



**CITY OF WALLED LAKE
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2017
1:00 P.M.**

The Meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by Mayor Ackley.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Mayor Ackley.

Invocation led by Mayor Pro Tem Ambrose.

ROLL CALL: Mayor Ackley, Mayor Pro Tem Ambrose, Council Member Helke, Council Member Lublin, Council Member Owsinek, Council Member Robertson

ABSENT: Council Member Loch

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

OTHERS PRESENT: City Manager Whitt, Assistant City Manager Rodgers, Police Chief Shakinas, Fire Chief Coomer, Finance Director Coogan, Treasurer Barlass, City Attorney Vanerian, and City Clerk Stuart

CM 10-01-17 MOTION TO EXCUSE COUNCIL MEMBER LOCH

Motion by Ambrose, seconded by Lublin, UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED: To excuse Council Member Loch.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

Jeffrey Zug, 420 Wellsboro – said he noticed the resolution was passed to sue the school district over the destruction of the building on Pontiac Trail. Mr. Zug said the building is at the corner of Pontiac Trail and Maple. Mr. Zug asked if the City confirmed with 100% certainty that they have certification that the building they want to continue to try and find a developer to use is asbestos free and lead paint free.

Mr. Zug said secondly, because he lives at 420 Wellsboro Street, building four of Legato Point is in the process of going up and that this will destroy his property value putting no greenspace between himself and the three-story building other than a three-foot-wide piece of grass and a six-foot fence.

Mr. Zug said thirdly, the water department puts a notification on the water bills denoting the fact the residents are required to clean the public ways around their property. Mr. Zug asked what exactly does that mean.

Laurie Ingram, -- 619 Winwood Circle-- said she is here in regards to her previous home purchased in East Bay Village. Ms. Ingram said she purchased the property preconstruction. She said "my house was contaminated with toxic mold due inadequate plumbing, no insulation, no fire walls. You did nothing". Ms. Ingram asked for council comment. Mayor Ackey explained this is audience participation to state your concerns.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

1. Fiscal Year 2017 Year End Review

City Manager Whitt said the last regularly scheduled council meeting did not have a quorum due to unforeseen circumstances. Mayor Ackley made note then and the need for a Special Meeting to show support for the trail grant. Mr. Whitt said it is his understanding there is 100% support for the Trail resolution.

Mr. Whitt explained that at the end of last year when the budget was completed there was no money budgeted to fund the City's match for the trail grant. Mr. Whitt said the grant request could be anywhere from 3-5 million dollars, the City's match according to the most recent figures is approximately \$420,000. Mr. Whitt explained that he was directed by Mayor Ackley and previous trailway representative, Council Member Owsinek, to begin to develop a way to have the funds available to meet the necessary contributions for the trail grant.

Mr. Whitt directed Finance Director Coogan to provide a presentation showing the savings of over one million dollars in the prior year's City budget to meet the requirement of the trail grant match as instructed. Mr. Whitt said savings were accomplished by not filling budgeted positions requiring many staff members to do eight more jobs. Mr. Whitt said everybody on city staff has done more than anticipated.

Finance Director Coogan provided a fiscal year 2017 review regarding the expenditure and revenue restructuring the City underwent to accomplish a million-dollar savings. Ms. Coogan explained the tax dollars and funds used for the trail are out of the governmental funds including the General Fund, Major and Local Road Funds, Drug Forfeiture and Transportation Funds. Ms. Coogan explained that the City was able to save almost one million dollars from the budget. Ms. Coogan stated as the City Manager discussed the City seized the opportunity to take advantage of the donation of engineering design services presented to the trailway council. Ms. Coogan said even with the reduced budget the City was able to accomplish a lot towards City Council strategic goals of 'strategic use of revenues' 'asset management' and 'long range planning' with infrastructure repairs; storm drain condition assessment, hydrant replacement program, new sidewalks, school crossing areas, Maple Road resurfacing and solution to the Public Safety Campus deterioration. Ms. Coogan said in addition, without adding any additional debt, the City procured a new ambulance and electronic stretcher, new furnace in the Library, and DPW has a new bucket truck which aids in maintaining the DDA lights, tree trimming in the parks, banners application, etc. Ms. Coogan said the Police Department purchased another patrol vehicle in keeping with the scheduled rotation of vehicles. Ms. Coogan said the City purchased a desperately needed new computer server with IT support, and an emergency generator.

Ms. Coogan said the strategic goals of ‘enhancing our City image’ and ‘strengthening our community focus’ were accomplished by combining Market Day/Beach Party to save money and make a bigger event, new school crossing’s, updated the Library entrance and lighting, enhanced website and City social media, and established plans for updating the Veterans Memorial.

Ms. Coogan said this was all accomplished while still coming in under budget and not accruing additional debt. Ms. Coogan said this is how the City saved over one million dollars out of last year’s budget. Mr. Whitt commented that the City now has the needed one-time money for the trail.

