



**CITY OF WALLED LAKE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
(ELECTRONIC MEETING PLATFORM)
TUESDAY, MARCH 16, 2021
7:30 P.M.**

The Meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Mayor Ackley.

ROLL CALL Mayor Ackley, Council Member Fernandes, Council Member Loch, Council Member Lublin, Council Member Owsinek, Council Member Woods

There being a quorum present, the meeting was declared in session.

OTHERS PRESENT City Manager Whitt, Confidential Assistant Jaquays, Assistant City Manager Pesta, Police Chief Shakinias, Fire Chief Coomer, City Attorney Vanerian, Deputy City Clerk Gross, and City Clerk Stuart

REQUESTS FOR AGENDA CHANGES

Mayor Ackley requested to add proposed resolution 2021-xx regarding renewal of agreement with Oakland County Sheriff for dispatch services as New Business item #1.

Council Member Fernandes requested to add agenda item to discuss a policy on tributes/memorials throughout the city at the request of the Parks and Recreation Commission. Mayor Ackley added under Council Reports as item number 3.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION None

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

1. Regular Council Meeting February 16, 2021

CM 3-4-21 MOTION TO APPROVE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 16, 2021

Motion by Lublin, seconded by Owsinek, UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED: To approve regular council meeting minutes of February 16, 2021.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes (5) Fernandes, Lublin, Owsinek, Woods, Ackley
Nays (0)
Absent (2) Loch, Ambrose
Abstain (0)

2. Special Council Meeting March 4, 2021

**CM 3-5-21 MOTION TO APPROVE SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES OF MARCH 4, 2021**

Motion by Owsinek, seconded by Woods, UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED: To approve special council meeting minutes of March 4, 2021.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes (5) Lublin, Owsinek, Woods, Fernandes, Ackley
Nays (0)
Absent (2) Loch, Ambrose
Abstain (0)

COUNCIL REPORT

1. Public Safety Campus Expansion Committee – Progress Report Councilman Owsinek – Committee Member

Committee Chairman Wolfson explained a lot of brush has been removed, permits for the drain and water main have been obtained. Committee Chairman Wolfson said progress is also moving forward with investigating what type of memorial tribute to provide.

Police Chief Shakinis explained the project is moving forward and the property has been surveyed and staked. Police Chief Shakinis explained the county has an approved contractor for rates and water line installations. Police Chief Shakinis explained together with the 2021 Local Streets Paving projects and the Public Safety Campus Expansion project there is opportunity to work together and piggyback with each other for cost savings. Police Chief Shakinis explained Nagle Paving came in with the most cost-effective proposal at \$273,096.

Council Member Owsinek explained the proposed resolution mentions local roads, but he wanted to be sure sidewalks are part of the 2021 paving projects especially W. Walled Lake Drive. Council Member Owsinek opined he does not want to see W. Walled Lake left out.

**CM 3-6-21 MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2021-56 A
RESOLUTION AWARDED A BID FOR THE 2021 LOCAL
STREET PAVING PROJECT TO NAGLE PAVING IN THE
AMOUNT OF \$273,096 AND APPROVING BOSS
ENGINEERING PROPOSAL FOR THE 2021 LOCAL
STREET PAVING PROJECTS IN THE AMOUNT OF
\$35,000**

Motion by Lublin, seconded by Fernandes, UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED: To approve resolution 2021-56 a resolution awarding a bid for the 2021 Local Street Paving Project to Nagle Paving in the amount of \$273,096 and approving Boss Engineering proposal for 2021 Local Street Paving Projects in the amount of \$35,000.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes (5)	Lublin, Owsinek, Woods, Fernandes, Ackley
Nays (0)	
Absent (2)	Ambrose, Loch
Abstentions (0)	

Discussion

City Manager Whitt explained these funds are not currently a part of the local roads budget. City Manager Whitt explained council will need to approve a budget amendment from the general fund to local roads fund. City Manager Whitt explained a budget amendment to appropriate \$310,000 from the general fund balance will have to be made. City Manager Whitt explained he does not have authority to move this amount of money around; a budget amendment is required to appropriate the funds from the undesignated fund balance to address this project. City Manager Whitt explained there is a lot of work to be done, this will be a jump start to city projects this year.

Council Member Woods asked for detail from City Manager Whitt on these projects for those that may not know and for the new attendees this evening. Council Member Woods said Mr. Ladd had provided a great explanation at last council meeting.

