

**THE CITY OF DEXTER  
REGULAR VIRTUAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
MONDAY, MARCH 22, 2021**

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

The City Council Meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Mayor Keough held via an online Zoom conference call permitted by State of Michigan law.

**B. ROLL CALL:**

Paul Cousins – Present remotely in the City of Dexter, Michigan, arriving at 6:23 PM.

Donna Fisher – Present remotely in the City of Alma, Michigan.

Jamie Griffin – Present remotely in the City of Dexter, Michigan.

Wa-Louisa Hubbard – Present remotely in the City of Dexter, Michigan.

Julie Knight – Present remotely in the City of Dexter, Michigan.

Zach Michels – Present remotely in the City of Dexter, Michigan.

Shawn Keough – Present remotely in the City of Dexter, Michigan.

Student Representatives:

Alex Gilbert – Present remotely in Webster Township, Michigan.

Isabella Malek – Present remotely in the City of Dexter, Michigan.

Also attending remotely at Council Meeting: Justin Breyer, Interim City Manager and City Clerk; Dan Schlaff, Public Services Superintendent; Michelle Aniol, Community Development Manager; Michael Auerbach, Assistant Planner; Carol Jones, Recording Secretary; Scott Munzel, City Attorney; Tom Colis, Miller Canfield; Robert Smith, Dexter Area Fire Department Chief; residents; and media.

**C. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:**

1. City Council Work Session – March 6, 2021
2. Regular City Council Meeting – March 8, 2021
3. City Council Work Session – March 10, 2021

Motion Knight; support Griffin to approve the minutes of the City Council Work Session of March 6, 2021, the minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting of March 8, 2021, and the minutes of the City Council Work Session of March 10, 2021 with the following corrections:

- Page 1, under Agenda Items Discussed, change “Public” to “public” and add the words “Summary of” in front of Council Comments.
- Page 2, under Sale of Equipment, correct the word “battering” to “bartering”.
- Page 4, under Mr. Schlaff’s Report, bullet point one, correct the word “but” to “put”.
- Page 7, under Old Business Item K-2, in the motions remove the word “the” and correct the word “on” to “of”.
- Page 7 under New Business Item L-3, correct the word “possible” to “possibly”.

- Page 11, in the heading; remove the words “Goal Setting”.

Ayes: Michels, Knight, Griffin, Hubbard, Fisher and Keough

Nays: None

Absent: Cousins

Motion carries

#### **D. PRE-ARRANGED PARTICIPATION:**

1. Rebecca Szetela, Michigan Redistricting Commission

Ms. Szetela presented information on Michigan’s New Redistricting Process that has come about through a 2018 voter passed proposal for non-partisan redistricting of the U.S. Congressional, Michigan House, and Michigan Senate districts.

2. Jim Carson, Senior Center President

Mr. Carson spoke to Council about the current situation facing the Dexter Senior Center. They are looking to reopen their doors and are in need of funding for the program. They were able to operate the Meals on Wheels program over the past year. However, other programs were closed. The resources for the Senior Center are limited. Mr. Carson spoke of how funding was obtained in the past and the need to explore other avenues for funding going forward. Discussion followed.

#### **E. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:**

Motion Fisher; support Knight to approve the agenda as presented.

Ayes: Hubbard, Cousins, Michels, Griffin, Fisher, Knight and Keough

Nays: None

Motion carries

#### **F. PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

None

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

Chuck Colby of 9470 Dexter-Pinckney Road, Pinckney spoke to Council as a member of the Dexter Area Chamber of Commerce Board. He announced that the Chamber is planning to hold the Summer Event Series with attendees wearing masks and social distancing. An application for the series will be coming next month. He also mentioned that the Chamber is encouraging local merchants to remain open on Friday evenings.

#### **H. COMMUNICATIONS:**

1. Upcoming Meeting List

Mr. Breyer reported that there will not be a Work Session on March 27, 2021.