Ms. Coogan said under Council’s strategic goal of ‘commitment to competence’ and ‘long term planning’ the City has maintained employee training on State requirements and laws; continued legacy debt reduction-post employment benefits such as retiree healthcare; and reduced debts by continually paying down of the pension without accruing additional costs. Ms. Coogan said the City has internally maintained our DDA and Library admin support to retain their dollars.

Ms. Coogan said the City Council made large advances toward their strategic goals, saved over one million dollars on the budget, incurred zero debt and reduced existing debt. Ms. Coogan said this leaves the City’s General Fund balance at a healthy \$2.8 million dollars which is 62% of the City’s normal operating expenditures. Ms. Coogan said the City needs a healthy fund balance to fund Council’s upcoming infrastructure plans.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Proposed Resolution 2017-69 Support of the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) Grant application for trailway development

City Manager Whitt said the budget reduction was accomplished by underspending because Council anticipated the requirement of more dollars needed than what was being proposed to them. Mr. Whitt said the Council fought for fairness because should each community split from the trailway council there is still an inherent perpetual maintenance trail cost. Mr. Whitt said the City administration does not support building a Taj Mahal out of the depot and then be left to sustain it alone. Mr. Whitt said the one million dollars was to address the entire depot, however the grant does not fund everything that is envisioned by the trailway council. Mr. Whitt said it addresses the trailway improvements but not the parking lot and work at the depot. Mr. Whitt said the City under spent to fund the trailway. Mr. Whitt said the trail is one thing, the depot and the parking areas are not covered under this grant.

Mr. Whitt said other communities voted last evening, he spoke with the City Manager and Supervisor from the other communities, they are on board. Mr. Whitt said if there is a vote from Council the next immediate discussion is how to fund the depot and parking lot improvements. Mr. Whitt explained the Public Safety base is part of the trail that seems to be ignored, we have improved our campus, so people could start here and enter the trail. Mr. Whitt said this has always been part of the trail plan. Mr. Whitt said staff in encouraging Council to vote yes on the resolution and commit what is necessary to the trail. Mr. Whitt said the final design is not completed and he referred questions to Mr. Hensler the trail manager. Mr. Whitt said the City is

prepared to allow Council to fund the Cadillac version as the trailway council has proposed. Mr. Hensler said there is an open house at the fire hall today 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. today to answer any questions anyone may have.

CM 10-02-17 TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2017-69 SUPPORTING A GRANT APPLICATION BY THE COMMERCE, WALLED LAKE, AND WIXOM TRAILWAY COUNCIL TO THE MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (MDOT) TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM (TAP) FOR FUNDING DEVELOPMENT OF THE MICHIGAN AIR LINE TRAIL

Motion by Lublin, seconded by Owsinek; UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED:

DISCUSSION

City Manager Whitt said there is a scrivener's error due to forwarding of resolution to this council packet, the time in the resolution needs to be adjusted to 1:00 p.m. not 7:30 p.m. Mayor Ackley requested to change time on resolution 2017-69 from 7:30 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.

CM 10-03-17 TO CORRECT TIME ON RESOLUTION 2017-69 FROM 7:30 P.M. TO 1:00 P.M.

Motion by Robertson, seconded by Lublin, CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY: To correct time on resolution 2017-69 from 7:30 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Mayor Pro Tem Ambrose asked for preliminary designs. Mr. Hensler, Trailway Manager said there is an open house today from 4:30 p.m. -7:30 p.m. and those items will be discussed this afternoon. Mr. Hensler said he is encouraging public input for trail amenities.

Council Member Lublin stated this is a trail the Council wants.

Mayor Ackley asked for the grant application date. Mr. Hensler said the application is due October 30, 2017. Mr. Hensler said the committee will initially review the application if they want any changes they will ask the trailway council to make those adjustments. Mr. Hensler said adjustments are due mid-November. Mr. Hensler said then the committee will vote on it in December with results to be announced January 2018. Mr. Hensler explained if the grant is approved, then funds for the match are to be released in May 2018 and construction would probably start next fall September 2018.

Mayor Ackley asked if the engineering study is completed. Mr. Hensler said is it done enough for application purposes. Mr. Hensler said there will be ongoing engineering work for the next several months.

Mayor Pro Tem Ambrose asked how does the grant process work. Mr. Ambrose asked is the City the only community applying, how much are they dispersing? Mr. Hensler said the City of

Wixom is the applicant for the grant on behalf of the trailway council. Mr. Hensler explained the match is about 20% of the total cost of that 1.4 million dollars is considered the local match among the three communities. Mr. Hensler said that it is allocated by linear footage of the trail Commerce has 49%, Walled Lake 30%, and Wixom 21%.

Mayor Pro Tem Ambrose asked if there is a designated amount and are there other communities looking for monies out of the same grant? Mr. Hensler said yes there are other communities applying. Mr. Hensler introduced Ms. Kristen Wiltfang planner with Oakland County.

