mayor Pro Tem Bedwin would like to be informed of any findings for assistance.

**Adjournment:**

- Mayor Mallory adjourned the meeting at 7:45pm.

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Mayor Brett Mallory

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Clerk Alyssa Singles

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Mayor Pro Tem Adam Bedwin

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Councilwoman Diane Mills

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Councilman Kenneth Kwiatkowski

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Councilwoman Mary Darling

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Councilwoman Diane E. Raab

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Councilwoman Hayley Dodd