

**GRAND LEDGE CITY COUNCIL**  
**310 GREENWOOD ST.**  
**GRAND LEDGE MI 48837**  
**(517) 627-2149**

**CITY COUNCIL MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING**  
**MONDAY, 09 MAY 2022 – 7:30 P.M.**  
**COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL**  
**310 GREENWOOD ST., GRAND LEDGE MI 48837**

- I. ROLL CALL OF COUNCIL** – Mayor Thom Sowle; Mayor Pro-Tem Keith Mulder; and Council Members Lynne MacDowell and Don Willems  
– Council Members Brett Gillespie, Tom Jancek, and Rick Lantz were excused.  
**OTHERS PRESENT** – Adam Smith, City Manager; Ameer King, Assistant City Manager; Gregory Newman, City Clerk; Dave Gutchess, Public Services Superintendent; Kurt Ristow, Public Works Superintendent; Allan Hoard, Building Official

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Sowle led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**III. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

The public did not comment.

**IV. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Motion** – To approve the Monday, 09 May 2022 City Council consent agenda, as follows:
- i. Financial transactions and bills.
  - ii. Monday, 25 April 2022 City Council minutes.
  - iii. Monday, 25 April 2022 City Council Closed Session minutes.
  - iv. 2022 Market on the Grand Special Event Rental Application from the Grand Ledge Area Chamber of Commerce.
  - v. 2022 Music in the Park Special Event Rental Application from the Grand Ledge Area Chamber of Commerce.

COUNCIL MEMBER MACDOWELL MOVED, COUNCIL MEMBER MULDER SECONDED, TO APPROVE THE MONDAY, 09 MAY 2022 CITY COUNCIL CONSENT AGENDA. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**V. APPROVAL OF REGULAR AGENDA**

- A. Motion** – To approve the Monday, 09 May 2022 regular City Council agenda.

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLEMS MOVED, COUNCIL MEMBER MACDOWELL SECONDED, TO APPROVE THE MONDAY, 09 MAY 2022 REGULAR CITY COUNCIL AGENDA.

COUNCIL MEMBER MULDER MOVED, COUNCIL MEMBER WILLEMS SECONDED, TO AMEND THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE MONDAY, 09 MAY 2022 REGULAR CITY COUNCIL AGENDA, BY STRIKING ITEM XII. A., A MOTION TO MOVE INTO CLOSED SESSION, PER THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT, SECTION 8(H), TO CONSIDER MATERIAL EXEMPT FROM DISCUSSION OR DISCLOSURE BY STATE OR FEDERAL STATUTE, BEING CORRESPONDENCE FROM ITS ATTORNEY, DATED 09 MAY 2022.

Adam Smith, City Manager, explained the Open Meetings Act requires a 2/3 majority to move into closed session to discuss a legal opinion.

MOTION TO AMEND THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE MONDAY, 09 MAY 2022 REGULAR CITY COUNCIL AGENDA, BY STRIKING ITEM XII. A., A MOTION TO MOVE INTO CLOSED SESSION, PER THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT, SECTION 8(H), TO CONSIDER MATERIAL EXEMPT FROM DISCUSSION OR DISCLOSURE BY STATE OR FEDERAL STATUTE, BEING CORRESPONDENCE FROM ITS ATTORNEY, DATED 09 MAY 2022, CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE MONDAY, 09 MAY 2022 REGULAR CITY COUNCIL AGENDA, AS AMENDED BY STRIKING ITEM XII. A., A MOTION TO MOVE INTO CLOSED SESSION, PER THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT, SECTION 8(H), TO CONSIDER MATERIAL EXEMPT FROM DISCUSSION OR DISCLOSURE BY STATE OR FEDERAL STATUTE, BEING CORRESPONDENCE FROM ITS ATTORNEY, DATED 09 MAY 2022, CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

## VI. COMMITTEE AND BOARD REPORTS

### **Abrams Municipal Airport Advisory Commission**

Adam Smith, City Manager, reported the Abrams Municipal Airport Advisory Commission recommended its Fiscal Year 2023 annual budget.

### **Parks and Recreation Commission**

Council Member Willems reported the Parks and Recreation Commission discussed Oak Park.

## VII. STAFF REPORTS

### **Manager's Office**

Amee King, Assistant City Manager, reported on discussions of employee benefits, individual employee retirement consultations, Abrams Municipal Airport runway paint markings and beacon light repair, Downtown Development Authority discussion of a Michigan Economic Development Corporation Revitalization and Placemaking program application, a City Hall sanitary sewer repair scheduled for 16 May 2022, and the City Hall roof repair.

The City Council discussed public access during the City Hall sanitary sewer repair.

### **Department of Public Services**

Dave Gutches, Public Services Superintendent, reported on Wastewater Treatment Plant statistics, street tree trimming, pothole patching, transitioning equipment for summer use, catch basin cleaning, temporary speedbump installations, sidewalk repair at the Grand Ledge Splash Pad, restoration work along Saginaw Hwy. sidewalk installations, Water Treatment Plant statistics, watermain flushing, ongoing distribution service

inventory, personnel testing, Oakwood Cemetery activity, Earth Day assistance at Oak Park, Jaycee Park boat launch installation, and park restrooms preparations for the season's use.

The City Council discussed the Wastewater Treatment Plant capacity.

### **Assessing Department**

Adam Smith, City Manager, mentioned the Assessing Department report is included in the packet of supporting material.

