

**CITY OF WIXOM
49045 PONTIAC TRAIL
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2016**

Deputy Mayor Ziegler called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. at which time the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

At this time, Deputy Mayor Ziegler announced that this meeting was being televised by WLTV. The only portion of tonight's meeting that will not be televised is the Call to the Public.

Present:

Mayor: K. Hinkley (Excused)
Deputy Mayor: R. Ziegler
Councilmembers: P. Beagle
K. Gottschall
N. Kennedy
T. Rzeznik
R. Smiley

AGENDA CHANGES:

Deputy Mayor Ziegler acknowledged Eagle Scout Raul Rangel. He explained that during the summer of 2016, residents of the Indian Wells Subdivision approached the Wixom DPW to discuss possible solutions to prevent the erosion of soil and landscaping material into their retention basin. At about the same time, DPW was approached by Eagle Scout Raul Rangel, who wished to enhance the landscaping area to the west of the drainage ditch for his Eagle Scout project. This project plan included planting several Juniper bushes as ground cover and the installation of approximately five yards of rock.

Josh Springer, President of the Indian Wells Homeowners Association, thanked Mr. Sikma and the DPW for putting in some extra overtime for sweeping up the leaves in their subdivision today and for orchestrating Raul's project with a problem that they had in their subdivision. He said that this highlights a couple of things, including government, community and local businesses working together for a common goal. He complimented Raul because he thought this was a big project. It involved a lot of planning that started in June or July, as well as a can drive that had to be executed to raise money. Their HOA didn't have to pay any extra money to help fund this project. Raul had to coordinate the delivery of the material and who would be working on the project. Mr. Springer thought this exemplifies several principles in scouting like clean, helpful, trustworthy, kind, thrifty and friendly, just to name a few. He said that with folks like Raul, and the time he put into this project, it leaves a lasting impression. Raul will be able to walk by on the soon-to-be Rails to Trails and actually see the impact that he and his troop have had to solve this problem. He thanked Raul.

Raul Rangel thanked the community for all the help. The can drive took a long time. He also thanked those that donated money if they didn't have any cans and those that helped him with his project. He admitted that there was a lot of work that went into this project. He is a senior at Walled Lake Western High School and he is working on his Eagle badge right now.

Councilmember Kennedy asked when he turned 18. Raul stated that he completed the project on October 31st and his birthday was November 8th. Councilmember Kennedy congratulated him and said he looked forward to seeing him at his Eagle Scout Court of Honor.

MINUTES:

CM-11-199-16: Moved and seconded by Councilmembers Kennedy and Smiley to approve the Regular City Council meeting minutes of November 9, 2016.

Vote:

Motion Carried

CORRESPONDENCE: (None)

CALL TO THE PUBLIC:

There were no comments at this time.

CITY MANAGER REPORTS:

1.) Departmental Monthly Reports - October 2016

Councilmember Beagle thanked the First Baptist Church of Wixom for bringing 35 of their students to Gunnar Mettala Park for a fall cleanup in October.

Councilmember Gottschall asked about the BS&A Monthly Report. He wondered if the fiscal 2016-2017 year-to-date permit fees were total fees or our share of the agreement with that vendor. Ms. Stamper assumed it was the total of the permit fees which would be inclusive of both parts.

CONSENT AGENDA:

CM-11-200-16: Moved and seconded made by Councilmember Rzeznik and Beagle to approve the Consent Agenda as presented which included:

- 1.) Approval to receive and file:
 - a.) Zoning Board of Appeals Minutes of September 12, 2016
 - b.) Senior Citizen Commission Minutes of September 20, 2016

Vote:

Motion Carried

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: (None)

NEW BUSINESS:

1.) Consideration of the Mayoral Appointment of Joan Roberts to the Senior Citizens Commission with a Term to Expire June 30, 2019

CM-11-201-16: Moved and seconded by Councilmembers Rzeznik and Kennedy to confirm the Mayor's appointment of Joan Roberts to the Senior Citizens Commission to fill Richard Pype's term which expires on June 30, 2019.

Mrs. Roberts said she has been going to the Senior Center for about a year. Her neighbor had encouraged her to go. She enjoys the activities, including playing cards. After she retired from AT&T, she sold real estate for about ten years. Now

she is taking it easy. She lives across the street and she hoped she would be an asset to the Commission.

Councilmember Beagle thanked her for stepping up.

Vote:

Motion Carried

Deputy Mayor Ziegler thanked her for volunteering and welcomed her to the community.

