

**THE CITY OF DEXTER
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2021**

A. CALL TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The City Council Meeting was called to order at 7:15 PM by Mayor Keough and was held at City Offices located at 3515 Broad Street and online via Zoom.

B. ROLL CALL:

Sanam Arab – Present.
Paul Cousins – Present remotely in the City of Dexter, Michigan.
Donna Fisher – Present.
Jamie Griffin – Present.
Wa-Louisa Hubbard – Present.
Zach Michels – Present.
Shawn Keough – Present.
Student Representatives:
Alex Gilbert – Present.
Eren Buyukbozkirli – Present.

Also attending ~~remotely~~: Justin Breyer, City Manager and City Clerk; Marie Sherry, Treasurer/Assessor/Finance Director; Michelle Aniol, Community Development Manager; Dan Schlaff, Public Services Superintendent; Mike Auerbach, Assistant Planner; Carol Jones, Recording Secretary; Robert Smith, Dexter Area Fire Department Chief; Marcus McNamara, OHM Advisors; Scott Munzel, City Attorney; residents; and media.

C. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

1. City Council Work Session – August 23, 2021
2. Regular City Council Meeting – August 23, 2021

Motion Fisher; support Griffin to approve the minutes of the City Council Work Session of August 23, 2021 and the Regular City Council Meeting of August 23, 2021 as presented.

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

D. PRE-ARRANGED PARTICIPATION:

1. Dexter Little League State Championship Proclamation

Mayor Keough recognized and congratulated the Dexter Little League Major Softball All Star Team on their State Championship Win.

2. Constitution Week Proclamation

Ms. Sarah Meinhart from the [Daughters of the American Revolution \(DAR\)](#) addressed City Council on the upcoming Constitution Week, which marks the 234th anniversary of the drafting of the United States Constitution. Mayor Keough proclaimed September 17th – 23rd as Constitution Week in the City of Dexter.

E. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

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

Council Member Michels indicated that he would abstain on the Consent Agenda due to a Conflict of Interest as his employer, Carlisle Wortman Associates, is listed in Bills and Payroll.

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

Nays: None

Motion carries

F. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

None

G. NON-ARRANGED PARTICIPATION:

Joe Semifero of 3214 Boulder Court spoke in reference to the Work Session held previously regarding Council Rules and disagreeing with other Council Members. Council Members should not be told what they can or cannot do. Mr. Semifero cited examples from the past with the formation of the Arts, Culture, and Heritage Committee, Cityhood vote, and Bond issues when Council did not always agree with one another and the Council as a body changed its mind.

Paul Calley of 8248 Bridgeway Drive spoke of his concern with traffic and speeding in his Westridge neighborhood and would like to see the speeding issue addressed. Mayor Keough responded to Mr. Calley's concern.

H. COMMUNICATIONS:

1. Upcoming Meeting List

I. REPORTS:

1. Public Services Superintendent – Dan Schlaff

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

- Thank you to the residents in Dexter Crossing for doing an excellent job of working with the City on the road construction project, and we are on schedule.
- Council Member Griffin thanked Mr. Schlaff for taking her on a tour of the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

- Mayor Keough thanked Mr. Schlaff and Brian's Services for the cleanup done on the Mill Creek Park path.

2. Community Development Manager – Michelle Aniol

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

Based on a discussion regarding the Encore Theatre's Club License, the following action took place:

Motion Fisher; support Michels to approve the original recommendation to the Michigan State Liquor Control Commission to approve a Club License for the Encore Theatre.

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

Nays: None

Motion carries

- Ms. Aniol gave corrections from the SEMCOG Census report for the City of Dexter.
- Staff is looking forward to a discussion on traffic issues in Westridge.
- Staff is currently working on zoning compliance for a new business in Dexter Plaza Shoppes for Wild Bill's Tobacco Shop.