## I. REPORTS:

### 1. Public Services Superintendent – Dan Schlaff

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

- We have found a home for the woodchips at the outside the gate to the Wastewater Treatment Plant, and signage has been posted for the site.
- During the week of April 5, 2021, we will be doing maintenance on the flushing of fire hydrants. There will be a notice in the City email update.
- I met with the contractors for Hilltop View and mapped out the proposed driveway, a parking area, and an area where the waterline will be placed. We have also done sampling of the water main.

### 2. Community Development Manager – Michelle Aniol and Mike Auerbach

Ms. Aniol submits her written report as per packet. Mr. Auerbach reported that there were no new updates at this time.

### 3. Board, Commission & Other Reports

Washtenaw County Sheriff – report included in the packet

### 4. Subcommittee Reports

None

### 5. City Manager Report – Justin Breyer

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

- At the end of this week, the Parks and Recreation Commission will begin a modified Easter Egg Hunt in the parks.
- We are looking to do a controlled burn of the rain gardens tomorrow evening.
- I spoke to Julia Roberts from WAVE and she is planning on attending the next City Council meeting.
- The agreement has been signed with St. Andrew's Church for meeting space.
- The City has received a request from the Seventh Day Adventists to go door-to-door in June and July.

### 6. Mayor Report – Shawn Keough

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

- Mayor Keough read a proclamation in recognition of Council Member Knight as she steps down from City Council.
- The March 27, 2021 workshop has been moved to a later date.
- The City Manager Committee will be meeting on April 2, 2021 to review applications for the City Manager position.
- On Friday I get my first COVID shot.

- Mayor Keough explained the circumstances that led to the announced changes with the location of Dexter Daze and thanked Council Members Hubbard and Knight for doing their part to work with the group. Discussion followed.

7. Council Member Reports – Jamie Griffin

Ms. Griffin shared information from SEMCOG regarding a webinar on surveying.

**J. CONSENT AGENDA**

1. Consideration of: Bills and Payroll in the amount of \$618,128.95
2. Consideration of: Recommendation from Art Selection Committee – Temporary Sculpture Display
3. Consideration of: Arbor Day Proclamation
4. Consideration of: Arts, Culture, and Heritage Committee Bicentennial Request

Motion Fisher; support Cousins to approve items 1, 2, 3 and 4 of the Consent Agenda.

Ayes: Fisher, Michels, Knight, Cousins, Griffin, Hubbard and Keough

Nays: None

Motion carries

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

*Item postponed from a previous meeting*

1. Consideration of: Public Alley Vacation Request from Mike Penn  
Recommendation to Postpone

Motion Cousins; support Griffin to postpone action on the public alley vacation request from Mike Penn until the April 12, 2021 meeting.

Ayes: Griffin, Michels, Fisher, Hubbard, Knight, Cousins and Keough

Nays: None

Motion carries

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

1. Consideration of: High School Seniors Processional

Motion Michels; support Fisher to approve the Park Use / Road Closure Permit for the Graduating High School Seniors Vehicle Processional on May 23, 2021.

Ayes: Knight, Fisher, Hubbard, Michels, Griffin, Cousins and Keough

Nays: None

Motion carries

2. Consideration of: Notice of Intent to Bond Resolution – Capital Improvement Bond

Motion Fisher; support Knight to adopt the Notice of Intent Resolution Capital Improvement Bonds.

Ayes: Cousins, Knight, Hubbard, Fisher, Michels, Griffin and Keough

Nays: None

Motion carries

3. Considerations of: Partners in Architecture Proposal for Building Conditional Assessment Services for 3515 Broad Street for an Amount not to Exceed \$5,400

Motion Knight; support Griffin to approve the proposal from Partners in Architecture for Building Conditional Assessment Services for 3515 Broad Street in an amount not to exceed \$5,400.