### **Building Department**

Adam Smith, City Manager, mentioned the Building Department report is included in the packet of supporting material.

- A. Motion** – To receive and place on file the April 2022 staff reports from the Manager's Office, Department of Public Services, Assessing Department, and Building Department.

COUNCIL MEMBER MULDER MOVED, COUNCIL MEMBER WILLEMS SECONDED, TO RECEIVE AND PLACE ON FILE THE APRIL 2022 STAFF REPORTS FROM THE MANAGER'S OFFICE, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICES, ASSESSING DEPARTMENT, AND BUILDING DEPARTMENT. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

## **VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- A. Public Hearing** – To consider and receive public input on a proposed Wastewater Treatment Plant and Collection System Improvements project.

Adam Smith, City Manager, introduced Josh Redner, Fishbeck.

Josh Redner, Fishbeck, presented information on a proposed Wastewater Treatment Plant and Collection System Improvements project.

MAYOR SOWLE OPENED THE PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER AND RECEIVE PUBLIC INPUT ON A PROPOSED WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT AND COLLECTION SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT, AT 8:16 P.M.

Charles Hoffmeyer, 326 Lamson St., asked about the lifecycle of the improvements, and commented on the quality and cost of City water.

The City Council discussed the social and environmental impacts, and asked about the possibility of educational opportunities at the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

MAYOR SOWLE CLOSED THE PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER AND RECEIVE PUBLIC INPUT ON A PROPOSED WATER DISTRIBUTION, TREATMENT, AND SUPPLY SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT, AT 8:21 P.M.

- B. Public Hearing** – To consider and receive public input on a proposed Water Distribution, Treatment, and Supply System Improvements project.

Adam Smith, City Manager, introduced Colin McCorkle, Fishbeck.

Colin McCorkle, Fishbeck, presented information on a proposed Water Distribution, Treatment, and Supply System Improvements project.

MAYOR SOWLE OPENED THE PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER AND RECEIVE PUBLIC INPUT ON A PROPOSED WATER DISTRIBUTION, TREATMENT, AND SUPPLY SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT, AT 8:48 P.M.

Charles Hoffmeyer, 326 Lamson St., commented on the expected utility billing increases to pay for the project.

MAYOR SOWLE CLOSED THE PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER AND RECEIVE PUBLIC INPUT ON A PROPOSED WATER DISTRIBUTION, TREATMENT, AND SUPPLY SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT, AT 8:49 P.M.

## IX. NEW BUSINESS

### A. Resolution #27 of 2022 – To declare May 2022 as Building Safety Month.

COUNCIL MEMBER MULDER MOVED, COUNCIL MEMBER MACDOWELL SECONDED, TO ADOPT RESOLUTION #27 OF 2022, TO DECLARE MAY 2022 AS BUILDING SAFETY MONTH.

Allan Hoard, Building Official, presented information on Building Safety Month, the Building Code, and building safety.

Adam Smith, City Manager, commented on the need for building safety.

The City Council debated the positive impact of the Building Code and the Building Official.

MOTION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION #27 OF 2022, TO DECLARE MAY 2022 AS BUILDING SAFETY MONTH, CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

### B. Motion – To receive the proposed annual budget for the fiscal year ending 30 June 2023 and a multiyear capital improvement program.

COUNCIL MEMBER MULDER MOVED, COUNCIL MEMBER MACDOWELL SECONDED, TO RECEIVE THE PROPOSED ANNUAL BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING 30 JUNE 2023 AND A MULTIYEAR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM.

Adam Smith, City Manager, presented the Fiscal Year 2023 proposed annual budget.

The City Council debated the recycling center and the Eaton County Solid Waste Alternatives Grant Program.

MOTION TO RECEIVE THE PROPOSED ANNUAL BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING 30 JUNE 2023 AND A MULTIYEAR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM, CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

### C. Motion – To set a public hearing for 23 May 2022 on the proposed budget for the fiscal year ending 30 June 2023 and the property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget.

COUNCIL MEMBER MULDER MOVED, COUNCIL MEMBER MACDOWELL SECONDED, TO SET A PUBLIC HEARING FOR 23 MAY 2022 ON THE PROPOSED BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING 30 JUNE 2023 AND THE PROPERTY TAX MILLAGE RATE PROPOSED TO BE LEVIED TO SUPPORT THE PROPOSED BUDGET.

Adam Smith, City Manager, explained the property tax millage levy remains unchanged.

MOTION TO SET A PUBLIC HEARING FOR 23 MAY 2022 ON THE PROPOSED BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING 30 JUNE 2023 AND THE PROPERTY TAX MILLAGE RATE PROPOSED TO BE LEVIED TO SUPPORT THE PROPOSED BUDGET, CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**X. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

The public did not comment.

**XI. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL**

Council Member Willems commented on the Memorial Tree program.

Council Member Mulder mentioned the Market on the Grand this Saturday at Jaycee Park.

**XII. CLOSED SESSION**

**XIII. ADJOURNMENT**

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLEMS MOVED, COUNCIL MEMBER MULDER SECONDED, TO ADJOURN THE MONDAY, 09 MAY 2022 CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING, AT 9:14 P.M. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

APPROVED 23 MAY 2022.

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Gregory L. Newman, City Clerk

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Thomas J. Sowle, Jr., Mayor