



CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES SAUGATUCK, MICHIGAN, SEPTEMBER 27, 2021

The City Council met for Regular Council Meeting at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall, 102 Butler St., Saugatuck, MI 49453.

1. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Bekken at 7:00 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Attendance:

Present: Bekken, Stanton, Trester, Dean, Lewis, & Leo

Absent: Peterson

Others Present: City Manager Heise, Zoning Administrator Osman, Intern White, Jacob Witte & John Brennan

Council Member Peterson entered into session at 7:25 p.m.

4. Approval of Minutes:

A. Regular City Council Meeting Minutes – September 13, 2021

Motion was made by Lewis, 2nd by Trester to approve the Regular City Council Meeting Minutes from September 13, 2021, as amended. Upon roll call, the motion carried 6-0.

5. Request for Payment:

A motion was made by Trester, 2nd by Dean, to approve the accounts payable in the amount of \$1,698,696.90. Upon roll call, the motion carried 6-0.

6. Mayor's Comments: None

7. City Manager's Comments:

City Manager Heise made no further elaborations on his report from the previous workshop session.

8. Agenda Changes:

(deletion) 10(A) Allegan County Sheriff's Department; *(addition)* 10(C) Gregory Muncey representing SDABA

9. **Guest Speakers:**
- A. ~~Allegan County Sheriff's Department~~
 - B. **Saugatuck Township Fire District:** Fire District Board Member Fox updated Council on the September 20, 2021 Fire District Board meeting.
 - C. **Gregory Muncey of SDABA:** Muncey updated the Council on SDABA's achievements and actions from November 2020 to September 2021. He also noted upcoming events from October 2021 to December 2021. Muncey took the time to recognize current and new members on the SDABA Board for their efforts. Muncey also presented a \$3,000 check from SDABA's Sparkle Fund to Council to contribute to funding for the decorative lighting around town.
10. **Public Comment:**
- Catherine Simon (*resident*), of Maplewood Hotel, noted on the poor state of the Village Square Park and the Memorial Rose Garden. She especially noted that given the generous gift for the Memorial Rose Garden, attention and care should be directed to improve and maintain the garden for the community.
11. **Unfinished Business:** None
12. **New Business:**
- A. **Authorization for Saugatuck-Douglas Rotary Club Banner:** A motion was made by Dean, 2nd by Stanton, to approve the request to install a banner to promote the Rotary Mini-Golf Challenge within the public right of way from Monday, September 27, 2021, through Monday, October 3, 2021. Upon roll call, the motion carried unanimously.
 - B. **Preliminary Blue Star Trail Design Approval:** A motion was made by Lewis, 2nd by Trester, to approve the three (3) lane option for Washington Street to Lake Street (Douglas and Saugatuck) and full roadway separation with at grade boardwalk or retaining wall section for Lake Street to Maple Street. Upon roll call, the motion carried unanimously.
 - C. **Resolution 210927-A of Support for TAP:** A motion was made by Stanton, 2nd by Dean, to approve resolution #210927-A in support of being lead applicant for Transportation Alternative Program grant. Upon roll call, the motion carried unanimously.
 - D. **City Board Appointments:** A motion was made by Lewis, 2nd by Trester, to approve the Mayor's appointment and reappointments as presented: Bob Kubasiak to the Zoning Board of Appeals with said term expiring July 1, 2024, Bobbie Gaunt to the Planning Commission with said term expiring July 1, 2024, and Keith Patterson to the Historic District Commission with said term expiring August 1, 2024. Upon roll call, the motion carried unanimously.
 - E. **Appointment of Cindy Osman to Interim City Clerk:** A motion was made by Trester, 2nd by Peterson, to approve the City Manager's appointment of Cindy Osman to serve as Interim City Clerk. Upon roll call, the motion carried unanimously.

13. **Public Comment:** None

14. **Closed Session-Legal Opinion:**

A. Pursuant to MCL 15.268(e)(h) of the Open Meetings Act, the City will enter into closed session to consult with attorney. A motion was made by Lewis, 2nd by Leo, to move into a closed session pursuant to MCL 15.268(h) to discuss a confidential written legal opinion regarding the enforcement of zoning violations at 443 Park Street. Upon roll call, the motion carried unanimously and Council entered into closed session at 7:43 p.m.

Council entered back into open session at 9:15 p.m. A motion was made by Trester, 2nd by Leo, to come out of closed session. Upon roll call, the motion carried unanimously.

A motion made by Lewis, 2nd by Dean, that the City of Saugatuck has been informed that former members of the City Council are to be named as defendants in an action to be filed by Dune Ridge SA, LP. The former Council members are Jeff Spangler, Bill Hess, Jane Verplank and Barry Johnson. In addition, we are informed that the former City Clerk, Monica Nagel, is also to be named a defendant. It is the City's policy to stand in solidarity with its former public servants to defend them in this action, which the City deems is wholly without merit. The motion, subject to the consent of the foregoing persons, the City extends a defense and its counsel will represent them with all the other City defendants named. Upon roll call, the motion carried unanimously.

15. **Communications:**

- A. Paul Burdick – Thank You**
- B. Saugatuck Radar NRHP Nomination**
- C. Nicole Graves – Blue Star Bike Trail**
- D. Susan DeJong – Blue Star Bike Trail**

16. **Council Comments:**

Council Member Dean remarked on the great community turn out at the Saugatuck High School football game and mentioned how important the school system is in the Saugatuck community. Mayor Bekken stated how proud was of the Council for stepping up in regard to the unusual predicament the City is facing.

Council Member Peterson exited session at 9.18 p.m.

17. **Adjournment:** A motion was made by Lewis, 2nd by Trester, to adjourn at 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kate White
Deputy Clerk/Intern