

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COMMISSION
CITY OF EAST GRAND RAPIDS

Regular Meeting Held October 7, 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, Graham, Johnson, Miller, Skaggs and Mayor Seibold

Absent: Commissioner Goebel

Also Present: City Attorney Huff; City Manager Donovan; Public Works Director Feldt; Finance Director Mushong; City Clerk Brower; Zoning Administrator Faasse

2013-105. No public comment was received.

2013-106. Commissioner Johnson thanked the Public Works Department for their recent work repairing a broken water main near the Middle School and for providing bottled drinking water for those affected by the resulting boil water advisory.

Mayor Seibold thanked all the crew members who worked to repair the broken main. She noted there were several residences in the area that were under boil water advisories twice within a few weeks of each other and thanked those citizens for their patience.

City Manager Donovan reported the roadway surface on Lake Drive would be closed for a few days to replace the temporary patching with a permanent repair. At that time, crews will also need to repair a nearby valve that was damaged during the incident.

Mayor Seibold congratulated the EGR High School on their homecoming parade and events last weekend.

Commissioner Skaggs left the commission table to participate in the meeting as an applicant.

2013-107. A zoning variance hearing was held regarding the request of Phil & Elizabeth Skaggs of 2615 Hall Street to allow the construction of a covered front porch creating a front yard setback of 35.4' from the front property line instead of the required 40.1.'

Zoning Administrator Faasse explained the request to add a new covered front porch to the home that required a front yard setback variance.

Phil Skaggs, 2615 Hall, explained they would be upgrading the home's exterior and wanted to improve the aesthetics of the front of the home and provide shelter from the weather.

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

- Petition signed by 13Hall Street residents In Favor

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

A. Dills-Miller. That the request of Phil & Elizabeth Skaggs of 2615 Hall Street to allow the construction of a covered front porch creating a front yard setback of 35.4' from the front property line instead of the required 40.1' be approved.

Commissioner Johnson supported the variance as it would provide shelter for those visiting the home without reducing the front yard significantly.

Commissioner Graham agreed the new porch would improve the home and would fit in with others in the immediate area.

Mayor Seibold thanked Mr. Skaggs for checking with the neighbors. She noted that while this would seem to be a very small change, it was necessary to consider each request for a zoning variance individually to make sure projects fit well within each neighborhood.

Yeas: Dills, Graham, Johnson, Miller and Seibold – 5

Nays: -0-

Abstain: Skaggs – 1

Commissioner Skaggs resumed his seat at the table.

2013-108. Johnson-Miller. Motion to approve the consent agenda as follows:

- A. Minutes of the regular meeting held September 16, 2013.
- B. Payroll disbursements of \$197,581.85; county and school disbursements of \$145,172.81, and total remaining disbursements of \$481,395.06.
- C. Adoption of a resolution approving Amendment #36 to the Grand Valley Metro Council Articles of Incorporation as set forth in Exhibit "A" attached hereto.
- D. Purchase of computer software and training from BS&A Software in the amount of \$7,765.00 to update the Building Department module.
- E. The purchase of firewall software and support from Trivalent Group in the amount of \$2,932.00.
- F. A contract with Katerberg Verhage in the amount of \$9,936.00 for site work and installation of the statue of President Ford in front of the Community Center.

Yeas: Dills, Graham, Johnson, Miller, Skaggs and Seibold – 6

Nays: -0-

2013-109. Dills-Graham. Motion to enter into an executive session to discuss an attorney's opinion in accordance with Section 8(h) of the Open Meetings Act. A roll call vote was taken.

Yeas: Dills, Graham, Johnson, Miller, Skaggs and Seibold – 6

Nays: -0-

The meeting adjourned at 6:16 p.m., subject to the call of the Mayor until October 21, 2013.

Karen K. Brower, City Clerk

Attachments: A – Resolution approving Amendment #36 to the GVMC Articles of Incorporation.

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