



CITY OF IONIA
CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
April 9, 2019
CITY HALL - COUNCIL CHAMBER

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Daniel Balice called the regular meeting of the City Council to order at 7:00 PM and led with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Roll call revealed that Councilmembers John Milewski, Jeff Winters, Gordon Kelley, Ted Paton, Tom Millard, Janice Gustafson, Troy Waterman and Mayor Balice present. Councilmember Kim Patrick was excused.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Councilmember Paton, seconded by Councilmember Millard to approve the March 5, 2019 regular meeting minutes.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Milewski, Winters, Kelley, Paton, Millard, Gustafson, Waterman and Mayor Balice.

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS

Approve – 2018 Housing Commission Annual Report

Katie Bennett, Executive Director of the City's Housing Commission, presented the Housing Commission's 2018 Annual Report. The City Manager stated that the Annual Report is required by Section 278.06 of the City Code.

It was moved by Councilmember Millard, seconded by Councilmember Paton to receive and place on file the 2018 Housing Commission Annual Report.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Winters, Kelley, Paton, Millard, Gustafson, Waterman, Milewski, Mayor Balice

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED

Approve – 2018 Downtown Development Annual Report

Mike Kirgis and Linda Curtis of the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) presented the DDA's 2018 Annual Report. The City Manager stated that the Annual Report is required by the DDA's Rules of Procedure.

It was moved by Councilmember Milewski, seconded by Councilmember Winters to receive and place on file the 2018 Annual Report of the Downtown Development Authority.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Kelley, Paton, Millard, Gustafson, Waterman, Milewski, Winters,
 Mayor Balice
 Nays: None
 MOTION CARRIED

Approve – 2019 Independence Holiday Fireworks Permit

The City Manager reported that the DDA will be sponsoring the annual Independence Holiday fireworks display on Wednesday, July 3, 2019 (with a Friday, July 5, 2019 rain date). The DDA again retained the services of Melrose Pyrotechnics, Kingsbury, Indiana, to provide and launch the display. As in the past the fireworks will be launched from the in-field area at the fairgrounds. The City Manager stated that the firm has handled the annual display for many years and we have not had any problems with the practices utilized by the firm in launching the fireworks or the quality of the display. Melrose has provided us with the necessary insurance endorsements with the City, DDA and Free Fair Association all named as additional insured. Public Act 358 of 1968, as amended, requires a local governmental unit to grant a permit so that the fireworks may be launched.

It was moved by Councilmember Millard, seconded by Councilmember Gustafson to approve the Permit for Fireworks Display to Melrose Pyrotechnics, Kingsbury, Indiana for the launching of fireworks on Wednesday, July 3, 2019 in the in-field of the Ionia Free Fair Grounds.

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

Approve – Scheduling a Special Meeting to Review Proposed Budget

The City Manager reported that, as in the past, he would like Council to schedule a special meeting for the purpose of reviewing the proposed FY19-20 City budget. For the past several years Council has met for this purpose prior to the regular May meeting. The City Manager proposed that Council again take this approach and meet at 5:30 PM, Tuesday, May 7, 2019 with the regular meeting to follow at 7:00 PM.

It was moved by Councilmember Paton, seconded by Councilmember Winters to schedule a Special City Council Meeting for 5:30 PM, Tuesday, May 7, 2019 for the purpose of reviewing the proposed FY19-20 budget.

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

Approve – Distribution of the Draft Master Plan for Review Period

The City Manager stated that for over a year the Planning Commission has been working with Main Street Planning Company in reviewing and updating the City’s 2017 Master Plan. State statute requires that a municipality complete a review of its master plan every five years. This mandatory review resulted in the Planning Commission completing a fairly major overhaul of the current plan including setting new goals and strategies for the next five years. Although the Commission will ultimately be the body which approves the updated plan, City Council approval is required in order for the Commission to distribute the plan to neighboring municipalities, county planning commission and regional planning commission for the statutorily required 63 day review and comment period. At its March 13th meeting the Commission took action to recommend to Council that the plan be distributed for review and comment.

It was moved by Councilmember Kelley, seconded by Councilmember Winters to accept the recommendation of the Planning Commission and authorize the Planning Commission’s Secretary to distribute the proposed City of Ionia 2019 Master Plan for review and comment per MCL 125.3841.

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

Approve -- Introduction and First Reading – Ordinance No. 540 – Special Permits – Alcohol Consumptions – Streets

The City Manager stated that the City received a request from the Chamber of Commerce for a City Code amendment which permits the City Manager to grant special permits for the consumption of alcoholic beverages on any street. A street is defined as a street, alley, boulevard and city-owned parking lot. Currently, special permits for consumption can be issued for events held at parks only. The Chamber has requested this change based on a desire to host a beer tent on Main Street as part of the annual car show.

It was moved by Councilmember Millard, seconded by Councilmember Paton to permit the record to reflect the introduction and first reading of Ordinance No. 540, an amendment to Chapters 606

and 1020 of the City Code, to permit a special permitting process for the consumption of alcoholic beverages on City streets and to schedule a Public Hearing on the proposed amendment for 7:00 PM, Tuesday, May 7, 2019 in the Council Chamber of City Hall.

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

MAYOR AND CITY COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS

Balice: Mentioned that he has been appointed to the Sparrow Health System Board which is another example of Sparrow's commitment to the community.

Waterman: Commented that he's heard a lot of positive remarks from community members about the Trailhead Park and that he's glad to see so many people out using it.

Millard: Mentioned that our community has been remarkable in the support and fundraising measures for two very good causes: Peyton Dennis and John Wing's fundraiser for Soaring Above.

Milewski: Stated that the "Off to the Races" Charity Ball will be held at the Armory on April 27th and proceeds will benefit both Sparrow and the Dolly Parton Imagination Library.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Councilmember Millard, seconded by Councilmember Winters to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Ally H. Cook, Clerk