

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

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, 23 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 Brett Gillespie, Tom Jancek, Lynne MacDowell, and Don Willems
– Council Member Rick Lantz was excused.
- OTHERS PRESENT** – Adam Smith, City Manager; Gregory Newman, City Clerk; David Pawley, Finance Director / City Treasurer; Thomas Osterholzer, Chief of Police; Susan Stachowiak, Zoning Administrator

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Jaden led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Lise Mitchell, Grand Ledge Area District Library Director, commented on the library millage on the 02 August 2022 ballot and the 2022 Summer reading program.

Kelly Cunningham, Eaton County 911 Director, commented on the millage on the 02 August 2022 ballot and presented the Eaton County 911 Annual Report.

Thomas Osterholzer, Chief of Police, commented on the Eaton County 911 millage on the 02 August 2022 ballot.

IV. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Motion** – To approve the Monday, 23 May 2022 City Council consent agenda, as follows:
- i. Financial transactions and bills.
 - ii. Monday, 09 May 2022 City Council minutes.

COUNCIL MEMBER MULDER MOVED, COUNCIL MEMBER MACDOWELL SECONDED, TO APPROVE THE MONDAY, 23 MAY 2022 CITY COUNCIL CONSENT AGENDA. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

V. APPROVAL OF REGULAR AGENDA

- A. Motion** – To approve the Monday, 23 May 2022 regular City Council agenda.

COUNCIL MEMBER GILLESPIE MOVED, COUNCIL MEMBER MULDER SECONDED, TO APPROVE THE MONDAY, 23 MAY 2022 REGULAR CITY COUNCIL AGENDA. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

VI. COMMITTEE AND BOARD REPORTS

Downtown Development Authority

Adam Smith, City Manager, reported the Downtown Development Authority held its regular meeting in April 2022.

Water and Sewer Disputes Committee

Gregory Newman, City Clerk, reported the Water and Sewer Disputes Committee approved two disputes.

Grand Ledge Area Emergency Services Authority

Council Member Willems commented on the Grand Ledge Area Emergency Services Authority millage on the 02 August 2022 ballot and reported on a structure fire in Grand Oaks Village.

VII. STAFF REPORTS

Manager's Office

Adam Smith, City Manager, reported the Building Official tagged the Ledges Playhouse as unsafe and uninhabitable.

Clerk's Department

Gregory Newman, City Clerk, reported on new voter identification cards with updated redistricting information mailed to all City voters.

The City Council discussed the permanent absent voter list.

Finance Department

David Pawley, Finance Director / City Treasurer, reported on the Fiscal Year 2023 Annual Budget preparations, the Island Debt is paid off, Fiscal Year 2022 Audit preparations, and professional training.

Police Department

Thomas Osterholzer, Chief of Police, reported on body camera upgrades, "dark web" investigation training, a hiring need due to personnel changes, and a recent Grand Ledge United community event.

The City Council discussed the City's body camera policy.

Planning and Zoning Department

Susan Stachowiak, Zoning Administrator, reported neither the Planning Commission nor Zoning Board of Appeals met in April 2022, recent site plan reviews, and ongoing ordinance amendments.

- A. Motion** – To receive and place on file the April 2022 staff reports from the Clerk's Department, Finance Department, Police Department, and Planning and Zoning Department.

COUNCIL MEMBER GILLESPIE MOVED, COUNCIL MEMBER JANCEK SECONDED, TO RECEIVE AND PLACE ON FILE THE APRIL 2022 STAFF REPORTS FROM THE CLERK'S DEPARTMENT, FINANCE DEPARTMENT, POLICE DEPARTMENT, AND PLANNING AND ZONING DEPARTMENT. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. Public Hearing** – 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 public hearing is required by State law and the City Charter, the millage rate is unchanged from the Fiscal Year 2022 budget, and the proposed Fiscal Year 2023 budget and supporting materials are available online and at City Hall.

MAYOR SOWLE OPENED THE PUBLIC HEARING 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, AT 8:09 P.M.

The public did not comment.

MAYOR SOWLE CLOSED THE PUBLIC HEARING 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, AT 8:09 P.M.

- B. Resolution #28 of 2022** – To adopt a Final Project Plan for Wastewater System Improvements and Designate an Authorized Project Representative.

