

**CITY OF WIXOM
49045 PONTIAC TRAIL
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, JUNE 27, 2023**

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 (Exc.)
K. Gottschall
T. Gronlund-Fox
P. Sharpe
R. Smiley

AGENDA CHANGES: (None)

MINUTES:

CM-06-98-23: Moved and seconded by Deputy Mayor Rzeznik and Councilmember Smiley to approve the Joint Council meeting minutes of May 31, 2023.

Councilmember Sharpe commended Mona Freiburger for her outstanding job in taking minutes for the Joint Meeting.

Vote:

Motion Carried

CM-06-99-23: Moved and seconded by Councilmembers Gronlund-Fox and Gottschall to approve the Regular City Council meeting minutes of June 13, 2023.

Vote:

Motion Carried

CORRESPONDENCE: (None)

CALL TO THE PUBLIC:

There were no public comments at this time.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORTS:

1.) Departmental Reports – May 2023

Deputy Mayor Rzeznik asked for more information regarding the meeting with the company that held partnerships with local governments regarding no-cost electric vehicle charging stations. Mr. Benson said this would be completely different from SemaConnect Network. Considering there was little to no cost for the City, they were currently assessing the cost for charging and what they anticipated for signage. Deputy Mayor Rzeznik suggested they consider installing the charging stations at local landmarks downtown instead of the actual streets.

Councilmember Gottschall noticed there were more complaints about water billing than usual. He wondered what was happening. Mr. Sikma said this monthly report included more comments from customers because their bills were due at the end of May. He indicated there were a number of scenarios that could result in higher water bills such as leaky toilets, pool filling, etc. Councilmember Gottschall asked what percentage of the bills were actual reads vs. estimates. Mr. Sikma said they tried to keep less than 10% as estimated reads. Councilmember Gottschall wanted to make certain that it wasn't an estimation issue. He suggested they generate a list of common reasons for higher water bills and put it on the City's website. He commented that the City received more revenue from water and wastewater than anticipated. Mr. Sikma said over the last several years they've been trying to bring that value up in order to be able to fund any major events or occurrences. He admitted they haven't been the best at keeping their enterprise water/wastewater fund healthy; however, they need funding for water hydrant replacements, stop box replacements and the installation of a watermain at Gunnar Mettala Park.

Councilmember Gronlund-Fox asked for a short memo regarding PFAS and the local company they had concerns with in relation to PFAS. Mr. Sikma would be happy to provide that information. Mr. Brown added that they would also include an update on the wastewater plant improvements.

Councilmember Sharpe stated the engineering report reflected the sidewalk project on the south side of Pontiac Trail was coming to an end. He felt the sidewalk turned out nice, and the trees and flowers planted were pretty but he did not like the brick that was chosen for the planter boxes. He asked who selected the brick color for the planter boxes. Mr. Benson said that project went through the DDA Design Committee. He noted that once they were ready to start construction they were told that some brick colors were not an option so they compromised and went with the closest to their original color choice/design.

CONSENT AGENDA:

CM-06-100-23: Moved and seconded by Councilmembers Gronlund-Fox and Smiley to approve the Consent Agenda as presented which included:

- 1.) Approval to receive and file:
 - a.) Senior Citizen Commission Minutes – March 13, 2023
- 2.) Recommendation to Approve Amendment 1 to the Agreement for Local Fiscal Recovery Fund Distribution Between Oakland County and the City of Wixom Senior Center and Authorize the Mayor to Sign the Amendment.

Vote:

Motion Carried

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: (None)

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1.) **Recommendation to Approve Year-End Budget Amendments and Requests for Commitments of Fund Balance to Comply with the Uniform Budget Act 621 and Governmental Accounting Standards**

Board Pronouncement 54 and More Accurately Reflect Fiscal Year 2022/2023 Revenues and Expenditures

CM-06-101-23: Moved and seconded made by Deputy Mayor Rzeznik and Councilmember Gronlund-Fox to approve year-end budget amendments and requests for commitments of fund balance to comply with the Uniform Budget Act 621 and Governmental Accounting Standards Board Pronouncement 54 and more accurately reflect Fiscal Year 2022/2023 revenues and expenditures.

Ms. Stamper explained that it was customary to amend the budget at the end of the fiscal year to accurately reflect the actual revenue and expenditures from the prior year. She indicated that this meeting was the last opportunity to make any adjustments.

Councilmember Sharpe was pleasantly surprised that every fund had an interest balance so high.

Councilmember Gronlund-Fox asked about the fringes within the Police Department. Ms. Stamper said they've recently had many employees retire under that group resulting in higher numbers, but as they move forward you should notice those figures decreasing.

Vote:

Motion Carried

2.) Recommendation to Authorize the City Manager, as Recommended by the Wage and Salary Committee, to Implement Wage & Benefit Adjustments for Non-Union Employees, Excluding the City Manager and City Clerk, and Adopt a Revised Salary Grade Structure for Non-Union Employees for Fiscal Year 2023/2024, Effective July 1, 2023

CM-06-102-23: Moved and seconded made by Councilmembers Smiley and Gronlund-Fox to authorize the City Manager, as recommended by the Wage and Salary Committee, to implement wage and benefit adjustments for non-union employees, excluding the City Manager and City Clerk, and adopt a revised salary grade structure for non-union employees for Fiscal Year 2023/2024, effective July 1, 2023.

