

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COMMISSION
CITY OF EAST GRAND RAPIDS

Regular Meeting Held May 20, 2019

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 Duncan, Favale, Hamrick, Miller, Walters, Zagel and Mayor Seibold

Absent: None

Also Present: City Attorney Huff; Interim City Manager LaFave; Finance Director Mushong, Public Safety Director Herald; Parks & Recreation Director Bunn; City Clerk Brower; Captain Buikema; Zoning Administrator Mizikar; PSO Wallace

2019-78. No public comment was received.

2019-79. Commissioner Walters congratulated the graduating seniors and thanked the teachers, staff and board members for making EGR schools such a great place for our kids.

Commissioner Miller commended the Public Works Department for keeping up with yard waste the last few weeks as residents clean up from the winter and get their yards in shape.

Commissioner Favale reminded residents to fill out the Parks & Recreation survey to help shape the new recreation plan being developed.

Interim City Manager LaFave reminded everyone that the annual Touch A Truck event would be held on Wednesday morning north of the library building to showcase the personnel, equipment and duties of the Public Works Department.

Mayor Seibold announced a public meeting would be held June 10 to discuss traffic concerns with interested residents regarding pedestrian and traffic safety.

2019-80. Interim City Manager LaFave updated the commission on the progress on various action items outlined in the Master Plan adopted last year. He noted staff is working to create a scope for a future mobility plan, has created a proposal for new signage for Gaslight Village and is working with the Planning Commission on defining ground floor uses for Gaslight Village.

Mayor Seibold asked if there were other issues that staff should be working on at this time. Commissioner Walters requested that when the above items were completed that staff begin looking at the multi-family zoning issue, economic development tools and parking in Gaslight Village.

Commissioner Miller noted the staff has made good progress on these first steps and he was excited to see the results and the upcoming projects.

2019-81. A zoning variance hearing was held regarding the request of Kyle Norcutt of 1930 Lake Drive to allow the construction of a fence in the front yard that is 54" high instead of the allowed 36."

Zoning Administrator Mizikar outlined the proposal to install a 36' section of fence from the new garage to the existing side yard fence. Because the requested fence location is technically in the front yard, approval is needed for the proposed 54" height. Mr. Mizikar noted a 48" fence is required around a pool.

Kyle Norcutt, 1930 Lake Drive, explained the fence would be screened from the road by several 12' trees.

Mayor Seibold opened a public hearing. The following people were present to express their opinions:

- Rob Sears, 1916 Lake Drive In Favor.

The following communications were received at City Hall concerning this variance request:

- Rob Jandernoa, 702 Laurel Circle In Favor.

- Rob & Julie Sears, 1916 Lake Drive In Favor.

- Martin & Erin Grin, 1941 Lake Drive In Favor.

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

2019-081-A. Miller-Favale. That the request of Kyle Norcutt of 1930 Lake Drive to allow the construction of a fence in the front yard that is 54" high instead of the allowed 36" be approved.

Commissioner Miller noted he had no issue with this request as it was behind the front edge of the garage and more than 70' from the street.

Commissioner Favale stated the fence was very attractive and thoughtfully planned.

Commissioner Zagel expressed his support because of the distance from the street and the landscape screening.

Commissioner Walters noted the request met the legal standards contained in the ordinance.

Yeas: Duncan, Favale, Hamrick, Miller, Walters, Zagel and Seibold – 7

Nays: -0-

2019-82. Lakeside Drive pavement marking plan.

Interim City Manager LaFave reviewed the engineer's plan to mark the legal parking spaces on Lakeside Drive near Gaslight Village to guide people on where to park so that spaces are used as efficiently as possible. This will make spaces easier to find for motorists and assist Public Safety with enforcement of no-parking zones for safety, sight distance and access purposes. Mr. LaFave noted the plan was developed using 18' parking spaces with buffer zones for maneuvering as well as keeping mandated distances from driveways, crosswalks and fire hydrants. The plan includes three new parking spaces across from Collins Park north of the driveway to the apartment complex. Pavement marking and signage will be used to denote the parking and no-parking areas.

Chris Zull of Progressive AE affirmed that the parking plan was developed using standards for safety and visibility. He noted that urban areas can be very difficult due to congestion, driveways and trees, but he felt this plan balanced available spaces and sight distance very well.

Mayor Seibold opened this issue for public comment. The following people expressed their opinions:

- Louie Cares, 530 Lakeside Felt there was a large problem with the boat launch traffic and suggested seasonal parking restrictions to leave room. He also suggested moving the boat ramp behind the city complex and making boat trailers park at the middle school to make Collins Park safer for children. He noted that it is often difficult or impossible for him to get out of his driveway or for the mail service to get to his mailbox due to illegally parked cars. He did not feel there was room for two parked cars on the south side of his driveway.

2019-83. Duncan-Miller. To approve the consent agenda as follows:

- 2019-083-A. Minutes of the regular meeting held May 6, 2019.
- 2019-083-B. Payroll disbursements of \$241,438.53; county and school disbursements of \$241.20, and total remaining disbursements of \$592,942.60.
- 2019-083-C. Resolution amending the FY 2018-19 budget for the quarter ending March 31, 2019 as attached in Exhibit "A."
- 2019-083-D. A contract to Brink Hardwood Products in the amount of \$6,588.50 for wood mulch for city properties.
- 2019-083-E. A contract for t-shirts and apparel for recreation programs and events in the amount of \$47,000.05 to Threads Custom Gear of Traverse City.
- 2019-083-F. A contract addendum with Shoreline Power Services in the amount of \$46,535 for FY 2018-29 and \$30,375 for FY 19-20 to perform additional electrical work at the Community Center.

Yeas: Duncan, Favale, Hamrick, Miller, Walters, Zagel and Seibold – 7
Nays: -0-

The meeting adjourned at 6:51 p.m., subject to the call of the Mayor until June 3, 2019.

Karen K. Brower, City Clerk

Attachments: A – Resolution amending the FY 2018-19 budget

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