

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COMMISSION  
CITY OF EAST GRAND RAPIDS

**Regular Meeting Held December 5, 2016**

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

Present: Commissioners Dills, Duncan, Hamrick, Miller, Skaggs, Zigel and Mayor Seibold

Absent: None

Also Present: City Attorney Huff; City Manager Donovan; Assistant City Manager LaFave; Public Safety Director Herald; Finance Director Mushong; Parks & Recreation Director Bunn; Zoning Administrator Faasse; City Clerk Brower

2016-146. No public comment was received.

2016-147. City Manager Donovan noted that the fall leaf pickup program wrapped up this week for the winter.

2016-148. A zoning variance hearing was held regarding the request of Todd Rookus of 509 Manhattan to allow the construction of a covered porch and an addition to the garage creating a front yard setback of 24.2' instead of the required 29.0.'

Zoning Administrator Faasse explained an average setback of 29' was required due to surrounding setbacks. He noted the applicants wished to expand the garage and add a front porch to this home.

Todd Rookus, 4 Burr Oak, Grand Rapids, was present to explain the request for a second garage stall and a larger front porch. He explained there would be patio space above the new garage and that the project would not impact the south end of the home or property at all.

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

2016- -A. Dills-Miller. That the request of Todd Rookus of 509 Manhattan to allow the construction of a covered porch and an addition to the garage creating a front yard setback of 24.2' instead of the required 29.0' be approved.

Commissioner Dills noted this was an unusual lot with the slope of the hillside and the narrowing of the lot. He also felt there was virtually no impact on the neighbors because of the park across the street.

Yeas: Dills, Duncan, Hamrick, Miller, Skaggs, Zigel and Seibold – 7

Nays: -0-

2016-149. Final Reading of an ordinance to amend Chapter 94 of Title IX of the City Code pertaining to model rocket engines.

2016- -A. Skaggs-Zigel. That an ordinance to amend Chapter 94 of Title IX of the City Code pertaining to model rocket engines be adopted as set forth in Exhibit "A" attached hereto.

Yeas: Dills, Duncan, Hamrick, Miller, Skaggs, Zigel and Seibold – 7

Nays: -0-

2016-150. Final Reading of an ordinance to amend Chapter 95 of Title IX of the City Code pertaining to fire and explosives.

2016- -A. Zagel-Hamrick. That an ordinance to amend Chapter 95 of Title IX of the City Code pertaining to fire and explosives be adopted as set forth in Exhibit "B" attached hereto.

Yeas: Dills, Duncan, Hamrick, Miller, Skaggs, Zagel and Seibold – 7  
Nays: -0-

2016-151. Final Reading of an ordinance to amend Chapter 101 of Title X of the City Code pertaining to traffic code.

2016- -A. Duncan-Hamrick. That an ordinance amend Chapter 101 of Title X of the City Code pertaining to traffic code be adopted as set forth in Exhibit "C" attached hereto.

Yeas: Dills, Duncan, Hamrick, Miller, Skaggs, Zagel and Seibold – 7  
Nays: -0-

2016-152. Final Reading of an ordinance to amend Chapter 102 of Title X of the City Code pertaining to bicyclists.

2016- -A. Hamrick-Miller. That an ordinance to amend Chapter 102 of Title X of the City Code pertaining to bicyclists be adopted as set forth in Exhibit "D" attached hereto.

Yeas: Dills, Duncan, Hamrick, Miller, Skaggs, Zagel and Seibold – 7  
Nays: -0-

2016-153. Final Reading of an ordinance to amend Chapter 103 of Title X of the City Code pertaining to traffic violations.

2016- -A. Miller-Duncan. That an ordinance to amend Chapter 103 of Title X of the City Code pertaining to traffic violations be adopted as set forth in Exhibit "E" attached hereto.

Yeas: Dills, Duncan, Hamrick, Miller, Skaggs, Zagel and Seibold – 7  
Nays: -0-

2016-154. Final Reading of an ordinance to repeal Chapter 105 of Title X of the City Code pertaining to bicycle helmets.

Donna Messina, 2247 Brighton, spoke on behalf of the Greater Grand Rapids Bicycle Coalition to ask that the ordinance remain in place in an effort to combine laws and public education to increase awareness for cyclists and safety procedures. She felt repealing the ordinance would leave the youngest citizens in danger.

Commissioner Zagel thanked those who spoke and email about this issue and stated he was not inclined to repeal the ordinance at this time.

Commissioner Miller agreed, stating he would be willing to entertain changes to the ordinance in the future if needed to encourage compliance.

Mayor Seibold reported the school district favored keeping the helmet regulations. Mayor Seibold noted the rules were hard to enforce, but that they reminded parents and children of the importance of bicycle helmets.

The City Commission declined to adopt the proposed ordinance amendment repealing the helmet ordinance.

2016-155. Approval of publication notice for Public Safety ordinances.

2016- -A. Dills-Zagel. That a notice outlining the recently adopted ordinance amendments for the Public Safety Department be approved with the removal of the Chapter 105 amendment and the City Clerk be authorized to use this notice in lieu of publishing each ordinance amendment individually.

Yeas: Dills, Duncan, Hamrick, Miller, Skaggs, Zagel and Seibold – 7  
Nays: -0-

2016-156. Resolution beginning the special assessment procedures relating to the Lake Drive Sidewalk Special Assessment District.

2016- -A. Miller-Zagel. That a resolution outlining the proposed construction of a sidewalk on the north side of Lake Drive near the east City limits and requesting the City Manager to prepare the necessary information be adopted as set forth in Exhibit “F” attached hereto.

Commissioner Miller reported the Finance Committee has discussed this at length and assisted staff with the outline of the assessment process.

Commissioner Skaggs noted the Street & Sidewalk Millage approved by voters last year anticipated this type of project to add sidewalks in the few areas where they may still be needed.

Yeas: Dills, Duncan, Hamrick, Miller, Skaggs, Zagel and Seibold – 7  
Nays: -0-

2016-157. Dills-Duncan. To approve the consent agenda as follows:

2016- -A. To approve the minutes of the regular meeting held November 21, 2016.

2016- -B. Report of Finance Committee on disbursement of funds: payroll disbursements of \$222,683.50; county and school disbursements of \$-0-, and total remaining disbursements of \$509,331.40.

Yeas: Dills, Duncan, Hamrick, Miller, Skaggs, Zagel and Seibold – 7  
Nays: -0-

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m., subject to the call of the Mayor until December 5, 2016.

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Karen K. Brower, City Clerk

Attachments: A – Ordinance amendment to Chapter 94  
B – Ordinance amendment to Chapter 95  
C – Ordinance amendment to Section 1.603 of Chapter 101  
D – Ordinance amendment to Chapter 102  
E – Ordinance amendment to Chapter 103  
F – Resolution regarding the Lake Drive Sidewalk Special Assessment District

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