

MINUTES
THE CITY OF THE VILLAGE OF DOUGLAS
REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
MONDAY – OCTOBER 19, 2020 - 7:00 P.M.
ZOOM # 86464772250

1. Call to Order: Mayor Lion called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.
2. Roll Call: Present – Donovan, Kenny, Miller, Mooradian, North, Seabert, Lion
Also, Present – City Manager LaBombard, City Clerk Aalderink, City Planner Wikar, City Treasurer Smith
3. Consent Calendar
 - A. Approve the October 19, 2020 Agenda
 - B. Approve the October 5, 2020 Meeting Minutes
 - C. Approve the October 5, 2020 Closed Session Minutes
 - D. Approve the Invoices in the amount of \$70,261.97
 - E. Appointments, Proclamations, Resignations
 1. 150th City of Douglas Sesquicentennial Proclamation – Mayor Lion read the Proclamation into the record.
 2. Kelley Zieseemer Resignation letter – Mayor Lion thanked Ms. Zieseemer for her years of experience working with the city, she will be missed.
 3. Appoint Paul M. Buszka to Planning Commission

Motion by Seabert, with support from Kenny, to approve the Consent Calendar for October 19, 2020 as amended, corrections made to October 5th minutes and addition of Robert Sapita letter. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

4. Public Comments
 - A. Verbal (Limit of 3 Minutes)

Linda Macintyre thanked the city manager for his great communication skills.
Fredrick Royce congratulated Kelley on a job well done.
Tracy Shaffroth questioned if the Fire Dept. information was in the packet.
Councilmember Seabert inquired about the length of time the restaurants will be allowed to use the parking areas.
 - B. Written
 1. Tom Kettlewell Letter – Outdoor Seating
 2. Twp. Fire Dept – 2020 Incident Report
 3. Robert Kenny re: Objection to Proposed Sign Code Amendment
 4. Robert Sapita – re: Circus Museum

Motion by North, with support from Seabert, to grant the request by Robert Sapita to extract an electrical panel from the Haworth Building for the purpose of donating to the Circus Museum. Motion carried by voice vote.



5. Unfinished Business

A. Blue Star Commercial Corridor Sign – 2nd Reading

1. City Planner Opening Remarks – Mr. Wikar spoke on the inability to provide for new signs along Blue Star. The updates being proposed are changing language that references Douglas as a village to referencing Douglas as a city. Changes in the sign ordinance will be incremental.
2. Public Comments –
Robert Kenny – Disagrees with staff, there is no conflict in the sign ordinance. If council is inclined to approve their decision will open to anyone who wishes to say they need visibility from the street. These are my personal views.
Bruce Stewart – Has never worked where a private business could place something in the right of way. Public right of ways are public owned spaces. All placements in the right of way become obstacles and open the city to liabilities. The sign ordinance should not be piece meal together, a few more months of work from the sign committee would not hurt anyone.
David Setcka – Union St commented on Mr. Stewarts remarks falling on deaf ears. He has seen other signs that do not conform and wonder how they received permits. Can anyone find paperwork of these signs?
3. Council Comments
Members of council ask what the current number of non-conforming signs was. What potential issues could arise if this ordinance is changed. Why this was brought before the Planning Commission before council. What is the number of applicants currently waiting for sign approval? Inconsistencies seem to come from revokable license agreements.
Mayor Lion questioned councilmembers if they believed a workshop was to better understand what is being requested.

Motion by Seabert, with support from Mooradian, to table further discussion until the November 2nd council meeting and to set a workshop on the Sign Ordinance. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

B. Resolution 33-2020 - PA 152 opt out

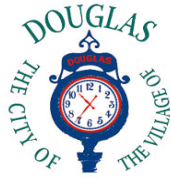
City Treasurer stated this was an agenda item at the last meeting, however it needed approval by 2/3 vote.

Motion by Seabert, with support from Miller, to adopt Resolution 33-2020 to opt out Public Act 152, the Publicly Funded Health Insurance Contribution Act. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

6. New Business

A. Halloween Guidance

Motion to approve the suggested Halloween trick-or-treating hours between 5:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M. on October 31, 2020. -Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.



