

**THE CITY OF DEXTER
REGULAR VIRTUAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, JULY 12, 2021**

Prior to the start of the July 12, 2021 meeting, a swearing-in ceremony was held for Sanam Arab.

A. CALL TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

B. ROLL CALL:

Sanam Arab – Present remotely in the City of Dexter, Michigan.
Paul Cousins – Present remotely in the City of Dexter, Michigan.
Donna Fisher – Present remotely in the City of Alma, Michigan.
Jamie Griffin – Present remotely in the Village of Firth, Nebraska.
Wa-Louisa Hubbard – 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.
Eren Buyukbozkirli – Present remotely in the City of Dexter, Michigan.

Also attending remotely at Council Meeting: Justin Breyer, Interim City Manager and City Clerk; Marie Sherry, Treasurer/Assessor/Finance Director; Michelle Aniol, Community Development Manager; Dan Schlaff, Public Services Superintendent; Michael Auerbach, Assistant Planner; Carol Jones, Recording Secretary; Robert Smith, Dexter Area Fire Department Chief; Patrick Droze, OHM Advisors; residents; and media.

C. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

1. Regular City Council Meeting – June 28, 2021
2. City Council Work Session – June 30, 2021

Motion Griffin; support Cousins to approve the minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting of June 28, 2021 and the City Council Work Session of June 30, 2021 with the following correction:

Page 7, Council Comments, change Sanam Arab to Ms. Arab in Mr. Gilbert's comment.

Ayes: Michels, Arab, Griffin, Hubbard, Fisher, Cousins and Keough
Nays: None
Motion carries

D. PRE-ARRANGED PARTICIPATION:

1. Jennifer Olmstead, Ann Arbor Spark

Ms. Olmstead was presented a report on the activities of Ann Arbor Spark to City Council, and she thanked the City of Dexter for supporting regional economic development. Ms. Olmstead also reported the following:

- 29 businesses in Dexter received grants due to Covid totaling \$174,500
- Worked with UIS on their new building
- Worked with MC3, AED Environmental and UIS on Going Pro funding
- Worked with QED and Mindo for export assistance funding
- Worked with MC3 and k-space regarding the hiring of STEM intern employees.

E. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

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

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

Nays: None

Motion carries

F. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

None

G. NON-ARRANGED PARTICIPATION:

None

H. COMMUNICATIONS:

1. Upcoming Meeting List
2. Letter from Paul McCann Regarding City's Appointee to Library Board

I. REPORTS:

1. Public Services Superintendent – Dan Schlaff

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

- This weekend, two residents came to my home with an issue regarding people parking too close to the alley on 5th Street. Mr. Breyer, Ms. Aniol and myself looked at this location for installing some general signage as it is difficult to see oncoming traffic.
- In preparing a budget for work to be done on a partially collapsed main on Hudson Street, there has been difficulty obtaining three bids. We will be coordinating with a resident for the repairs.
- A phone call was received today from a resident on Dover between Third and Fourth Streets regarding sewer lead issues. We will need to identify where the sewer lead is located.

2. Community Development Manager – Michelle Aniol

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

- Staff has received a request for a barrier free parking space in line with the entrance to 150 Jeffords. This will be presented to the DDA on Thursday.
- Thank you all for your kind words regarding Ms. Masson-Minock's accident.
- At the DDA meeting last month, there was some discussion regarding the installation of the blue palettes over the water barricades at the Beer Grotto. I walked the area with Karen Magdich. There do not appear to be regulations regarding the colors of the barricades.

3. Board, Commission & Other Reports

Dexter Area Fire Department – Included in the packet was copy of amendments to the Dexter Area Fire Department Administrative Board By-Laws.

Washtenaw County Sheriff – Included in the packet was the May Washtenaw County Sheriff Report.

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:

- I will be attending the Michigan Municipal Executives Conference on Wednesday and Thursday.
- The City has posted for another graduate management intern.
- Stacie Serdar from OHM Advisors started last week and will be working for the next few weeks on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday.
- There may be the need to put together a new and different contract for funding for the Senior Center.
- ASTI did onsite work at 3515 Broad Street and did not find an underground storage tank, which was good news.
- The American Rescue Plan application has been filed, and the City is estimated to get \$490,000. This will be put toward the 2nd Street water project.
- The most recent MERS funding report shows Dexter's funding going up 1% this year thanks to the City's additional contributions.
- There will be a Doodle Poll coming out regarding setting up an Organizational Matters meeting.

6. Mayor Report – Shawn Keough

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

- The DAFD July meeting has been cancelled.
- The Scio Township Master Plan meeting is July 20, 2021.

7. Council Member Reports

None

J. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Consideration of: Bills and Payroll in the amount of \$361,315.84
2. Consideration of: Line Inspection Tool
3. Consideration of: FY 2021-2022 WAVE Contracts

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

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

Nays: None

Motion carries

K. OLD BUSINESS-Consideration and Discussion of:

Items postponed from a previous meeting

1. Consideration of: Setting a Public Hearing Regarding a Conflict of Interest Ordinance

Motion Griffin; support Fisher to set a Public Hearing for the Conflict of Interest Ordinance on August 9, 2021

Ayes: None

Nays: Griffin, Michels, Fisher, Hubbard, Arab, Cousins and Keough

Motion fails

Discussion followed.

