

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COMMISSION
CITY OF EAST GRAND RAPIDS

Regular Meeting Held June 2, 2014

Mayor Seibold called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. in the City Commission Chamber at the Community Center and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Absent: Commissioner Dills

Also Present: City Manager Donovan; City Attorney Huff; Acting Public Works Director Lark; Finance Director Mushong; Parks & Recreation Director Bunn; Public Safety Director Herald; City Clerk Brower; Captain Williams, Captain Buikema; Sgt. Metternich, PSO Brown; PSO Moore; Sgt. Perez; Staff Sgt. Smith; PSO Karnes

2014-62. Commissioner Skaggs reported the study committee had met last week to discuss a possible historic preservation district and had started a list of questions and further information needed.

Commissioner Graham congratulated all the officers receiving awards and promotions this evening.

Mayor Seibold thanked the Public Works crews for their work during all the watermain breaks this week.

Mayor Seibold announced a public meeting would be held on Monday, June 16, 2014 from 5:00 to 5:45 pm to discuss development and redevelopment issues. She invited everyone interested to attend.

2014-63. Public Safety Director Herald presented departmental life-saving awards to Officers Bradley and Moore for saving the life of a newborn child, and to Officer Troy Brown for actions in dealing with a suicidal citizen. Certificates of Recognition were given to Captain Ric Buikema, Officers Jeff DeJonge, Beth Moore and Public Safety Clerk Donna Alexander for their efforts in transitioning to a new records management system.

Chief Herald officially performed promotion ceremonies for Captain Ric Buikema, Staff Sergeant Eric Smith and Sergeant Matthew Perez.

2014-64. A public hearing was held pertaining to the General Fund budget and the property tax levy for Fiscal Year 2014-15. No public comment was received. Mayor Seibold closed the public hearing.

2014-65. A public hearing was held on the special assessment roll of delinquent accounts for placement on the July 1, 2014 tax roll. No public comment was received. Mayor Seibold closed the public hearing

A. Graham-Miller. That the special assessment roll of delinquent accounts totaling \$66,284.90 be certified and placed on the July 1, 2014 tax roll.

Yeas: Duncan, Goebel, Graham, Miller, Skaggs and Seibold – 6

Nays: -0-

2014-66. Skaggs-Miller. Motion to approve the consent agenda as follows:

A. To approve the minutes of the regular meeting held May 19, 2014.

B. To approve payroll disbursements of \$200,715.50; county and school disbursements of \$-0-, and total remaining disbursements of \$446,612.23.

C. The emergency replacement of the coupler for the Public Works Department's front-end loader in the amount of \$6,097.67.

- D. The purchase of security fencing at the water tower site from Fence Consultants of West Michigan in the amount of \$29,300.00.
- E. Ratification of emergency services to top dress and gravel Reeds Lake Blvd southshore between Darby and Hall Street in the amount of \$6,479.50 to Dirt Cheap Excavating, and approval of a related budget amendment in the same amount from the Local Street fund ending balance.
- F. An extension of the pavement marking contract with M&M Pavement Marking of Grand Blanc in the amount of \$33,296.00 for pavement parking services on city streets.
- G. A contract with Kel Graphics of Cadillac, Michigan, in the amount of \$32,069.00 for t-shirts for Parks & Recreation programs for the upcoming year.

Yeas: Duncan, Goebel, Graham, Miller, Skaggs and Seibold – 6

Nays: -0-

2014-67. Ellen Schendel, 429 Briarwood, thanked the other members of the historic district study group for the welcoming atmosphere at the first meeting and stated she is looking forward to working on this issue.

Denise Symons, 336 Gladstone, spoke about her experiences with setting up a historic district in Clarkston and urged the City Commission to move forward with establishing a historic district in East Grand Rapids.

John Goede & Elizabeth, new owners of 417 Cambridge, invited commissioners to tour the home before renovations begin in a few weeks. They supported the establishment of a historic district.

Tom Wilson, 959 Ogden, submitted information on home demolitions since 2000.

Bruce Smith, 915 Orchard, spoke against double-frontage lots like the one being created on Lakeside/Orchard. He stated no city planner would ever lay out a neighborhood to include such lots and requested the City place a hold on the permit that would allow the lot combination until this can be studied. He cited ordinances from Cascade Township, Ada Township and Royal Oak as examples of prohibitions. Felt existing EGR ordinances allow the Commission to reject the combination based on the fact that substantial change would take place in the neighborhood.

Eric Gollanek, 2306 Burchard, showed photos of various homes that should not be lost to redevelopment and urged the City to adopt an ordinance to protect the local jewels or architecture.

- A. Miller-Duncan. Motion to enter into an executive session following the special budget meeting to discuss a collective bargaining agreement in accordance with Section 8(c) of the Open Meetings Act. A roll call vote was taken.

Yeas: Duncan, Goebel, Graham, Miller, Skaggs and Seibold – 6

Nays: -0-

The meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m., subject to the call of the Mayor until June 16, 2014.

Karen K. Brower, City Clerk