

**CITY OF WIXOM
49045 PONTIAC TRAIL
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2022**

Mayor Beagle called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Present:

Mayor: P. Beagle
Deputy Mayor: T. Rzeznik
Councilmembers: P. Behrmann
K. Gottschall
T. Gronlund-Fox
P. Sharpe
R. Smiley

AGENDA CHANGES: (None)

PRESENTATIONS:

1.) Proclamation Honoring Eagle Scout George Dagg

Mayor Beagle called Eagle Scout George Dagg up to the podium and asked him to introduce himself. He stated that he was from Troup 272 in Milford. His Eagle Project was to build the connector path from the Air Line Trail to the Fitness Loop behind St. Matthew's Church.

Mayor Beagle read the Proclamation honoring George Dagg and presented it to him.

2.) Reaffirmation of Oath for Two New Police Officers and Introduction to Mayor and Council

Chief Langmeyer introduced Adam Freshwater and Austin Spring, two newly promoted Police Officers. He indicated that Officer Freshwater was a 2019 graduate of Livonia Stevenson High School and he studied Criminal Justice at Schoolcraft College. He joined the Wixom Police Department on January 2, 2020 as a Police Service Aid. He was promoted to Police Cadet in August of this year and was sent to the Oakland Police Academy. He just graduated on December 8th and he has proven to be reliable, driven and an excellent addition to the Department.

Officer Freshwater reaffirmed his Oath of Office and his mother pinned on his badge.

Chief Langmeyer stated that Officer Spring was a graduate of Lakeland High School and he studied Criminal Justice at Oakland Community College. He joined the Wixom Police Department in August of 2021 as a Service Aid. He proved to be dedicated, hard-working and someone we could really rely on. In August of this year, he was also promoted to Police Cadet and sent to the Oakland Police Academy where he also graduated on December 8th. Chief Langmeyer said he was

looking forward to Officer Spring giving the Wixom residents many years of dedicated service.

Officer Spring reaffirmed his Oath of Office and his father pinned on his badge.

Chief Langmeyer introduced Director Dave Ceci of the Oakland Police Academy. He stated that the Police Chiefs in Oakland County rely heavily on him. He is responsible for the great officers we have in Oakland County and throughout southeast Michigan. Chief Langmeyer thanked him for coming to this meeting.

The Council then took a short recess for cake and coffee to welcome the new Officers.

MINUTES:

CM-12-159-22: Moved and seconded by Councilmembers Gottschall and Behrmann to approve the Regular City Council meeting minutes of November 29, 2022.

Vote:

Motion Carried

CORRESPONDENCE: (None)

CALL TO THE PUBLIC:

Lonce Matero, 2174 Quala Avenue, said he wanted to speak about New Business #1 regarding the drinking water. He indicated that he lived in the Finnish Camp. Mr. Matero was concerned about spending hundreds of thousands of dollars digging up a bunch of holes to look for some mythical lead pipe. He recently returned from Finland and he found out they are 30 years ahead of us in clean drinking water. Those Fins in Finland really know their water. They have hundreds of thousands of lakes and some of the purest nature he has seen. He thought their secret was simple – they don't dump chemicals in the water, like fluoride. Fluoride is a dental treatment. He had a scientific study of two Finnish towns he visited. They took out all of the fluoride in 1992 and over several years, they checked thousands of children's developing teeth for cavities. They found zero increase in cavities in these previously fluoridated towns. Their conclusion was fluoride is unnecessary. They removed it from the water supply 30 years ago and never went back. Every medical and dental treatment requires an informed consent. Fluoride is discharged from fertilizer and aluminum factories. This discharge is intentionally collected and transported by truck or train from these factories to Michigan and dumped into the local water supply. He said he did not consent to that. He said he personally knows members of the American Dental Association, including a prominent one who teaches at the dental school in Detroit. The dentists he knows will support fluoride, but in private, they will filter out every last molecule. One ADA member owns three reverse osmosis filtration systems. He knows that because he changed the filters himself. He thought it was a little bit weird that these dentists and doctors say one thing publicly and do the opposite privately. It was something to think about. Let's get our priorities straight here. It seemed a little backwards to him to look at a problem at the end of a pipe that affects only one or two people while ignoring the greater problems upstream from the City of Wixom. He urged the Council to reject this proposal and look at the bigger picture.