City Manager Whitt explained Council Member Lublin had brought this project forward from last council meeting. City Manager Whitt explained with the vote of City Council the priority to the local roads was issued. City Manager Whitt said this project will move forward as soon as weather allows.

**CM 3-7-21 MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2021-57 A
RESOLUTION AMENDING THE OPERATING AND
CAPITAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS FOR
FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021**

Motion by Owsinek, seconded by Lublin, UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED: To approve resolution 2021-57 a resolution amending the operating and capital budget appropriation of funds for fiscal year 2020-2021.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes (5) Owsinek, Woods, Fernandes, Lublin, Ackley
Nays (0)
Absent (2) Ambrose, Loch
Abstentions (0)

2. Mayor Pro Tem/DDA Chairman Ambrose report of DDA

Mayor Pro Tem Ambrose was absent from tonight's meeting. Mayor Ackley explained there was a request from a developer to amend the city's Planned Unit Development ordinance.

3. Parks and Recreation request for citywide policy for memorial placements

Council Member Fernandes explained at the last Parks and Recreation Commission meeting it was discussed to have a city-wide policy to grant or deny requests for memorial tributes throughout the city. Council Member Fernandes explained what she understood on the state level as to what occurs for naming of memorial highways and said she would be happy to research and provide council a report next meeting.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

1. Departmental / Divisional Statistical Reports

- a. Police
- b. Fire
- c. Finance
 - Warrant

CM 3-8-21 MOTION TO APPROVE THE DEPARTMENTAL / DIVISIONAL STATISTICAL REPORTS

Motion by Lublin, seconded by Woods, UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED: To approve the departmental / divisional statistical reports.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes (5) Fernandes, Lublin, Owsinek, Woods, Ackley
Nays (0)
Absent (2) Ambrose, Loch
Abstain (0)

City Manager Whitt explained he has been contacted by residents who are expecting things on the trail, about placing items on the trail or more signage on the trail but until the city technically owns the trail, certain things cannot occur.

City Manager Whitt explained the City Council passed a motion to withdrawal from the Trailway Council last year. City Manager Whitt explained the trail was purchased with trailway funds by the Trailway Council. City Manager Whitt explained the city is working on a transfer of property rights regarding Walled Lake's portion of the trailway. City Manager Whitt said the city attorney is reviewing the documents and as of now, the city is in the transfer process working towards acquiring ownership separate from the Trailway Council.

City Attorney Vanerian explained he has reached out to the Trailway Council but has not heard back. City Attorney Vanerian said he hopes to have a more detailed report next meeting.

**Council Member Loch arrived*

CORRESPONDENCE None

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT

City Attorney Vanerian explained as requested by City Council, the lien has been filed against the Tiki Bar and Boil for water delinquencies. City Attorney Vanerian explained he understands the property is currently being marketed for sale and the city should recoup loss.

1. Memo Medical Marijuana Caregiver Facility Ordinance Enforcement

City Attorney Vanerian explained he met and discussed with Fire Chief Coomer, with assistance from Council Member Wood's suggestion of certain communities to research, fire bulletins to be made available to effectively enforce codes. City Attorney Vanerian explained one of the first items typically done in homes for people that want to use as a grow site, the owner/tenant upgrades the electrical services. City Attorney Vanerian explained there are other enforcement mechanisms through building enforcement and code enforcement, including permission to walk through. City Attorney Vanerian explained that often times property owners will allow a walk through. City Attorney Vanerian said however, private residences do have high privacy within the constitutional rights. City Attorney Vanerian said he is recommending the city move forward with a fire prevention bulletin. City Attorney Vanerian explained he will prepare a fire code ordinance amendment and include adoption of the most current International Fire Code.

2. Memo Retiree Health Care Benefit

City Attorney Vanerian explained he reviewed the contracts of former employees many of whom were listed in last month's resolution. City Attorney Vanerian said the common theme is the city has a reserved schedule of benefits and by amending the schedule of benefits the city can revise the healthcare retiree benefits. City Attorney Vanerian explained in 2017 council adopted a resolution that changed the structure of the retiree healthcare benefit entirely. City Attorney Vanerian explained essentially the retiree benefits are on a year-to-year review and the City Council each year adopts a resolution authorizing the retiree benefits for the upcoming fiscal year. City Attorney Vanerian explained if council does not adopt the retiree healthcare benefit, per the resolution of last year the benefits would not be adopted leading to legal disputes on something that retirees claim to have benefits to.