2.) Consideration of a Contract between the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) and the City of Wixom Agreeing upon the Acquisition of Abandoned Michigan Air-Line Company Right-of-Way from Wixom Road to Haggerty Road Along with the Adoption of an Authorizing Resolution

CM-11-202-16: Moved and seconded by Councilmembers Beagle and Kennedy to adopt the following Authorizing Resolution approving a contract with the Michigan Department of Transportation and Authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to sign the contract on behalf of the City:

**RESOLUTION 2016-69
AUTHORIZING MDOT ACQUISITION CONTRACT**

WHEREAS, on August 22, 2012 the Commerce, Walled Lake, and Wixom Trailway Management Council (Trailway Council) was informed by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) that a Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF) Grant was being offered to the Trailway Council for acquisition of the Michigan Airline Railroad right-of-way, subject to execution of a MNRTF Land Acquisition Project Agreement (Project Agreement) and commitment to a 25 percent local match; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the terms of the Project Agreement, an appraisal of the Michigan Airline Railroad right-of-way was completed and the MDNR informed the Trailway Council that it established a market value for the Michigan Airline Railroad right-of-way in the amount of \$2,610,000; and,

WHEREAS, the Trailway Council has submitted a proposed closing package to the MDNR for its review and approval requesting funding of the purchase of the Michigan Airline Railroad right-of-way for \$2,610,000 together with certain allowable closing costs and reimbursable expenses; and

WHEREAS, the City of Wixom, on behalf of the Trailway Council, has requested and been approved for a Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) grant from the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) to fund the 25 percent local share of the acquisition cost of the Michigan Airline Railroad right-of-way; and

WHEREAS, the MDOT TAP grant will be a reimbursement grant payable to the Trailway Council only after closing; and

WHEREAS, the MDOT has requested the signing of Contract Number 16-5457 and this contract has been reviewed and approved by the attorneys for the Trailway Council and the City of Wixom;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the City of Wixom hereby approve the contract with the Michigan Department of Transportation and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to sign the contract on behalf of the City of Wixom.

Councilmember Rzeznik clarified that from a timing standpoint, the check was actually prepared and ready now. Mr. Sikma said that the full check was ready to go. We have the portion from both Walled Lake and Commerce Township and we will be reimbursed after the sale. The sale is made with our check and this contract is for the reimbursement itself. Councilmember Rzeznik confirmed that the engineering bids would go out in the spring. Mr. Sikma said that was correct. They have reviewed those and they do plan to do that in the spring.

Councilmember Gottschall asked if there was a closing date. Mr. Sikma said that there was no specific date set but he believed it would be mid-January to early February.

Councilmember Kennedy asked if we would be asking for development money from the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund. Mr. Sikma replied that there is that potential. The trails will be as they are now. We will start with the minimum, as he understood it. He did know that Wixom wanted it paved as soon as possible.

Vote:

Motion Carried

3.) Request for Authorization to Purchase a Wheel Loader from Alta Equipment Company of New Hudson, Michigan, in the amount of \$101,385

CM-11-203-16: Moved and seconded by Councilmember Rzeznik and Beagle to award the purchase of the replacement loader to Alta Equipment Company of New Hudson, Michigan in the amount of \$101,385.

Councilmember Beagle stressed that this was a budget item for \$120,000 in this fiscal year budget and the bid came in at \$101,000. He asked what the allowance was for the trade-in. Mr. Sikma indicated that we were getting \$10,000 for the trade-in. He clarified that the AIS bid amount did not include the trade-in, so the actual value there was \$109,467, which included the \$10,000 trade-in value. Both of these bids came in with the same amount. Councilmember Beagle asked if we could do better if we sold it on our own. Mr. Sikma said no, not in the state that it is in. Councilmember Beagle thanked him for giving the Council the three options of what we can do. He said he supported the new loader.

Councilmember Rzeznik thanked him for the time he put into this back in May when the Council made him look at the alternatives with the conveyor to move the product from the barn to the trucks. He knew it was a lot of work but he thought doing that during the budget session made these things much more accountable and transparent to the whole community. He thanked him for all his effort.

Vote:

Motion Carried

CALL TO THE PUBLIC:

Dale Nordstrom, Scout Master with Troop #272 in Milford, said he and Mr. Foster, who is also a Scout Master, were here to support Raul and his project. Also, the Gardinier boys were working on their Citizenship in the Community merit badge.

He added that Eagle Scouts are always looking for Eagle projects so if the DPW is looking for things that need to be done, please contact them. It doesn't cost the City anything and it helps the scouts.

