

**THE CITY OF DEXTER  
REGULAR VIRTUAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
MONDAY, APRIL 13, 2020**

**A. CALL TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The City Council Meeting was called to order at 6:04 PM by Mayor Keough held via an online video conference call permitted by executive order of Michigan Governor Whitmer.

**B. ROLL CALL:** Mayor Keough

|            |            |
|------------|------------|
| S. Bell    | P. Cousins |
| D. Fisher  | J. Knight  |
| Z. Michels | J. Smith   |

Student Representatives:

A. Covert -AB  
I. Malek

Also present at Council Meeting: Courtney Nicholls, City Manager; Marie Sherry, Treasurer/Finance Director/Assessor; Michelle Aniol, Community Development Manager; Dan Schlaff, Public Services Superintendent; Justin Breyer, City Clerk and Assistant to the Manager; Mike Auerbach, Assistant Planner; Robert Smith, Dexter Area Fire Department Chief; Carol Jones, Recording Secretary; Marcus McNamara and Patrick Droze, OHM; residents and media.

**C. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:**

1. Special City Council Meeting – March 18, 2020
2. Regular City Council Meeting – March 23, 2020

Motion Smith; support Knight to approve the minutes of the March 18, 2020 Special City Council Meeting and the March 23, 2020 Regular City Council Meeting as presented.

Unanimous voice vote approval.

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**D. PRE-ARRANGED PARTICIPATION:**

None

**E. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:**

Motion Bell support Fisher to approve the agenda as presented.

Unanimous voice vote approval.

**F. PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

None

## **G. NON-ARRANGED PARTICIPATION:**

Cole Miller of 7654 Forest Street asked if the City could send out a letter to all registered voters to encourage them to sign up for absentee voting for the coming elections.

Chris Knight Utilities Instrument Services requested that the Final Combined Site Plan for UIS on the agenda be postponed until the April 27, 2020 meeting due to issues with an easement on the property.

## **H. COMMUNICATIONS:**

1. Upcoming Meeting List
2. Letter from Comcast
3. Michigan State Housing Development Authority Letter Regarding Hilltop View Apartments
4. Distinguished Budget Presentation Award
5. Washtenaw County Notice Re: Proposed Hilltop View Apartments

## **I. REPORTS:**

1. Public Services Superintendent – Dan Schlaff

Mr. Schlaff submits his written report as per packet. Mr. Schlaff provided the following updates:

- The DPW and Wastewater Treatment Plant have done a good job with their restricted staffing. I hope to be able to go back to regular staffing by the end of the month.
- I anticipate more twigs and branches to pick up after today's wind.
- The phosphorus and BOD rates are down and treatment has been adjusted to save money.
- There have been virtual/phone meetings on completion of previous projects (Central and Forest Streets) but waiting until the restrictions are lifted to complete the punch lists.

2. Community Development Manager – Michelle Aniol

Ms. Aniol submits her written report as per packet. Ms. Aniol provided the following updates:

- Planning Commission did recommend approval of the Final PUD site plan for Hilltop View Apartments at its meeting. It will be on Council's April 27, 2020 agenda.
- Staff continues to update resources for our local businesses and we have received thank yous from the Painted Trout and Doug Marrin for keeping people informed.
- A new update from SEMCOG is coming out and it will be forwarded to Council.

3. Board, Commission & Other Reports

Washtenaw County Sheriff – March Written Report included in packet

Dexter Area Chamber of Commerce – Council Member Cousins reported that the Dexter Chamber is looking for a way to update people on those businesses that are open.

4. Subcommittee Reports

None

5. City Manager Report – Courtney Nicholls

Ms. Nicholls submits her written report as per packet. Ms. Nicholls provided the following updates:

- Meetings are able to continue with the use of the virtual meeting system.
- The Sheriff's Department started 12 hour shifts today.
- I had a request from a resident for backyard chickens; however zoning does not permit for this request.
- Mayor Keough thanked Courtney and staff for their work and handling things during the pandemic.