CITY MANAGER REPORTS:**1.) Fire Monthly Report - October 2022**

There were no comments or questions regarding this report.

2.) Police Monthly Report - October 2022

There were no comments or questions regarding this report.

CONSENT AGENDA:

CM-12-160-22: Motion and seconded made by Deputy Mayor Rzeznik and Councilmember Gronlund-Fox to approve the Consent Agenda as presented which included:

- 1.) Approval to receive and file:
 - a. Library Minutes – September 26, 2022
 - b. Planning Commission Minutes – November 9, 2022

Vote:

Motion Carried

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: (None)

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1.) **Recommendation to Accept the Proposals from Hubbell, Roth and Clark of West Bloomfield, MI and Metro Environmental, Inc. of Walled Lake, MI to Implement Wixom's Drinking Water Asset Management Plan and Water Distribution System Materials Inventory for a Cost Not to Exceed \$115,630 for Management and a Cost of \$795 for Each Service Excavation with an Estimated Total of \$275,070 from Service Line Inventory Account #591-537-956.420 and Approve the Related Budget Amendment for the Total Cost of \$390,700**

CM-12-161-22: Motion and seconded made by Councilmember Smiley and Deputy Mayor Rzeznik to accept the proposals from Hubbell, Roth and Clark of West Bloomfield, MI and Metro Environmental, Inc. of Walled Lake, MI to implement Wixom's Drinking Water Asset Management Plan and Water Distribution System Materials Inventory for a cost not to exceed \$115,630 for Management and a cost of \$795 for each service excavation with an estimated total of \$275,070 from Service Line Inventory Account #591-537-956.420 and approve the related budget amendment for the total cost of \$390,700.

Mr. Sikma said this was the final step for monitoring or identifying the materials that are connected to the water services. One of the State requirements is to ensure that all services that are connected to the water supply are lead-free. One way to verify that was through documentation and records. We have looked through all the records we have for connections and we have found a number of them that did not have a material type listed. The requirement from the State is to statistically prove that we do not have leaded services. We need to identify or dig up 346 of them to make sure they are not lead services. We expect to find mostly

copper and plastic in that age group of connections. To cover the cost for this, we applied for a grant from the State of Michigan last January and we were one of nine communities that received the grant. HRC helped with the grant and after the engineering piece was granted last spring, we asked them to give us a quote to help with the Asset Management Plan. We will be utilizing Metro Sewers to do hydro-excavation. There will be small holes near the stop box to identify those services. With the documentation, the internal inspection through the house by the meter and the hydro-excavation, we think we will have a good plan.

Deputy Mayor Rzeznik clarified that the Asset Management Plan and the inventory were requirements from the State and they have to be filed by January of 2025. Mr. Sikma said that was correct. Deputy Mayor Rzeznik asked if the 346 to be inspected was a statistical sample of approximately 3,600 services in Wixom. Mr. Sikma said that those 346 were all connected to the services before 1983. We no longer use leaded fittings for connections. Those are the only ones left that are that old. He felt confident that we will have no lead in Wixom once we identify those 346 connections. Deputy Mayor Rzeznik asked if the excavation itself was done in the lawn. Mr. Sikma replied yes, it will be done in the lawn at the stop box location. We will also look inside the home where the pipe comes into the house near the meter. He indicated that the sod would be repaired. The hole should only be about a foot in diameter.

In response to the question asked by the resident, Councilmember Behrmann confirmed that this was something we were required to do. He also confirmed that this was being paid for by a grant we received through the State. Mr. Sikma said that was correct. Councilmember Behrmann asked who would be responsible for replacing the service lines if we determined some homes have lead pipes. Mr. Sikma said that the City would be responsible for the cost.