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS:

In the absence of Mr. Goodlein, Ms. Stamper stated Ms. Barker notified her that Kentucky Trailer, of Louisville, KY, with divisions in Walled Lake and New Hudson, purchased the vacant land at 48282 Frank Street. It was their intention to build a 130,000 square foot building to house their Michigan division under one roof. They hoped to begin construction in 2017. She explained that Kentucky Trailer was the successor business to Kentucky Wagon Manufacturing Company which was established in 1878 to manufacture horse-drawn carriages and wagons, which resulted in becoming the largest wagon manufacturer in North America. Kentucky Trailer currently builds high-tech specialty trailers (such as military, motorsports, and mobile medical units). Ms. Stamper stated if there was an interest in attending the memorial service for Dr. Val Vangieson, it would take place on Saturday, December 3rd from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Fishtail Grille, 29710 S. Wixom Road. Additionally, the Wixom Seniors were accepting donations to help the Detroit Veterans Center to keep the Veterans warm this winter. They were collecting new twin size sheets, pillowcases, and blankets and new thermal underwear, sizes large to 2XL. Anyone interested could donate at the Senior Center now through Monday, December 5th. Ms. Stamper wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Councilmember Smiley welcomed Joan Roberts to the Senior Commission and thanked Mr. Pype for his years of service to Wixom and the seniors. He thought it was cool that Wixom was named a 5 star City by eCities for the past nine out ten years.

Councilmember Rzeznik thought the website would be an ideal place to put any ideas for the Eagle Scout Projects and hoped the staff would look into that. He thanked Joan Roberts for volunteering as he thought she'd be a great addition to the Senior Commission. He reminded everyone that the Holiday Markt would be Friday, December 2, and Saturday, December 3rd. He felt the last two years had a great turnout, good music and vendors. He wished everyone a happy and safe Thanksgiving.

Councilmember Kennedy thanked Mrs. Roberts for stepping up and volunteering on the Senior Commission. He thanked Mr. Pype for his years of service to Wixom. He congratulated Raul and wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Councilmember Gottschall wished everyone a safe and enjoyable Thanksgiving and hoped the downtown would be packed for the Holiday Markt. He looked forward to seeing everyone.

Councilmember Beagle thanked Raul for his contribution to the City with his Eagle Scout project. He thanked Mrs. Roberts for volunteering on the Senior Commission. He wished everyone a safe and happy Thanksgiving. He wished the Walled Lake Western football team good luck on Friday as they would travel to Ford Field to compete against the Detroit Martin Luther King High School football team

for the State Championship. He thought it was quite an honor as there were a lot of student athletes on the Western football team from Wixom and he hoped they would win.

Deputy Mayor Ziegler thought it was remarkable that Walled Lake Western was going to the big show downtown and so was Catholic Central. He said to have so much talent in this area was incredible. He echoed the comments from his fellow Councilmembers related to the appointments and other items.

He appreciated the folks from Walled Lake Western TV and welcomed them. He noted that Councilmember Gottschall was upset at the last meeting because he felt that the staff did not utilize WLTV. Deputy Mayor Ziegler reviewed the minutes when this was discussed on June 14, 2016 and he thought that it should be noted the minutes explained that Councilmember Gottschall felt it was an error and issue moving forward for this Council as a policy was adopted to film the meetings without any stipulation as to the number of business or agenda items. When the staff chose not to film Council meetings for any reason, they failed to uphold the intent of the item that Council adopted. Deputy Mayor Ziegler read that Councilmember Gottschall also felt the Council adopted a policy of using the Walled Lake students and WLTV to record their Council meetings and the City Council did not give anyone else the authority to determine which meetings should be recorded and which should not be recorded. At the last meeting, Councilmember Gottschall said all meetings of the Council should be recorded and made accessible to the residents. In addition, Councilmember Gottschall questioned the seriousness with which the policy was being administered given the meeting was not recorded and the policy was adopted months ago. At the last meeting Councilmember Gottschall noted that he expected all future meetings of the Council to be recorded and made available to residents. Deputy Mayor Ziegler said that he reviewed the Council minutes of June 14, 2016 and believed they were pretty thorough on this topic. At one point during that meeting, Councilmember Gottschall withdrew a motion and the next item was a motion by Councilmember Kennedy and seconded by Councilmember Rzeznik to utilize the Walled Lake School District to video and broadcast eight of the Wixom City Council meetings a year at no cost to the City and the motion carried unanimously. Deputy Mayor Ziegler recalled that happening but did not want to bring it up at the last meeting as he wanted to be sure that his memory served him right. He recalled recording of the Council meetings would be on a trial period and if you read the minutes you would find that they talked about it being a trial period to see how it would work out. He did not think it was appropriate for anyone from the dais to talk down to the City Manager's employees relative to any decisions they might have made. He felt it might be helpful for those people that were interested in watching the meetings of Council on TV, or that may already be watching the meetings, to call the City Manager's office or Clerk's office and let them know so we would be aware that there was an interest in recording these meetings. He opened up the microphone for a response from Councilmember Gottschall; however, Councilmember Gottschall had no response.

Deputy Mayor Ziegler wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 7:34 p.m.

Catherine Buck
City Clerk

Approved 12-13-2016
