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Description automatically generated with low confidence **CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES**

**Decemer 6, 2023**

The City Council met for a Workshop Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

City Hall

102 Butler St., Saugatuck, MI 49453.

**Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Stanton at 4:00 p.m.

**Attendance:**

Present: Mayor Stanton, Mayor Pro-Tem Baldwin and Councilmembers Anderson (via Zoom), Dean, Gardner and White.

Absent: Muncey.

*Motion by Dean, second by Baldwin to excuse Councilmember Muncey. Via voice vote, motion carried unanimously.*

Others Present: City Manager Heise, Director of Planning, Zoning & Project Management Cummins, Attorney Jake Witte, Deputy Assessor Jolley and Clerk Wolters.

**Agenda Changes:** None.

**Guest Speakers:** None.

**Public Comment on Agenda Item Only**: None.

**Discussion Items:**

Waterfront Moratorium Extension- Resolution 231211-B:

Director of zoning Cummins updated Council that the Planning Commission will have further

deliberations on a recommendation to Council. This will likely take another two to three months. The

request is to extend the temporary waterfront moratorium through March 31, 2024.

STR Enforcement:

Director of zoning Cummins presented to Council a short-term rental task force update on

enforcement challenges with noise complaints. He reviewed current violation fees. Planning

Commission has approval for zoning recommendations but not for police power recommendation.

Police-Powers Ordinance Recommendations for Short-Term Rentals:

Zoning Director Cummins gave the Council the following options to discuss:

* Allow Planning Commission to make recommendations related to the police power ordinance.
* The council could choose to direct staff or legal counsel to put together an ordinance.
* The Council could workshop the subject and handle it at Council level.

Blue Star Trail:

City Manager Heise advised Council that staff will present at the Monday Council meeting the budget

allotment for the Bule Star Trail.

Poverty Guidelines:

Deputy Assessor Jollay presented to the Council. The poverty guidelines are a state mandatory guideline which adopted yearly by resolution.

Council Meeting Dates:

Clerk Wolters presented per Open Meetings Act, the City must post the Council dates ten days prior to the first Council meeting of the new year.

Strategic Planning Survey:

City Manager Heise presented the strategic planning survey questions for the Council to review prior to

sending to the public.

**Public Comment:**

Dan Fox, resident: Regarding the short-term rental discussion which would possibly have an impact on

the fire department. The license for short-term rentals should be yearly. The short-term rental person

is not paying for all the cost, the taxpayer is.

**Correspondence:** None**.**

**Council Comments:**

* Councilmember White: Thanked the short-term rental task force for what was reported in the packet. It’s clear they took a lot of effort to put it together and looks forward to seeing what come of that.
* Mayor Pro-Tem Dean: Suggested changing the Workshop meetings to possibly a longer workshop once a month, deeper dive workshops or once a quarter. Now they are just a dress rehearsal for the Council meeting. There is only so much Council can do if people are not paying attention. Some people only pay attention when they are in town and not during the winter when they live elsewhere. He fixed the Saugatuck sign that a car ran through.
* Councilmember Baldwin: None.
* Councilmember Gardner: He appreciates discussions and is pleased by the changes taking place in terms of open discussion. Updates on the Wednesday discussion should be given at the next Monday meeting. Suggested talking about Saugatuck 311 to collect data from people reporting issues.
* Councilmember Anderson: She said it was great to be here.
* Mayor Stanton: They put together the parade during the short two-week turnaround. Appreciates staff, fire department and sheriff department for making last minute tweaks on the parade route.

**Adjournment:**

*Motion by Gardner, second by Dean to adjourn the meeting. Upon voice vote, motion carried unanimously. Mayor Stanton adjourned at 5:53 p.m.*

Respectfully Submitted

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Jamie Wolters, City Clerk