Mr. Brown said recently the Wage and Salary Committee met to discuss a variety of topics including the Salary Grade Structure for non-union employees and their wage increases for this fiscal year. He indicated that City administration recommended they increase the minimum/maximum salary range within the structure by 2% and authorize a 3% wage increase for Fiscal Year 2023/2024. The Committee also talked about specific employee equity salary adjustments for those employees that believed they were lagging in their climb through the minimum/maximum ranges within the structure or where they fell within the market place. Of those employees that requested adjustments, the Wage and Salary Committee recommended salary changes to four employees. The last item the Committee talked over was changing the time of year for non-union employee reviews. It was the desire of City

administration to change the review period from fiscal year to calendar year. They believed the end of the year wouldn't be as busy and easier to budget. He would appreciate Council's consideration in moving the City Manager and City Clerk's employee reviews from fiscal year to calendar year for the same reasons. He would also appreciate their attention to include the City Clerk and City Manager in the 3% salary increase effective July 1, 2023. He advised them that the recommendation before Council excluded the 3% salary increase for the City Clerk and City Manager so an amendment to the original motion would be necessary.

Councilmember Gronlund-Fox believed the reviews for the City Clerk and City Manager were performed late last year. Mr. Brown said that was correct as they were held in November 2022. He noted should they be moved to calendar year their next employee review wouldn't take place until January 2024. Councilmember Gronlund-Fox was in favor of moving the review process for the City Clerk and City Manager since it was harder to budget when the budget had already been approved. She would rather be aware of any changes beforehand so they could be implemented into the next budget. She thought it would be best to amend the original motion to include the City Clerk and City Manager.

CM-06-103-23: Moved and seconded made by Councilmember Gronlund-Fox and Deputy Mayor Rzeznik to amend the original motion to include, not exclude, the City Manager and City Clerk in the original motion.

Vote:

Motion Carried

Councilmember Sharpe was in support of this and complimented the Wage and Salary Committee and administration for being so transparent.

Deputy Mayor Rzeznik thanked City administration for taking extra time with this process and for considering salaries in the surrounding communities.

CM-06-104-23: Moved and seconded made by Councilmembers Smiley and Gronlund-Fox to authorize the City Manager, as recommended by the Wage and Salary Committee, to implement wage and benefit adjustments for non-union employees, including the City Manager and City Clerk, and adopt a revised salary grade structure for non-union employees for Fiscal Year 2023/2024, effective July 1, 2023.

Vote:

Motion Carried

CALL TO THE PUBLIC:

There were no comments at this time.

CITY MANAGER'S COMMENTS:

Mr. Brown said there were nine employees celebrating their work anniversaries with years of service ranging from four years to 27 years. He thanked them all for their dedicated service to the City. He congratulated Ms. Stamper for celebrating 26 years of service and acknowledged all the work she'd done closing out the fiscal

year. He noted that some major capital projects had been closed, including the wastewater treatment plant improvements (\$146,000 under budget) and the roadwork from Maple Run 2 and Courts of Highgate (\$300,000 under budget). He said that Renaissance Global Logistics scheduled their Grand Opening for Thursday, June 29th, at 2:00 p.m. Additionally, the Lakes Area Chamber, Bluewater Technologies and the City were working together on a Community Connections Coffee event scheduled for Tuesday, July 11th, starting at 8:00 a.m. at Bluewater Technologies (30303 Beck Road, Wixom). He mentioned that the Deputy Clerk recently attended the Michigan Association of Municipal Clerks Summer Conference where she earned points toward her Master Municipal Clerk Certification. He commended Sergeant Paul Machala on his completion of Michigan State University's School of Criminal Justice Staff and Command Program. He thanked the Community Services for their hard work in pulling off another successful event with Lite the Night.

Mayor Beagle asked what kind of business would be going into the Health Building. Mr. Benson said the new owner originally had a specific tenant in mind when they purchased the property, but since decided to white-box the building making it available to any business.

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Councilmember Gottschall thanked Crystal Opalko for her work in continuing her education. He applauded Sergeant Machala's commitment because attending 40-hour week classes while working would be demanding. He appreciated that the officers continued their education because it largely benefited the City.

Councilmember Gronlund-Fox congratulated Sergeant Machala for completing the program. She's heard a lot of good things about the Michigan State's Staff and Command Program. She congratulated those employees celebrating work anniversaries.

Councilmember Sharpe thought there were some really cool fireworks this year with cool shapes and believed Ms. Magee did a great job selecting the new vendor. He said it was nice to see the officers riding their bikes patrolling the event. He mentioned the paving on Maple Road turned out fantastic and thanked the Fire Department for their dedicated response after the strong winds on Sunday night.

Councilmember Smiley congratulated Sergeant Machala and Ms. Stamper for her 26 years of service to the City. It was nice to see those capital projects come in under budget. He wished everybody a happy and safe Independence Day.

Deputy Mayor Rzeznik congratulated Sergeant Machala. He said that his family had a great time at Lite the Night. He thought it was exciting to see some economic news in both the downtown and the industrial areas in the City. He was thrilled to see they were at 95% complete for the Re-Development Ready.

Mayor Beagle echoed the congratulations to Sergeant Machala and Deputy Clerk Opalko. He congratulated those employees celebrating work anniversaries. He

thought the staff did a great job with the fireworks and thanked Mr. Sikma for allowing him to see the fireworks from behind the scenes. He thought it was really interesting to see how they packed the fireworks to get them ready.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Catherine Buck
City Clerk

Approved 7-11-2023