COUNCIL MEMBER GILLESPIE MOVED, COUNCIL MEMBER MACDOWELL SECONDED, TO ADOPT RESOLUTION #28 OF 2022, TO ADOPT A FINAL PROJECT PLAN FOR WASTEWATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS AND DESIGNATE AN AUTHORIZED PROJECT REPRESENTATIVE.

Adam Smith, City Manager, explained the resolution is the next step in the process to obtain funding for the Wastewater System Improvements project.

MOTION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION #28 OF 2022, TO ADOPT A FINAL PROJECT PLAN FOR WASTEWATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS AND DESIGNATE AN AUTHORIZED PROJECT REPRESENTATIVE, CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- C. Resolution #29 of 2022** – To adopt a Final Project Plan for Water System Improvements and Designate an Authorized Project Representative.

COUNCIL MEMBER GILLESPIE MOVED, COUNCIL MEMBER JANCEK SECONDED, TO ADOPT RESOLUTION #29 OF 2022, TO ADOPT A FINAL PROJECT PLAN FOR WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS AND DESIGNATE AN AUTHORIZED PROJECT REPRESENTATIVE.

Adam Smith, City Manager, explained the resolution is the next step in the process to obtain funding for the Water System Improvements project.

The City Council debated the project costs and timeline.

MOTION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION #29 OF 2022, TO ADOPT A FINAL PROJECT PLAN FOR WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS AND DESIGNATE AN AUTHORIZED PROJECT REPRESENTATIVE, CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- D. Motion** – To set a public hearing for 13 June 2022 on an application for federal assistance with the United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Rural Utilities Services for a project including the construction of a new Iron Removal Plant.

COUNCIL MEMBER MULDER MOVED, COUNCIL MEMBER MACDOWELL SECONDED, TO SET A PUBLIC HEARING FOR 13 JUNE 2022 ON AN APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL ASSISTANCE WITH THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, RURAL UTILITIES SERVICES FOR A PROJECT INCLUDING THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW IRON REMOVAL PLANT.

Adam Smith, City Manager, explained the public hearing is required to obtain United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, financing for the construction of a new Iron Removal Plant, if funding through the State of Michigan is unsuccessful.

The City Council debated funding options.

MOTION TO SET A PUBLIC HEARING FOR 13 JUNE 2022 ON AN APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL ASSISTANCE WITH THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, RURAL UTILITIES SERVICES FOR A PROJECT INCLUDING THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW IRON REMOVAL PLANT, CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Resolution #30 of 2022** – To approve an agreement for Police Services with the Grand Ledge Public Schools.

COUNCIL MEMBER GILLESPIE MOVED, COUNCIL MEMBER MULDER MOVED, TO ADOPT RESOLUTION #30 OF 2022, TO APPROVE AN AGREEMENT FOR POLICE SERVICES WITH THE GRAND LEDGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

Adam Smith, City Manager, explained the resolution is the outcome of discussions with the Grand Ledge Public Schools to share the costs of the School Resource Officer and the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education is also considering the resolution at its meeting tonight.

The City Council debated available personnel in the absence of the current School Resource Officer.

MOTION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION #30 OF 2022, TO APPROVE AN AGREEMENT FOR POLICE SERVICES WITH THE GRAND LEDGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS, CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

X. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

The public did not comment.

XI. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL

Council Member Gillespie suggested installing playground equipment for toddlers.

Council Member Willems commented on the Wastewater System and Water System improvements.

Council Member Mulder mentioned the Market on the Grand on Saturday and wished everyone a safe Memorial Day.

XII. CLOSED SESSION

- 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 19 May 2022.

COUNCIL MEMBER JANCEK MOVED, COUNCIL MEMBER MACDOWELL SECONDED, 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 19 MAY 2022, AT 8:33 P.M. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

COUNCIL MEMBER GILLESPIE MOVED, COUNCIL MEMBER MULDER SECONDED, TO RETURN TO THE MONDAY, 23 MAY 2022 CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING, AT 9:44 P.M. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

COUNCIL MEMBER MULDER MOVED, COUNCIL MEMBER GILLESPIE SECONDED, TO ADJOURN THE MONDAY, 23 MAY 2022 CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING, AT 9:44 P.M. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

APPROVED 13 JUNE 2022.

Gregory L. Newman, City Clerk

Thomas J. Sowle, Jr., Mayor