CALL TO ORDER
Deputy Mayor John Milewski called the Regular Meeting of City Council to order at 7 PM and led with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL
Roll call revealed Councilmembers John Milewski, Jeff Winters, Tim Lee, Richard Starr, Tom Millard, Janice Gustafson, Troy Waterman and Mayor Balice (arrived at 7:01 PM) present. Councilmember Gordon Kelley was excused.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
It was moved by Councilmember Millard, seconded by Councilmember Lee to approve the January 7, 2020 regular meeting minutes.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Milewski, Winters, Lee, Starr, Millard, Gustafson, Waterman and Mayor Balice
Nays: None
MOTION CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS
Presentation – Future Use of Ionia Community Library Building
The City Manager reported that at the August 2020 primary election the Ionia Community Library will be requesting voter approval of a millage to construct a new library building on property owned by the City and located at the south east corner of Adam and Steele Streets. There is a group of volunteers actively promoting a favorable vote of the millage question. As part of their efforts, they have started discussions regarding the future use of the current library building (sometimes referred to as the Hall-Fowler Home). The City Manager stated that the City owns the building. One concept for the future use of the building is as a local history museum. Kathleen Cook from the Ionia County Historical Society was at the Council Meeting to share with Council the Society’s vision for the future use of the building as a museum. The City Manager stated that the ICHS will eventually be requesting Council’s preliminary approval of the concept of using the building as a museum should the library millage pass. This preliminary approval will likely come in the form of a three-party Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the City, Library and Historical Society which provides basic details of the use of the building as a museum. Although not an owner or
future occupant, the Library’s involvement in the MOU is based on its recent commitment to use of a portion of the new library millage, should it pass, as “seed money” for the new museum. Their total commitment is $150,000 ($50,000 per year for three years).

Council received information and no action was taken.

Receive – 2019 Granger Annual Report
The City Manager stated that the Domestic Refuse and Recycling Collection Agreement between the City and Granger requires that a representative of Granger “annually provide the City with a report of its performance under this Agreement at a City Council meeting…” Scott Truman, Sales and Marketing Manager for Granger Waste Services, was present at the meeting to present information to Council regarding Granger’s collection activities in the City during 2019.

Council received update and no action was taken.

Adopt – MDOT Contract – Steele Street Reconstruction Project Grant
The City Manager reported that project plans have been finalized and submitted to MDOT for the reconstruction of Steele Street (Adams Street to Dexter Street) during the 2020 construction season. A portion of the project ($375,000) will be covered by a STP-Small Urban grant that the City has received with the estimated remainder of the project cost ($1,670,738) being covered by reserves held by the City’s Major Street, Water and Sewer Funds. As with other STP-Small Urban projects that the City has completed in the past (ie – Ycomans Street, Mill Street) MDOT handles the bidding process and ultimately selects the contractor. MDOT enters into a contract with the contractor based on the MDOT/City contract.

The City Manager stated that project plans will be available to bidders in early March with bids being opened in early April. Work may begin as early as May 4th but regardless of the start date, must be completed by October 30th (and, once work begins, must be completed in 124 calendar days).

It was moved by Councilmember Winters, seconded by Councilmember Milewski to adopt the following prepared Resolution:

RESOLVED to approve the contract between the City of Ionia and the Michigan Department of Transportation for the reconstruction of Steele Street from Adams Street to Dexter Street (Job#132895) and authorize the City Manager to sign the contract for the project on behalf of the City.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Winters, Lee, Starr, Millard, Gustafson, Waterman, Milewski and Mayor Balice
Nays: None
MOTION CARRIED
Authorize – Street Administrator to Certify 2019 Street Mileage Map
The City Manager reported that the Michigan Department of Transportation requires local road agencies to annually certify their street mileage. The miles certified are used to calculate the amount of revenue that each municipality receives for its street funds in the form of Gas and Weight Tax.

No changes to the map are necessary this year with the number of major street miles remaining at 8.66 and the number of local street miles remaining at 17.85.

It was moved by Councilmember Winters, seconded by Councilmember Waterman to authorize the Street Administrator to certify the 2019 Act 51 Street Mileage Map.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Lee, Starr, Millard, Gustafson, Waterman, Milewski, Winters and Mayor Balice
Nays: None
MOTION CARRIED

MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS
Balice: Stated that Sparrow continues to perform at an exceptional level.

Millard: Expressed his concerns about the MDOT traffic signal study that is currently underway at the Dexter Street/Washington Street intersection.

Starr: Stated that the Hall-Fowler home and his own home were both designed by the same man. He acknowledged that if the Hall-Fowler home continues to be a library, the City may need to look into plans to ensure it is maintained properly for future use.

Milewski: Said that the new location of the Chamber’s Community Awards was a pleasant surprise. Also stated that although it is now 2020, Project Rising Tide subcommittees are still meeting and working toward goals.

ADJOURNMENT
It was moved by Councilmember Lee, seconded by Councilmember Millard to adjourn the regular meeting at 7:50 PM.

By Voice Vote: MOTION CARRIED

Respectfully Submitted:

Ally H. Cook, Clerk