2. Discussion of: Fire Facilities General Discussion

Discussion followed with the consensus that 1) it is important to get all members of Council in the same place with the same level of information, 2) to get a better understanding of past key decisions and recommendations, 3) to develop guiding principles to aid future decisions, and 4) to provide training to Council.

3. Consideration of: Authorization to Request Consultation Assistance from MIOSHA

Motion Michels; support Cousins to authorize the Interim City Manager to request an on-site consultation inspection from the Michigan Occupational Health and Safety Administration for 8140 Main St.

Motion by Michels; support by Griffin to postpone the request for consultation assistance from MIOSHA, and: 1) to have staff contact MIOSHA to determine their allowable timeline to implement fixes with a report back to Council by August 23, 2021, 2) to have the Dexter Area Fire Department Chief prepare a sampling of options for the continuation of fire service if all or portions of the

building is determined to be unusable with a report back to Council by August 23, 2021, and 3) to have the Dexter Area Fire Chief prepare a list of items for building improvements with a report back to Council as soon as the list is ready.

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

Nays: None

Motion carries

4. Consideration of: Authorization for NFPA 1500 Inspection

Motion by Michels; support by Griffin to receive the most recent NFPA 1500 report prepared by the Dexter Area Fire Chief, and to request that the Dexter Area Fire Chief provide a draft timeline for a consultation visit by another Fire Chief.

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

Nays: None

Motion carries

5. Discussion of: Seeking the Support of an External Facilitator

Discussion and action was deferred at this time.

L. NEW BUSINESS-Consideration and Discussion of:

1. Consideration of: City Manager Contract

Motion Fisher; support Arab to approve the City Manager Contract with an official starting date of July 12, 2021.

Motion Cousins; support Michels to postpone the approval of the City Manager contract in order to edit some of the contract wording with a retroactive hire date of July 12, 2021 as the hire date.

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

Nays: None

Motion carries

2. Consideration of: Bid Award to T&M Asphalt Paving, Inc. for Dexter Crossing Road Work for an Amount not to Exceed \$454,100

Motion Fisher; support Cousins to approve the bid award for Dexter Crossing Road Work to T&M Asphalt Paving Inc. for an amount not to exceed \$454,100.

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

Nays: None

Motion carries

3. Consideration of: Contract with MDOT for 3rd and Broad St. Reconstruction

Motion Fisher; support Arab to adopt a resolution to direct the Mayor and City Manager to sign the contract with MDOT for the 3rd Street and Broad Street Reconstruction Project.

Ayes: Fisher, Griffin, Cousins, Arab, Hubbard and Keough

Nays: Michels

Motion carries

4. Consideration of: Return to In-Person Meetings

Motion Fisher; support Michels to have all boards and committees return to in-person meetings, with meetings held at St. Andrew's Church, starting with the first meeting in September.

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

Nays: None

Motion carries

5. Consideration of: 3515 Broad Street User Group

Motion Griffin; support Arab to consider the creation of a 3515 Broad Street User Group consisting of the Interim City Manager, Finance Director, Community Development Director, Public Services Superintendent, and Mayor.

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

Nays: None

Motion carries

M. COUNCIL COMMENTS: (Paraphrased or summarized by City Clerk)

Arab I am happy to be here and to work with everyone to help our community.

Griffin As you are reviewing the Conflict of Interest document from Rochester, let it be known that there have been no cases [brought before](#) their ethics board since 2009. I also readily acknowledge that I do not feel that I have the trust of everyone at this table let alone everyone in the community. Please know that I am trying to earn that trust; and I will act on the trust that members of the public and some members on Council have placed in me.

Fisher I would like to commend Ms. Sherry that whenever there is a task to be done, she is [working](#) on it [or already](#) has it done.

Cousins We need the ability to coalesce and come together, and I hope that we can get it there.

Michels I would like to explain my vote on the Broad Street project; I feel that we can do better with our street designs. I would like to point out that we had 2, 7-0 votes on fire department items, and 3, 7-0 votes on City facilities. I would also say that trust in government is lower than it has been for a very long time in the United States starting at the federal level coming down to the local level. We may not see a conflict of interest among ourselves on Council, but that is not necessarily what the residents may see.

Hubbard None

Gilbert Welcome to Council Eren.

Buyukbozkirli Thank you to Alex and to everyone.

N. NON-ARRANGED PARTICIPATION:

Ryan Henyard of 3577 Shaw Court thanked City Council for talking about some of the issues on the agenda that the City is currently facing. He stated that it is his hope that talks about Conflict of Interest will not prevent people from getting involved in government. Mr. Henyard feels that people should become active in their community and get along with others in that community. He expressed concern about the weaponizing of conflict of interest. He also stated that he deeply cares about the Dexter Community and that we can be in disagreement if that disagreement is handled in good faith.

O. ADJOURNMENT

Motion Fisher; support Griffin to adjourn the meeting at 10:14 PM.

Unanimous voice vote approval.

Respectfully submitted,

Justin Breyer

Interim City Manager and City Clerk

Approved for Filing: _____