Mayor Ackley said the city has had these discussions before. Mayor Ackley said the city has contracts with these prior employees and if the retiree has no options other than to buy their insurance themselves, their contracts provide for reimbursement by the city. Mayor Ackley said that is reasonable. Mayor Ackley said what is not reasonable are employees employed elsewhere with benefit packages and yet remain on city plans.

Council Member Lublin said he concurs with Mayor Ackley, the retirees not working and not receiving benefits through current employment that is allowable but the retirees currently working and double dipping so speak needs to stop. Council Member Lublin said he would like to see this addressed.

City Attorney Vanerian explained it is already in the resolution that if the Walled Lake retiree is receiving or is eligible to receive through their other employment, then the city benefits would not be paid to that employee.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Proposed Resolution 2021-54 Healthcare Benefit Renewal for Eligible Prior Employees of the City of Walled Lake

**CM 3-9-21 MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2021-54 A
RESOLUTION APPROVING AN APPROPRIATION FOR
HEALTHCARE FOR THE PLAN YEAR APRIL 1, 2021 TO
MARCH 31, 2022 FOR ELIGIBLE PREVIOUS
EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF WALLED LAKE**

Motion by Owsinek, seconded by Loch, UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED: To approve resolution 2021-54 a resolution approving an appropriation for healthcare for the plan year April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2022 for eligible previous employees of the City of Walled Lake.

Discussion

Council Member Lublin asked how the retirees who are not eligible are notified.

City Attorney Vanerian explained if eligible to receive benefits under another employment, they would not be eligible to receive city benefits.

City Manager Whitt said administration is prepared to do what council requests. City Manager Whitt explained the people who are legitimately retired can be identified and those that are employed can be identified.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes (6) Fernandes, Loch, Lublin, Owsinek, Woods, Ackley
Nays (0)
Absent (1) Ambrose
Abstain (0)

NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Proposed Resolution 2021-58 a resolution approving the Police and Fire Dispatch Service Agreement between the County of Oakland and the City of Walled Lake April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2024**

**CM 3-10-21 MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2021-58 A
RESOLUTION APPROVING THE POLICE AND FIRE
DISPATCH SERVICE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE
COUNTY OF OAKLAND AND THE CITY OF WALLED
LAKE APRIL 1, 2021 TO MARCH 31, 2024**

Motion by Lublin, seconded by Loch,

Discussion

Council Member Fernandes asked for an explanation of cost savings for going from inhouse dispatch to Oakland County Sheriff dispatch services.

Police Chief Shakinias explained in September 2009 council had reviewed the costs and having dispatch services in house was approximately \$325,000. Chief Shakinias explained at that time to continue inhouse dispatch there would have been a required upgrade of equipment at a cost of \$200,000.

Chief Shakinias explained he, City Manager Whitt and Fire Chief Coomer researched other dispatch opportunities and centers and it was found that the Oakland County Sheriff department offers the best services for police and fire dispatch services. Chief Shakinias

said the Sheriff continues to provide efficient and effective dispatch services and asked for council approval to renew agreement.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes (6) Loch, Lublin, Owsinek, Woods, Fernandes, Ackley
Nays (0)
Absent (1) Ambrose
Abstain (0)

CM 3-11-21 MOTION TO EXCUSE MAYOR PRO TEM AMBROSE FROM TONIGHT'S MEETING

Motion by Loch, seconded by Woods, UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED: To excuse Mayor Pro Tem Ambrose from tonight's meeting.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Council Member Woods said he is looking forward to starting the road projects in the city and the new streetlights coming to fruition. Council Member Woods said it is nice to have the good weather and seeing neighbors out helping neighbors.

Council Member Loch said she hopes everyone has a safe holiday tomorrow and it is to have a break in the weather to enjoy the city's beautiful trailway.

Council Member Owsinek wished everyone a safe holiday tomorrow.

Council Member Fernandes explained she will be at Penny Lake on March 21st from 10am to 2pm on behalf of Hospitality House to collect donations for their group.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Ackley wished everyone a safe holiday.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 8:36p.m.



Jennifer A. Stuart, City Clerk
approved 4/20/21

Linda S. Ackley, Mayor