Ms. Wiltfang thanked Mayor and Council for considering the proposed resolution. Ms. Wiltfang said these are Federal Transportation dollars specifically for non-motorized transportation, green infrastructure, and street scaping. Ms. Wiltfang said the non-motorized component is what the grant application is being applied for. Ms. Wiltfang said MDOT and SEMCOG receive portion of those funds. Ms. Wiltfang said the grant application will be submitted to MDOT initially, if passed over by MDOT it will be presented to SEMCOG with a due date of February 2018. Ms. Wiltfang said there is a plan B option where MDOT funds a portion and SEMCOG will fund a portion which has happened in the past. Ms. Wiltfang said the trailway council has a set of engineering plans already to go should funds be approved. The project will be shovel ready.

Mayor Ackley said the question she is faced with from residents is this grant is for the trail and depot none of this money is being used once the trail gets to M-5 or the bridge. Mr. Hensler said it does not cover the depot it covers surfacing, road crossing, and safety of the trail.

Ms. Wiltfang said the funding for the bridge over M-5 comes from the Congestion Mitigation Air Quality funds which are also federal funds but a separate category.

Mayor Ackley asked if this covers land acquisition for the approach. Ms. Wiltfang said all of this falls within the MDOT right of way or the trail. She said the plans are to meet the bridge and marry the two projects.

Roll Call Vote:

Yes (6)	Ambrose, Helke, Lublin, Owsinek, Robertson, Ackley
No (0)	
Absent (1)	Loch
Abstain (0)	

2. Proposed Resolution 2017-70 Citywide Stormwater Sewer Video Inspection

Finance Director Coogan said this is the final stage of research of the status of the City's storm water system. She said the final report for the DDA will be provided next month. Ms. Coogan said it has been surveyed and they have cost estimates on repairs. Ms. Coogan said this resolution will address with rest of the Citywide sewer system for video and cleaning. Ms. Coogan said there are some areas in question and this will help complete the mapping of the entire system. Ms. Coogan said this is the same company the DDA awarded the bid to complete the video work in the downtown and the company guaranteed those same prices for the Citywide work.

**CM 10-04-17 MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2017-70
APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR INFRASTRUCTURE VIDEO
INSPECTION OF THE WALLED LAKE STORM SEWER
SYSTEM**

Motion by Owsinek, seconded by Robertson, UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED: To approve resolution 2017-70 Appropriating funds for the infrastructure video inspection of the Walled Lake storm sewer system.

Mayor Ackley said this is necessary, the City has problem areas and they need to be corrected. There have been funds set aside to complete this project.

Roll Call Vote:

Yes (6) Helke, Lublin, Owsinek, Robertson, Ambrose, Ackley
No (0)
Absent (1) Loch
Abstain (0)

Mayor Ackley requested an update on the water main break that occurred at 14 Mile on October 23, 2017 and what has been done to protect the City and water supply. Fire Chief Coomer said there was a large water main break that feeds our community. Mr. Coomer said there was no water pressure in hydrants or in homes. Mr. Coomer said fire suppression was addressed in partnership with the northern fire Chiefs who provided a 3,000-gallon tanker truck. Mr. Coomer said the City of Novi had the same set of circumstances all the way down to eight mile and they had a tanker as well. Chief Coomer said the tanker truck was provided by Grove Land Township. Mr. Coomer explained the surrounding communities of Lyon Township, Commerce, and West Bloomfield were prepared to assist the City if necessary. Mr. Coomer stated the City was never without water access for fires. Mr. Coomer said the fire department has a tanker to provide drinkable water for distribution as well as bottled water. Mr. Coomer the boil water advisory is still in effect. Chief Coomer said water is available in homes now but there is a water restriction in place with a request to conserve as much water as possible at this time no watering of lawns and such. Chief Coomer said there is a boil water advisory for 48 hours after the repair of the pipe.

Mayor Ackley thanked fire, police and administration staff.

Mayor Pro Tem Ambrose asked if there were any emergency calls to address during this time. Fire Chief Coomer said yes and one of the calls had potential for fire but it did not develop. Chief Coomer said there was a home on Shankin that caught fire before the water main break and they addressed it.

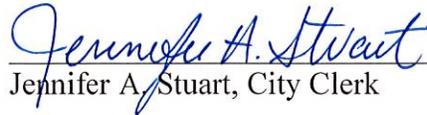
Council Member Lublin said he had read that the Walled Lake Fire Department is able to get water from the lake. Fire Chief Coomer said yes, the fire engineers are trained for this.

Council Member Owsinek commended the fire department.

City Manager Whitt commended the Police and Fire Department. Mr. Whitt said the fire department has the ability to fight fires without a fire hydrant. Mr. Whitt said the issues the City deal with are the same as always, but it was never a question of not being able to put out a fire. Mr. Whitt said the repair has taken a lot longer to fix but this has nothing to do with Walled Lake. Mr. Whitt said the City Public Works have no ability to go over to 14 Mile and fix a 48-inch main that broke. Mr. Whitt said people are worried, stressful calls came in, but staff worked through the numerous phone calls. Mr. Whitt thanked Council for recognizing them.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 1:36 p.m.


Jennifer A. Stuart, City Clerk


Linda S. Ackley, Mayor