

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COMMISSION  
CITY OF EAST GRAND RAPIDS

**Regular Meeting Held September 17, 2012**

Mayor Seibold called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. in the City Commission Chamber at the Community Center and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Commissioners Goebel, Graham, Johnson, Miller, Skaggs and Mayor Seibold

Absent: Commissioner Dills

Also Present: City Manager Donovan; City Attorney Huff; Public Works Director Feldt; Public Safety Director Dood; Public Safety Director Herald; Zoning Administrator Faasse; City Clerk Brower

2012-112. No public comment was received.

2012-113. Commissioner Skaggs thanked his fellow volunteers for the Reeds Lake Triathlon on the well run event.

Commissioner Graham congratulated City Manager Donovan for being featured on the cover of the Michigan Municipal League's "The Review" magazine after testifying at a legislative hearing on pension reform.

Commissioner Johnson commended Susan Perry and the Parks & Recreation Department for all the effort put into the Reeds Lake Triathlon on September 8<sup>th</sup>.

Mayor Seibold also thanked everyone involved in the Reeds Lake Triathlon and shared a story of sportsmanship she witnessed at her volunteer post.

2012-114. A zoning variance hearing was held regarding the request of Ted & Deborah Cox of 912 Maxwell to allow the construction of a new home with a front yard setback of 32.5' instead of the required 37.1'.

Zoning Administrator Faasse explained the old home would be demolished and a new home constructed with a front yard setback of 32.5' to allow adequate maneuvering room for the detached garage behind the home.

Joel Peterson of Insignia Homes, Ted Cox and Rob Sears were present to explain the request and answer questions. Mr. Sears explained the 15' separation between the garage and home would allow vehicles to enter and exit the garage.

Mayor Seibold opened a public hearing. The following communications were received at City Hall concerning this variance request:

- Colleen Kanaan, 922 Maxwell	In Favor.
- Karla Hansen, 917 Maxwell	In Favor.
- John Schneider & Kathy Bego, 928 Maxwell	In Favor.
- Nicole & Henry Prins, 915 Maxwell	In Favor.
- Steve Rutherford, 909 Maxwell	In Favor.
- Brian Peceny, 932 Maxwell	In Favor.
- Larry VandeVoren, 918 Maxwell	In Favor.
- Art & Mary Koets, 857 Maxwell	In Favor.
- Lorraine Boer, 849 Maxwell	In Favor.

No other public comment was received. Mayor Seibold closed the public hearing.

- A. Miller-Graham. That the request of Ted & Deborah Cox of 912 Maxwell to allow the construction of a new home with a front yard setback of 32.5' instead of the required 37.1' be approved.

Commissioner Miller stated he would be voting in favor of the variance as he felt the setbacks were better than the existing home. Commissioner Goebel agreed the new home would be an improvement to the area.

Commissioner Johnson was concerned about the turning radius into the garage, but liked the covered porch and the appeal of the home from the street.

Commissioner Graham thanked Mr. and Mrs. Cox for their willingness to meet the challenges of building on a small lot in an established neighborhood and welcomed them to East Grand Rapids.

Mayor Seibold stated this type of situation met the requirements for granting a variance and she was happy to support this great project.

Yeas: Goebel, Graham, Johnson, Miller, Skaggs and Seibold – 6  
Nays: -0-

- 2012-115. Aaron Smith, EGR Representative to The Rapid Board of Directors, and Nick Monoyios, Long Range Planner for The Rapid, were present to update the City Commission on the operations and future projects of the transit service. New connections, routes and facility improvements are underway, as well as technology improvements to assist riders with routes and real-time route information.

- 2012-116. Johnson-Miller. Motion to approve the consent agenda as follows:

- A. Minutes of the regular meeting held September 4, 2012.
- B. Payroll disbursements of \$200,202.06; county and school disbursements of \$129,576.08, and total remaining disbursements of \$818,356.91.
- C. The purchase of diving equipment for the Public Safety Department from Moby's Dive Shop at a cost of \$5,937.37.
- D. The purchase of Microsoft Office 2010 software suites for various city departments in the amount of \$8,343.78 from Global Gov/Ed.
- E. A contract with D.E. Development, Inc. of Grand Rapids in the amount of \$59,250.00 with project contingencies of an additional \$5,925.00 for the 2012 Sidewalk and Curb Replacement program.
- F. A contract with Pavement Restoration of Kalamazoo in the amount of \$10,000.00 for crack sealing work of city streets.
- G. The preliminary minutes of the Parks & Recreation Commission meeting held August 13, 2012.

Yeas: Goebel, Graham, Johnson, Miller, Skaggs and Seibold – 6  
Nays: -0-

The meeting adjourned at 6:37 p.m., subject to the call of the Mayor until October 1, 2012.

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Karen K. Brower, City Clerk