

## STANDISH CITY COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING  
JANUARY 18, 20221. **CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

Mayor King called the regular meeting of the Standish City Council to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor King.

3. **ROLL CALL**

Present: King, Spencer, Link, Cook, Winslow, Rang

Absent: Prout

4. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Mayor King added Deputy Clerk/Treasurer to old business and MDHHS water to new business.

**MOVED** by Rang and supported by Cook to approve the agenda as submitted. The motion carried.

5. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Dennis Whitney- 220 E Cedar St. –

- Informed the Council that the Depo light bill dropped significantly after they switched to LED Christmas lights.
- Sidewalks – would like to see them cleaned on the weekend

6. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES – DECEMBER 21, 2021, REGULAR MEETING**

**MOVED** by Link and supported by Rang to approve the minutes of the December 21, 2021, Regular Meeting as presented.

A roll call vote was taken as follows:

YEAS: King, Spencer, Cook, Rang, Link, Winslow

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Prout

The motion carried.

7. **APPROVAL OF THE BILLS**

**MOVED** by Cook and supported by Rang to pay the invoices for the month of January in the amount of \$38,727.95 and the January Hand Checks in the amount of \$237,128.10.

A roll call vote was taken as follows:

YEAS: Spencer, Cook, Link, Rang, Winslow, King  
 NAYS: None  
 ABSENT: Prout

The motion carried.

## 8. OLD BUSINESS

### A. NORTHEASTERN MANUFACTURING -LAND SALE OFFER

- The board set the price at \$7000 an acre and Mr. Van Wormer counter offered at \$6000 an acre.
  - This offer falls in the range of the previous two sales the city has had in the past.
  - Brad recommends taking the offer.

**MOVED** by Rang and supported by Spencer to accept Mr. Van Wormer's counteroffer of \$6000 an acre.

YEAS: Spencer, Rang, Link, Winslow, Cook, King  
 NAYS: None  
 ABSENT: Prout

The motion carried.

### B. DEBUTY CLERK/TREASURER

- Accepted applications through January 18, 2022
- Set up three interviews on January 17, 2022, with the best applicants received at that time.
  - One interview canceled
  - Proceeded with other 2 interviews.
  - No additional applications were received by the due date
- Brad recommends we hire Keegan Foltz at \$15 an hour for 16 hours a week for a 6-month trial period; after that trial period we can re-evaluate the position.

**MOVED** by Winslow and supported by Rang to hire Keegan Foltz as a part-time Deputy Clerk/Treasurer.

YEAS: Cook, Link, Spencer, Rang, Winslow, King  
 NAYS: None  
 ABSENT: Prout

The motion carried.

## 9. NEW BUSINESS

### A. MARK COUSINS – VARIANCE REQUEST

- Would like to build duplex rental units with-in the city limits.
  - Current ordinance requires 964 square feet for each dwelling.
  - Requesting a variance to allow him to build the units at 672 square feet each.
  - Cousins is planning on building 5 units in the city if the variance is granted.
- Brad – The reason for the 964 square feet ordinance was put into place was to keep mobile homes from coming into the city.

- There is an ordinance that does not allow a mobile home in the city outside of the Missions.
- Currently there is a duplex within the city that does not meet the 964 square feet on each side requirement.

**MOVED** by Rang and supported by Spencer to approve a variance for Marc Cousins units to be built at 672 square feet each.

A roll call vote was taken as follows:

YEAS: Winslow, Cook, Link, Rang, Spencer, King  
 NAYS: None  
 ABSENT: Prout

The motion carried.

**B. AUDIT PRESENTATION, YEO & YEO**

- Was issued an unmodified opinion, clean opinion.
- Fund Balance increase approximately \$82,000
- Revenues exceeded our Expenditures for the year.
- Un-assigned Fund Balance is roughly \$962,000 out of \$1,012,000 that is in the Fund Balance.
  - The city has a healthy Fund Balance
- There were several things that became fully depreciated in the 20/21 fiscal year.

**C. RESOLUTION 22-3, RESOLUTION TO WAIVE PENALTIES FOR NON-FILING OF PROPERTY TRANSFER AFFIDAVITS**

- This is something that the assessor puts penalties together every year to waive property transfer affidavits within the city limits in accordance with state law.

**MOVED** by Winslow and supported by Rang to waive penalties for non-filing of property transfer affidavits.

A roll call vote was taken as follows:

YEAS: Cook, Rang, Link, Spencer, Winslow  
 NAYS: None  
 ABSENT: Prout

The motion carried.

**D. PROCEDURES FOR GRANTING AND REMOVING REAL PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTIONS**

- If someone meets the federal qualifications, they can have their real property tax removed.
  - The qualifications that need to be met are very strict.
- The qualifications list is created by the Federal Government

**MOVED** by Winslow and supported by Rang to approve the procedures for granting and removing real property tax exemptions.

A roll call vote was taken as follows:

YEAS: Link, Cook, Spencer, Winslow, Rang, King

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Prout

The motion carried.

**E. MDHHS WATER**

- Program would provide up to \$650 dollars in assistant to residents that is facing a shutoff notice.
  - Businesses would not qualify for the program.
- Through the State of Michigan’s Health and Human Services Program.
- The city would bear no cost to partake in this program.
  - There is need in our area of this program, number of residences that are behind in their water bill
- The program does have a financial test to make sure people qualify for the program.
- If an individual qualifies for the program and we received a payment for his water. The City cannot turn his water off for 90 days.
- King’s concern is the length of time it will take the State to process the paperwork and issue payment on these accounts that have already received a shutoff notice.
  - While waiting for the paperwork to be processed, do we not shut the water off?
  - What if the resident does not qualify, will this just put them further behind on their bill?
- The Program would like a memorandum signed and returned by Friday January 21, 2022 stating we would like to take part in the program.
  - We have 30 days to opt-out of the program after the memorandum is submitted
- MOU was submitted but until further information is gathered no resident will be submitted to the program
- King asked that this be tabled and placed on the Agenda for the next meeting for further discussion.

**10. CITY MANAGER REPORT**

Mason reported the following:

1. Received a revised contract from the library that is still being reviewed, will have it for the February meeting.

**12. MAYOR & FIRE AUTHORITY REPORT**

King reported the following:

1. There was no Fire Authority Meeting last month
2. At the DDA meeting it was discussed that the sidewalks need to be cleaned on the weekend.
  - The Part-time DPW worker is not under contact and is aware that his hours would vary, the city could very easily have him come in and remove snow from the sidewalks on the weekend.

- Sidewalk’s downtown is a little wider and may need additional passes then currently being made
- 3. DDA is moving forward with additional Veteran Banners.
  - The current banners will be displayed one more time after that the individuals can pay \$200 to have their banners go back up on display or be give the banner for their personal use.
  - DDA is going to purchase a display apprentice that will allow them to sell an additional 50 banners to go with the current 56 available now.
    - DDA receives \$200 a banner with each banner costing \$70 to have made.
      - The is currently a wait list for people to purchase banners

13. **COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS**

- Link the lights on the North side of Cedar St. is out.
  - Mason said that the DPW has worked on them recently and that he would let them know that they were still not working properly.
- Spencer the trees cut on Front St. looks very nice.
  - Mason there is a phase 2 to the trees that have already been removed for other locations in town.

14. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Councilmember Winslow adjourned the regular City Council meeting at 7:28 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Champagne Southworth  
City Clerk

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Kevin King  
Mayor