6. Mayor Report – Shawn Keough

Mr. Keough submits his written report as per packet. Mr. Keough provided the following update:

- Visible services in the City are continuing. There was a recent comment regarding maintaining City landscape. Our landscaper does work alone and will continue her maintenance services.

7. Council Member Reports

- a. Council Member Cousins – Council Member Cousins submitted his report as per packet.

**J. CONSENT AGENDA:**

1. Consideration of: Bills and Payroll in the amount of \$666,776.26
2. Consideration of: Placement of Delinquent Utilities on Tax Roll
3. Consideration of: Changing the Date of the Dexter Ann Arbor Run to Monday, September 7, 2020

Motion Fisher; support Smith to approve items 1, 2 and 3 of the Consent Agenda.

Ayes: Michels, Knight, Bell, Fisher, Cousins, Smith and Keough

Nays: None

Motion carries

**K. OLD BUSINESS-Consideration and Discussion of:**

None

**L. NEW BUSINESS-Consideration and Discussion of:**

1. Consideration of: Recommendations from Planning Commission to Approve the Final Combined Site Plan of UIS

Motion Fisher; support Knight to postpone action on the recommendation until the April 27, 2020 meeting.

Ayes: Cousins, Fisher, Smith, Bell Michels, Knight and Keough

Nays: None

Motion carries

2. Consideration of: Recommendation from Planning Commission to Adopt the 2020-2025 Capital Improvements Plan

Motion Smith; support Michels to approve the 2020-2025 CIP Resolution of Adoption with an amendment to make changes in the ratings of the Fire Department and the Mill Creek Park map.

Ayes: Bell, Fisher, Knight, Cousins, Smith, Michels and Keough

Nays: None

Motion carries

3. Consideration of: Increase to Grand St. Design Scope of Work from OHM for an Amount Not to Exceed \$23,000

Motion Knight; support Michels to approve the additional fee request from OHM to the Scope of Work on Grand Street for an amount not to exceed \$23,000.

Ayes: Knight, Fisher, Michels, Smith, Bell, Cousins and Keough

Nays: None

Motion carries

4. Discussion of: Item/s Related to Charter Amendment Proposal

This item was changed to a discussion item. Mr. Breyer reviewed changes in the ballot language for the Charter Amendment Proposal and he reviewed the process and next steps for the proposal. Discussion followed.

5. Discussion of: Coronavirus Updates

Ms. Nicholls reviewed and discussed the following updates during the Coronavirus:

- Many communities are not picking up yard waste at present time,
- The following events have been cancelled – Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony and the Arbor Day Celebration, although this may be held in the fall,

- Extend temporary signage to Dexter Crossing businesses and across the road like what was done downtown to let people know who is open, and
- Schools would like to tie ribbons to trees for recognition, which will be presented at the next meeting.

Council Member Michels inquired what more the City could do during this time. Ms. Aniol responded based on the comments made by businesses when surveyed was the need for financial assistance, sanitizer and transitioning to an online platform. Also mentioned the need for a morale booster for the community.

Mayor Keough left the meeting at 7 PM and Mayor Pro-Tem Cousins presided over the balance of the meeting,

**M. COUNCIL COMMENTS:**

|         |  |
|---------|--|
| Bell    | None   |
| Fisher  | None   |
| Smith   | None   |
| Knight  | Thank you to the staff for all of their hard work during covid-19. |
| Michels | I can't believe that our City Ordinances do not cover pandemics.   |
| Cousins | None   |
| Malek   | None   |
| Covert  | Absent   |

**N. NON-ARRANGED PARTICIPATION:**

Jim McCargar of 3580 ~~Second~~Hudson Street gave his kudos to Mr. Schlaff and his staff for all of their work; commented that the CIP is a great piece of work with clear formatting and showing clear priorities although the Fire Department section may be out of date; the vote in August for the Charter update is usually an election with a smaller turnout; and thanked Council for all the work that they do.

**O. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion Smith; support Fisher to adjourn the meeting at 7:07 PM with Mayor Keough absent.

Unanimous voice vote approval.

Respectfully submitted,  
Justin Breyer

City Clerk and Assistant to the City Manager

Approved for Filing: \_\_\_\_\_