

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COMMISSION  
CITY OF EAST GRAND RAPIDS

**Regular Meeting Held March 18, 2013**

Mayor Seibold called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the City Commission Chamber at the Community Center and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Absent: None

Also Present: City Manager Donovan; City Attorney Huff; Public Works Director Feldt; Public Safety Director Herald; Parks & Recreation Director Bunn; City Assessor Mesik; Zoning Administrator Faasse; City Clerk Brower

2013-30. No public comment was received.

2013-31. Commissioner Miller thanked the Public Safety Department and other staff members for their work on the successful Irish Jig event held March 18<sup>th</sup>.

Commissioner Skaggs congratulated the girls swimming/diving team on their Division 3 State Championship and the Waves 12/Under and the 13/Over teams for their awesome finishes at their recent State tournament. Mr. Skaggs also thanked the organizers of the Irish Jig event for the postcard sent out to residents along the race route letting people know about the event and road closures. He also expressed thanks to the hundreds of EGR residents that show their community spirit and civic commitment by volunteering for the meetings, events, plays and advisory boards that are such a part of the area.

Mayor Seibold also thanked the Irish Jig for letting residents know the times and locations of the closures surrounding their race. She also thanked the Board of Review members for the time and effort they put in at the Board of Review meetings each year.

2013-32. Jason Broekstra of PLM Lake & Land Management Corporation reviewed the 2012 Reeds Lake Water Quality Monitoring and Analysis Report. He reported that while Reeds Lake does have some elevated levels of nutrients and chemicals, overall it is a very productive and healthy urban lake. He offered assistance with public education efforts to improve the quality of the lake.

2013-33. A zoning variance hearing was held regarding the request of Rebecca Sitterly of 1114 Keneberry to allow the construction of an addition to the rear of the home creating a rear yard setback of 21.0' instead of the required 25.0'.

Zoning Administrator Faasse outlined the variance request for a 12x12' addition to the rear of the home.

Dan McWilliams, 2485 Hayes, Marne, explained the neighbors seemed to have no issues with the request and that drainage concerns would be taken care of during construction.

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

- Diane Cisler, 1062 Keneberry Way                      In Favor.  
- Michael Walker, 1102 Keneberry Way                  In Favor.

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

- A. Graham-Johnson. That the request of Rebecca Sitterly of 1114 Keneberry to allow the construction of an addition to the rear of the home creating a rear yard setback of 21.0' instead of the required 25.0' be approved.

Commissioner Johnson stated this request seems reasonable given the non-conforming lot.

Commissioner Graham noted this was an area of smaller homes and the effort to gain extra room makes sense.

Commissioner Skaggs felt garages and sheds of neighboring properties would create any screening needed.

Commissioner Dills stated this was a very close-knit neighborhood and the porch would be a nice addition.

Yeas: Dills, Goebel, Graham, Johnson, Miller, Skaggs and Seibold – 7

Nays: -0-

- 2013-34. Consider request to adopt a resolution approving a grant application for the Waterfront Park Phase II project.

Parks & Recreation Director Bunn gave a brief history of the City's ownership of Waterfront Park and the process that resulted in completion of Phase I in May 2011 and the current plans for Phase II. Mr. Bunn also summarized the cost projections for the project. Jim DeWilde of MC Smith Associates outlined the proposed plans for improvements and natural area restorations.

Mayor Seibold opened a public hearing. No public comment was received. Mayor Seibold closed the public hearing.

- A. Miller-Skaggs. That a resolution authorizing the application for funding of Waterfront Park Phase II through the DNR Natural Resources Trust Fund be adopted as set forth in Exhibit "A" attached hereto.

Commissioner Miller thanked the Parks & Recreation Commission members and the many staff members and consultants who have spent so much time on this project over the years to develop such an impressive project.

Commissioner Johnson stated this project had been part of recent Master Plan updates and was well received by the public in attendance at those meetings.

Commissioner Goebel remembered the condos originally proposed for this property in the late 1980's and stated he felt this was much better for the community.

Mayor Seibold felt this proposed project was a great example of how the City and its residents invest in the future of the community. She expressed support and excitement for the project.

Yeas: Dills, Goebel, Graham, Johnson, Miller, Skaggs and Seibold – 7

Nays: -0-

- 2013-35. Introduction of an ordinance amendment to amend Section 10.1 of Chapter 101 of Title X of the City Code adopting portions of the Michigan Vehicle Code by reference.

City Attorney Huff noted this change will allow the City to issue citations and prosecute drunk driving arrests with high blood alcohol levels instead of turning these over to the Kent County Prosecutor.

- A. Johnson-Goebel. That an ordinance amendment to amend Section 10.1 of Chapter 101 of Title X of the City Code adopting portions of the Michigan Vehicle Code by reference be introduced as set forth in Exhibit "B" attached hereto.

Yeas: Dills, Goebel, Graham, Johnson, Miller, Skaggs and Seibold – 7

Nays: -0-

2013-36. Introduction of an ordinance amendment to amend Section 10.3 of Chapter 101 of Title X of the City Code pertaining to penalties of the Michigan Vehicle Code.

- A. Graham-Miller. That an ordinance amendment to amend Section 10.3 of Chapter 101 of Title X of the City Code pertaining to penalties of the Michigan Vehicle Code be introduced as set forth in Exhibit "C" attached hereto.

Yeas: Dills, Goebel, Graham, Johnson, Miller, Skaggs and Seibold – 7  
Nays: -0-

2013-37. Skaggs-Miller. Motion to approve the consent agenda as follows:

- A. Minutes of the regular meeting held March 4, 2013.
- B. Payroll disbursements of \$189,413.72; county and school disbursements of \$336,226.28, and total remaining disbursements of \$725,074.41.
- C. The list of City Commission and Advisory Board meetings for FY 2013-14.
- D. The preliminary minutes of the Joint Facilities Committee meeting held January 23, 2013.
- E. The preliminary minutes of the Library Commission meeting held January 28, 2013.
- F. A contract with LC United Painting for the refurbishment of the City's elevated water tank in the amount of \$345,000; a contract with Dixon Engineering for construction supervision of the project in the amount of \$20,418.00, and project contingencies for both contracts of \$36,442.00.

Yeas: Dills, Goebel, Graham, Johnson, Miller, Skaggs and Seibold – 7  
Nays: -0-

The meeting adjourned at 7:08 p.m., subject to the call of the Mayor until March 25, 2013.

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Karen K. Brower, City Clerk

Attachments: A – Resolution approving a grant application for Waterfront Park Phase II.  
B – Ordinance Amendment to Section 10.1 adopting portions of the Michigan Vehicle Code.  
C – Ordinance Amendment to Section 10.3 pertaining to penalties of the Michigan Vehicle Code.

Attachments listed above are available for inspection at the office of the City Clerk.