Councilmember Smiley asked if Mr. Sikma anticipated we would have these completed by 2025. Mr. Sikma replied that he thought they would be completed within this next year. Councilmember Smiley commented that it didn't sound too intrusive for the residents. Mr. Sikma said that we will notify the residents that we are coming to do this. HRC will help us with this. We will have to enter the home to get to the meter. Councilmember Smiley hoped the residents would all understand.

Councilmember Sharpe commented that we didn't have City water until the late 1990s. Mr. Sikma said that there were 14 different well houses. The connection was made with Oakland County to a community well system. We had four different wells in the 1968-1970 era. They were on a centralized system so we couldn't prove it wasn't lead.

To clarify for the resident's questions earlier, Councilmember Gottschall confirmed that this didn't have anything to do with additives to the waters. Fluoride is not added at the City level. The water comes through the pipes from the Great Lakes Water Authority. Mr. Sikma said that was correct. It is treated at four different plants and most of our water comes from Lake Huron.

Vote:

Motion Carried

2.) Request for Authorization to Participate in the State of Michigan Cooperative Purchasing Program for the Purchase of an F-550 Truck from Gorno Ford of Woodhaven, MI in the Amount of \$52,352 and a 3-Yard Dump Box with Accessories from Truck and Trailer of Dutton, MI in the Amount of \$35,275 from Dump Truck and Equipment Replacement Account #411-441-973.392

CM-12-162-22: Motion and seconded made by Councilmembers Gronlund-Fox and Smiley to authorize the participation in the State of Michigan Cooperative Purchasing Program for the purchase of an F-550 truck from Gorno Ford of Woodhaven, MI in the amount of \$52,352 and a 3-yard dump box with accessories from Truck and Trailer of Dutton, MI in the amount of \$35,275 from Dump Truck and Equipment Replacement Account #411-441-973.392.

Mr. Sikma stated that we have a Capital Improvement Program that includes truck purchases on an intermittent basis. The truck he would like to replace with this was a one-ton diesel powered truck that was 12 years old. With the emissions that are required for that age truck, we were having difficulty with the truck going into low generation mode more frequently than we would like. We are typically idling or driving slow down the roads. This truck was recently utilized for the leaf pick-up program. It functions well but we are thinking its useful life with the DPW has been exceeded. He requested the replacement be an F-550 gasoline engine truck. The F-550 has a little more horsepower than the diesel we are replacing. We recently found the power pickup that we would get with the F-550 was much better than the F-450 model. Also, the breaking system that they have on the F-550 is superior while pulling machines. The price difference was minimal between the F-550 and the F-450. He also noted that this came in under budget.

Mayor Beagle asked how long it would take to get this and have the box put on it. Mr. Sikma said that it normally takes about 11 months so he was hoping to get it before the beginning of the plow season next year. We had a tough time having Gorno Ford lock in the price with the State program, so we have a small window for this.

Deputy Mayor Rzeznik asked if there was a secondary market for the 2007 diesel that we are replacing. Mr. Sikma replied that we will auction this off. We received \$31,000 for the one we auctioned off two weeks ago and he expected a good price for this one, too.

Vote:

Motion Carried

3.) Recommendation to Approve the Extension of an Agreement for Fixed Pricing for Centrex Calls and Enter into Two New Agreements for High Volume Calling Rates and Completelink Rates and Authorize Mayor Patrick Beagle to Sign the Agreements

CM-12-163-22: Motion and seconded made by Deputy Mayor Rzeznik and Councilmember Gronlund-Fox to approve the extension of an Agreement for fixed pricing for Centrex calls and enter into two new Agreements for high volume calling

rates and Completelink rates and authorize Mayor Patrick Beagle to sign the Agreements .

Chief Langmeyer said this was a renewal contract for the telephone lines at the Police and Fire Departments. We have to sign this contract every year and these are the same rates as last year.

