

H.COMMUNICATIONS:

1. Upcoming Meeting List
2. Sign Calendar

Question - Did we eliminate the Healthy Community Steering Committee? (Yes, and it will be removed from future Meeting Calendars.)

I. REPORTS

1. Finance Director/Treasurer – Marie Sherry

Ms. Sherry submits her written report as per packet. Ms. Sherry answered questions and gave the following updates:

- Closed a Certificate of Deposit account and reinvested it into a shorter-term CD.
- Question - There is a “City’s” typo on page 14. (Yes, it is a typo.)
- Question - Did you receive a phone call from a resident about the Huron Commons Fire and their valuation? (That person spoke to the City Assessor. The valuation date is December 31st. Because the fire occurred after that date, there is no method to change or reduce the valuation. If the homes are not rebuilt by December 31st of 2016, then there will be a change.)
- Assessment notices will go out in a few weeks.

2. Public Services Superintendent – Dan Schlaff

Mr. Schlaff submits his written report as per packet. Mr. Schlaff answered questions and gave the following updates:

- Question – Did we buy more bows? (We purchased 26 bows to finish this budget. We have \$5,000 budgeted for next Fiscal Year.)
- Question – How long do batteries in Meter Transceiver Units (MXUs) last? (It depends on the weather, but usually a couple of years.)
- Question – What were the LED (light emitting diode) replacements for? (There are a number of locations throughout the City, but these were along Jeffords. We are also testing different LEDs along Central St.)
- The City is still working with Fleis and Vanderbrink on a response to NUBCO. The City is still working on sampling and data collection.
- Contacted DTE about electricity usage with regard to the blower. We will be using less energy because of the BFD, so we are trying to get a substantial rebate for energy savings.

3. Community Development Manager – Michelle Aniol

Ms. Aniol submits her report as per packet.

- Mayor Keough asked a question to Council Member Smith – How did the pro/con discussion go? (It went well. Michelle did a good job of explaining the information.)

Ms. Aniol gave the following updates and answered questions:

- We received a request from the MDEQ about underground storage tanks at 3045 Broad. I asked Tom Wackerman about it, and apparently they are trying

to close several open accounts. They are looking to sample in order to verify that remediation needs to take place, or to close the account. Unfortunately, they will not be doing a full site analysis. We need to let them know that the property is under consideration for redevelopment and all activities will comply with Part 201 and Part 213.

- Met with a resident on 3rd Street about the unimproved Kensington right-of-way. The resident would like the City to vacate a portion of the right-of-way so that they can make improvements to their property and so that they do not have to park in the right-of-way.
- Question – Is this a case of adverse possession? (I have not gotten that sense from the resident.)
- There will be planning and zoning training on Monday, March 5th for elected officials. Carlisle-Wortman will be conducting the training.
- I will be meeting with A.R. Brower and Foremost about the Community Revitalization Program, which may provide an opportunity to fill in funding gaps for some of our projects.
- A.R. Brower is hosting an Open House on Wed, Feb 17th, from 7:00 – 9:00 pm, at the Dexter District Library. The purpose of the Open House is to share information with the community regarding the proposed redevelopment project at the southwest corner of Grand St and Baker Rd.

4. Boards, Commissions. & Other Reports-“Bi-annual or as needed”

Sgt. Fox of the Washtenaw County Sheriff’s Department provided a January Written Report to Council. Discussion followed.

- There was an armed robbery Saturday night – Sunday morning at Mugg and Bopps. There is video of the event.

5. Subcommittee Reports

Facilities

- The Facilities Committee met on Friday and talked about different options.
- The architect refined an option to renovate the existing Fire Station. This reduced the cost by about \$500,000. Now he is working on refining an option to put the City Office there. This should be done for March, then there will be a report to City Council.

6.City Manager Report

Ms. Nicholls submitsher report as per packet. Ms. Nicholls gave the following updates and answered questions:

- Staff wanted to determine the direction that Council wants to take with drone regulation before developing ordinance language. I spoke with Mrs. Tuscano, and we have not received any calls or questions about it. Discussion about a potential drone ordinance followed.
- Mr. Breyer commented that Council should submit Parks and Recreation Master Plan comments before Friday, February 12th.
- Met with Kurt who spoke with a representative of Dornvost about replacing signs. It was staff’s impression from those meetings that it would make sense to put aluminum coverings over existing signs because all of the City’s signage is different.

- Question – Do we want to standardize them? (It would be more expensive.)
- Question – How much do we have in the budget? (Nothing.)
- Council expressed an interest in receiving quotes for both: leaving the signs as-is, and standardizing them.
- The Art Selection Committee will meet on February 24th.
- DTE sent a notice of tree trimming. Home owners will be informed if their tree is going to be trimmed.
- Ms. Nichols, Ms. Fisher, and Mr. Smith met with Faith in Action. They are looking for 1,500 square feet of permanent space.
 - Question – Did you offer alternative options? (Yes, many.)
- The Road Committee will need to meet to talk about the next round of 2016 road projects.
 - Question – Did we cut any projects? (Yes, from Highway Maintenance. We will need to reassess projects.)
- Met with John Kingsley about 8180 Main St. Scio Township indicated that they would sign off, but Webster Township indicated that they would prefer a 425 agreement. John Kingsley is concerned about setting a precedent, but he agreed to take it to the Webster Township Board as a resolution.
 - Question – Is the building close to the property line? (Yes, it is almost on top of it.)
 - The City could take the 8180 Main St. issue to the State Boundary Commission; John Kingsley indicated that they would likely not object to the State. It could have been drawn into the City had the previous owner not objected. Council expressed the opinion that the matter should be kept simple and that the property should not remain empty.