Ayes: Knight, Fisher, Griffin Cousins, Hubbard, Michels and Keough

Nays: None

Motion carries

4. Consideration of: Purchase of Wood Chipper from Bandit Industries for an Amount not to ~~e~~Exceed \$42,217.04

Motion Fisher; support Cousins to approve the purchase of a Model 250XP Brush Bandit Wood Chipper from Bandit Industries for an amount not to exceed \$42,237.04 with an \$8,000 trade-in of the City's current wood chipper.

Ayes: Hubbard, ~~Michels~~, Knight, Cousins, ~~Griffin~~, Fisher and Keough

Nays: ~~None~~Michels and Griffin

Motion carries

5. Consideration of: Posting of Meeting Recordings to the City's Website

Motion Griffin; support Michels to upload to the website any past public Zoom meetings with the exception of Parks and Recreation Commission and Arts, Culture & Heritage Committee that the City has access to from March 2020 and going forward.

Ayes: Fisher, Griffin, Cousins, Knight, Michels, Hubbard and Keough

Nays: None

Motion carries

#### M. COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Malek	None
Gilbert	Good-bye to Ms. Knight. I hope she enjoys her summers at the lake and I hope to run into her in Dexter.
Fisher	Ms. Knight, I will miss you. It is nice to be back.

Griffin	I wish Ms. Knight well, I am glad to hear that Ms. Fisher is back, and I am thinking of Paul and his family at this time.
Michels	None
Cousins	My wife kept saying to me today to not be late for my meeting. Ms. Knight, thank you for your commitment, sticking to your principles, and your perseverance for a new Fire Hall.
Hubbard	Paul it is good to hear the comments about your wife. Ms. Knight, it has been brief, but memorable working with you. And Donna it is nice to have you back.
Knight	I am so happy that we are moving forward with new City Offices and especially in a historic site. I hope that we can also move forward with a new Fire Hall. Thank you to all of the Council Members that I have had the opportunity to work with and I wish I had gotten to know Ms. Hubbard and Ms. Griffin better. I will pass on the leading of the Pledge of Allegiance to Alex Gilbert. To Ms. Fisher, Ms. Jones and Mr. Cousins I want you to continue to be the voice for our long-term residents of Dexter, to remember our history as a town and to preserve that history. I would like to share a quote that I found in my dad's things from Will Rodgers, "Government is so strange...A man gets up to speak, he says nothing, nobody listens, but everyone disagrees."

**N. NON-ARRANGED PARTICIPATION:**

Mara Greatorex of 3054 Fieldstone Drive thanked Council for allowing the parents of 2021 Dexter Seniors to hold the Senior Processional.

**O. CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUSS PENDING LITIGATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH MCL 15.268 Sec. 8**

Motion Cousins; support Fisher to go into Closed Session to discuss pending litigation in accordance with MCL 15.268 Sec. 8 with the following non-Council Members present at the meeting: Justin Breyer, Interim City Manager and City Clerk; Michelle Aniol, Community Development Manager; Daniel Schlaff, Public Services Superintendent; Carol Jones, Recording Secretary; Student Representatives Alex Gilbert and Isabella Malek; and Scott Munzel, City Attorney at 8:28 PM.

Ayes: Griffin, Hubbard, Cousins, Fisher, Knight, Michels and Keough

Nays: None

Motion carries

Motion Fisher; support Griffin to leave the Closed Session at 9:23 PM.

Ayes: Hubbard, Cousins, Fisher, Griffin, Michels, Knight and Keough

Nays: None

Motion carries

Motion Michels; support Griffin to request the City Attorney to file a motion for reconsideration in both cases as discussed in Closed Session.

Ayes: Cousins, Hubbard, Knight, Michels, Griffin, Fisher and Keough

Nays: None

Motion carries

**P. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion Knight; support Hubbard to adjourn the meeting at 9:25 PM.

Unanimous voice vote approval.

Respectfully submitted,

Justin Breyer

Interim City Manager and City Clerk

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