B. Public Meeting: EPA Brownfield Cleanup Grant Application for 200 Blue Star Hwy.

- (1) Mayor opens public meeting to receive and record comments from the public. City Manager presented a brief update on the grant and introduced the environmental engineers. Purpose of grant is to demolish the building at 200 Blue Star and clean up the contaminants. EPA does this each year, national grant opportunity. The grant duration is a total of 3 years.
- (2) Public Comments:
 - a. Tracey Shafroth – Water St. resident, expressed support for the cleanup stating it would be in the best interest of the city. She had questions on the verbage of the the grant and tended to believe the data included did need some updating.
 - b. Paul Buszka - questioned if the use would be within the Master Plan, does the result see some deed restrictions.
 - c. Ronna Alexander, Water St. resident read her letter into the record. She is in support of the cleanup but is concerned with the vulnerability of the elderly population and pregnant women. Also believes that the broker should not be included in the application, believes it is a conflict of interest. Urged council to wait on the application until a later date.
 - d. Frederick Royce, Lakeshore resident, questioned how the input from the community would be gathered.
 - e. Tracey Shafroth, asked who oversaw compiling the information for the grant, expressing concerns that it sounded like it was taken from a previous application.
 - f. Robert Kenny addressed the engineer in charge on the zinc diecasting that would have come from the previous building owner, Chase Manufacturing.
 - g. Kara Burd, Saugatuck Township resident, submitted a letter with comments like others who spoke. She does not believe the proposal should include the broker because the city is not bound to this broker. She questioned where and when did the public have input in the cleanup and vision of the property. When did the city receive community comments? Requested transparency, perhaps a single page on the city website dedicated to this property would help keep the public aware of what was occurring.

Further discussion occurred regarding due process, and the public can view the final application. Mayor Lion reported two additional letters had been received, one from Mr. Ralph Hamilton and another from Chris Johnson.

- (3) Mayor closed public meeting

C. Resolution 34-2020 – South Street One Way Traffic

City Manager LaBombard reported several complaints have been received by the city regarding the safety issues associated with driving South St. to Water St. A survey was taken, and eighteen (18) residents replied that the road is tight and agree with the proposed one-way direction on South St.



Motion by Seabert, with support from Kenny, to adopt Resolution 34-2020 to order permanent traffic control devices indicating one-way westbound only for vehicular travel on South Street between Water Street to Union Street. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

D. Water Street Curb and Campbell Street Drainage

Motion by Seabert, with support from North, to approve a bid from De Sal Excavating of Zeeland, Michigan to install a curb and gutter and additional work on Water Street as proposed for a cost of \$26,042.50. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

7. Committee Reports

- A. Planning Commission will be addressing the Sign Ordinance, Tannery Creek, and PUD's
- B. Kalamazoo Lake Sewer Water Authority – No report
- C. Downtown Douglas Authority – Discussed mailers, retail incubator, fall decorations, 150th celebrations being planned and logo design for banners. A thank you went out to Burmeister for the downtown art.
- D. Douglas Harbor Authority – Moving forward with grant.
- E. Kalamazoo Lake Harbor Authority – No report
- F. Douglas Brownfield Authority – No report
- G. Fire Board – No report
- H. Community Recreation – No report
- I. Recycling Committee – Meeting Oct 22nd

8. Staff Reports

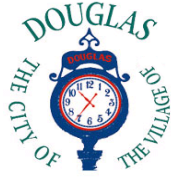
- A. Chief of Police – Corporal Warsen presented for Chief Kent.
- B. DPW Director – Campbell Rd. leak has been repaired.
- C. City Treasurer – Auditors were in house for two days. Treasurer presented report on General Fund, Current year vs Prior year, MERS plans, and Financial holdings.
- D. City Planner – Three upcoming meetings. Currently working on water main agreement with St. Peter church, Center St. pathway, the wayfinding for the city, and letters to Lakeshore residents.
- E. City Clerk – Gave those present an update on the election.

9. Manager Report

LaBombard reported board meetings will continue to be held via Zoom until the end of the year. Current work is being done on Point Pleasant Marina, Whittier water mains, and feasibility study.

10. Public Comments

David Setska addressed communication at the city level, concerned council has not seen his sign, and cannot believe that 2 months after the initial application their business is still waiting approval.



11. Council Comments:

Seabert gave an update on the daffodil project and requested additional volunteers for next year's bump-out project. November 28th is the downtown tree lighting ceremony.

Mooradian loved the letter from Coastal Society.

North thanked the City Clerk for the election training and thanked the City Assessor for her years of service to the city.

Donovan acknowledged Mr. Setska's frustration.

City Clerk addressed the issue brought up by Mr. Setska regarding communication at the city level and reminded all present that the city posts information to the city website, constant contact, and on the board in front of city hall. It is not possible for the staff or the city to personally inform applicants or others of upcoming meetings.

12. Mayor Comments:

A Workshop on the Sign Ordinance will be scheduled. Mayor would like to form a Human Rights Commission.

13. Closed Session:

Motion by Seabert, with support from North, that the Council meet in closed session under section 8(e) of the Open Meetings Act, to discuss personnel. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote

Motion by Seabert, with support from North, to end the closed session. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote

14. Adjournment:

Motion by Seabert, with support from Mooradian, to adjourn. Motion carried by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 10:49 p.m.