Vote:

Motion Carried

4.) Recommendation to Approve a One-Year Professional Services Agreement with Hanka Advisor, LLC of Bowie, Maryland for Various Services on the Prospective Beck Road Improvement Project for a Total Cost Not to Exceed \$12,000 from Consultants & Personnel DPW Account #101-441-801.391 and Authorize the Mayor to Sign the Agreement

CM-12-164-22: Motion and seconded made by Deputy Mayor Rzeknik and Councilmember Smiley to approve a one-year Professional Services Agreement with Hanka Advisor, LLC of Bowie, Maryland for various services on the prospective Beck Road Improvement Project for a total cost not to exceed \$12,000 from Consultants & Personnel DPW Account #101-441-801.391 and authorize the Mayor to sign the Agreement.

Mr. Brown said over the last few years they've had an agreement with Hanka Advisor, LLC for their support in lobbying and grant submittal with the Beck Road project. They were pleased with the work they've done thus far and would like to extend the agreement for another year as they've continued to aid Wixom and the City of Novi in providing many new funding sources. He stated they've received funding for the stretch of Beck Road between Grand River and Eleven Mile within the City of Novi.

Deputy Mayor Rzeknik believed they stood a much greater chance in obtaining funding within the next four years because of the recent passing of the bipartisan infrastructure bill, joining forces with Novi and having Representative Debbie Dingell on our side.

Vote:

Motion Carried

CALL TO THE PUBLIC:

There were no comments at this time.

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS:

Mr. Brown said Deputy Clerk Crystal Opalko recently completed the Master Academy presented by the Michigan Association of Municipal Clerks. He thanked her for her dedication to education as she worked toward earning her Master Municipal Clerk designation.

Mr. Benson said the Planning Commission just changed their meeting schedule to the first and third Mondays of each month instead of the first and fourth. The new schedule would take place at the beginning of 2023.

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Councilmember Gottschall thanked the newest police officers for their commitment to the City and wished them well in their career. He thanked the Deputy Clerk for recently completing the Clerk Master Academy courses and commended the Fire Department for hosting another successful Breakfast with Santa event this past Saturday. He shared his condolences to Councilmember Smiley's family in their recent loss.

Councilmember Behrmann congratulated the two police officers sworn in tonight. Additionally, he praised the Eagle Scout for his efforts and was happy to see there were still people moving up through that organization.

Councilmember Smiley said it was gratifying to see these fine young officers coming onto the Wixom Police Department. He appreciated when the City acknowledged an Eagle Scout and thanked everybody for their thoughts and kind words with the recent passing of his mother-in-law. It meant a lot to his entire family, especially his wife, Sandy.

Councilmember Gronlund-Fox echoed all comments already made. She wondered how the recruitment of firefighters was going. Mr. Brown said it's gone very well as they had five Auxiliary Firefighters recently start and another five or more in the works. He congratulated the Fire Department for being proactive in getting the word out.

Councilmember Sharpe offered his condolences to Rob and Sandy Smiley on their recent loss. He congratulated Officers Freshwater and Spring in joining the Wixom family. He thanked the staff for organizing the Wixom Tree Lighting. He thought it was very well attended.

Deputy Mayor Rzeznik congratulated Mr. Dagg on earning Eagle Scout. He understood there were very few scouts that made it to that rank. When an Eagle Scout applied to work for him, he knew there was a work ethic and determination. He congratulated the two new officers. He offered his condolences to the Smiley family. He thought the Fire Department put on another great Breakfast with Santa event.

Mayor Beagle offered condolences to Rob and Sandy on their recent loss. He congratulated the Wixom Parks and Recreation Department for organizing a successful Tree Lighting event. He thanked the Fire Department for allowing him to participate in their Breakfast with Santa event. He congratulated George Dagg in earning his Eagle Scout rank. He welcomed Officer Freshwater and Officer Spring to the Wixom family.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Catherine Buck
City Clerk

Approved 12-20-2022