7. Mayor's Report

Mr. Keough submits his report as per packet. Mr. Keough gave the following updates:

- Would like to check dates for goal setting.
- Question – Will I get birthday cake? (Yes.)
- Goal setting sessions are set for March 2nd and March 19th. Councilmembers expressed the opinion that it should not be held later than 6:00pm.
- The pre-development agreement with Foremost has been reviewed and the Committee is close to completing a draft to go back to Foremost. The goal is to have something to the DDA before they meet on the 18th.

J. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Consideration of: Bills and Payroll in the amount of \$132,802.03

Motion Fisher; support Smith to approve item 1 of the Consent Agenda.

Unanimous voice vote approval.

K. OLD BUSINESS-Consideration and Discussion of:

None

L. NEW BUSINESS-Considerationof and Discussion of:

1. Consideration of: 2015-2016 2nd Quarter Budget Amendments

Motion Tell; support Fisher to approve the 2015-2016 2nd Quarter Budget Amendments as presented by the Treasurer.

Ayes: Knight, Smith, Carson, Fisher, Tell, Michels, and Keough
Nays: None
Motion carries

2. Consideration of: Proposal from Smith Group JJR to Assist with Michigan Natural Resource Trust Fund Grant

Motion Fisher; support Knight to approve the proposal from SmithGroupJJR for Tasks One and Two in an amount not to exceed \$20,100.

Ayes: Smith, Carson, Fisher, Tell, Michels, Knight, and Keough
Nays: None
Motion carries

3. Consideration of: Parks and Recreation Commission Recommendation to Provide Trout Unlimited with a Letter of Support for the Creation of a Path in Mill Creek Park

Motion Fisher; support Smith to approve providing Trout Unlimited with a letter of support for building steps, weed whacking a path to the steps at the presented locations, and placing warning signage at the entrance to the path, with conditions that staff have the opportunity to review any plans and specifications, and that Trout Unlimited meet all MDEQ requirements.

Ayes: Carson, Fisher, Tell, Michels, Knight, Smith, and Keough
Nays: None
Motion carries

4. Consideration of: Parks and Recreation Commission Recommendation to Partner with the Washtenaw Area Transportation Study (WATS) for the Purchase and Installation of Pedestrian Counters on Dexter Walking Paths

Motion Smith; support Carson to approve entering into an agreement with the Washtenaw Area Transportation Study whereby WATS will purchase two pedestrian counters and the City will provide installation and maintenance to the system.

Ayes: Fisher, Tell, Michels, Knight, Smith, Carson, and Keough
Nays: None
Motion carries

5. Consideration of: Bid Award for 2016-2017 Tree Planting to Ann Arbor Landscaping and Increase in Tree Planting Budget

Motion Tell; support Fisher toward the bid for 2016 – 2017 Tree Planting to Ann Arbor Landscaping and to authorize an increase in the Tree Planting Budget authorize in the amount of \$4,000 from the City’s Tree Fund.

Ayes: Tell, Michels, Knight, Smith, Carson, and Fisher

Nays: Keough

Motion carries

M. COUNCIL COMMENTS

Fisher There was discussion at the Arts, Culture, and Heritage Committee meeting about the proposed sculptures. I would recommend looking at the proposed locations. They are big sculptures. The pole for the bicycle sculpture is 25 feet high.

- Question – Is there something at Lion’s Park now? (No, but you should look at the location of the proposed sculpture.)

Knight The light in the alley between 3rd and 4th Streets is out. Do we report that to DTE? (Yes.)

Michels Another community started a safe trade area with lights and cameras for Craigslist at their police station. Is that something that we should investigate? (Discussion followed.) Michelle, do you have adequate direction from Council? (Yes.) Commented that he grew up in an area with a good tree program. People used to burn leaves.

Jones None

Carson None

Smith None

Tell None

Deleted: Fisher

Deleted:

N. NON-ARRANGED PARTICIPATION

Fire Chief Robert Smith – Stated that there has been a successful injunction filed in U.S. District Court against P.A. 269 (the “gag order” bill). The injunction suspends enforcement by the State against local officials for using public resources to communicate with voters. He then spoke about the Communications Millage on the March 8 ballot. Mr. Smith stated that if the millage doesn’t pass, then the Dexter Fire Department will need to fund its own communications improvements.

O.ADJOURNMENT

Motion Smith; support Carson to adjourn at 9:17PM.

Unanimous voice vote approval.

Respectfully submitted,

Justin Breyer
Asst. to the City Manager, City of Dexter

Approved for Filing: _____