3. Board, Commission & Other Reports

None

4. Subcommittee Reports

None

5. City Manager Report – Justin Breyer

Mr. Breyer submits his written report as per packet. Mr. Breyer had no verbal updates to provide.

6. Mayor Report – Shawn Keough

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

- I received a call from Matt MacDonnell from the Washtenaw County Road Commission asking if the City would be interested in working with the Road Commission on applying for Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) funding on Dexter-Chelsea Road/Island Lake Road to consider a compact roundabout and road improvements at Dexter-Pinckney Road/Island Lake Road/ the Gordon Hall Entrance. Discussion followed.
- I met Gerry McIntyre, a choreographer working at the Encore Theatre last evening.
- I really enjoyed Suds on the River.

7. Council Member Reports

None

J. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Consideration of: Bills and Payroll in the amount of \$375,308.77
2. Consideration of: Proposal from Excavators II, Inc for Hudson St. Sanitary Sewer Main Replacement from Third to Fourth for an Amount not to Exceed \$12,590
3. Consideration of: Closure of Central St. from Main to Fifth for Apple Daze on October 2, 2021

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

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

Nays: None

Abstain: Michels

Motion carries

K. OLD BUSINESS-Consideration and Discussion of:

Items postponed from a previous meeting

1. Consideration of: City Council Organizational Matters

Motion Michels; support Fisher to adopt the update to the City Council Organizational Matters on September 13, 2021.

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

Nays: None

Motion carries

L. NEW BUSINESS-Consideration and Discussion of:

1. Consideration of: Resolution to Approve an Application to the Washtenaw County Connecting Communities Grant Program

Motion Fisher; support Michels to adopt the Resolution to Approve an Application to the Washtenaw County Connecting Communities Grant Program for the Dexter-Chelsea Connector Trail.

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

Nays: None

Motion carries

2. Discussion of: Succession Planning

Mr. Breyer presented information of succession planning for upcoming retirements of City Staff. Staff present provided information on their retirement time frame and the next steps of hiring personnel to learn the operations of the Public Services and the Finance departments. Discussion followed.

3. Discussion of: Transportation Improvements Program Call for Projects

Mr. Breyer reported on three possible projects for the Transportations Improvements Program (TIP) application for the years 2023-2026. Those roads which have the top priority for the TIP funding would be Baker Road from Main Street to Grand Street, Broad Street from Fifth Street to Main Street, and Ann Arbor Street from Meadowview to Dan Hoey Road. Marcus McNamara from OHM Advisors gave further details on the process. Discussion followed.

4. Consideration of: Setting a Public Hearing for Ethics Ordinance

Motion Griffin; support Michels to set a public hearing for the Ethics Ordinance for Monday, October 11, 2021.

Motion Michels; support Arab to postpone action on setting a public hearing until the September 27, 2021 meeting.

Ayes: Arab, Fisher, Hubbard, Michels and Keough

Nays: Griffin and Cousins

Motion carries

5. Discussion of: Review of Fire Station Documents

Mr. Breyer reported that a meeting date with MIOSHA has been set for November 10, 2021. Mr. Breyer also reported that the Management Intern, Ryan Bellas, has put together a Public Binder for Council Members and asked if this is what Council Members are looking for? Mr. Breyer stated that the documents provided in the packet from Chief Smith are based on needs at 8140 Main Street and included in the binder.

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

Gilbert	This is my first in-person meeting with City Council.
Buyukbozkirli	This is also my first in-person meeting with City Council.
Arab	None.
Fisher	Mr. Gilbert, you are about 18 inches taller than I thought you were, so I didn't recognize you at first this evening.
Hubbard	None.
Griffin	In reference to Mr. Calley's issues in Westridge, there is something called The Step 2 Kid Alert Visual Warning Sign that could be placed at the side of the road to alert drivers. Also we need an American Flag for the meeting room.
Michels	For the folks on the building committee for the City Offices, they should look at replacing the large poles in this room and add up lighting in the room. Regarding Council Rules and supporting the decision of Council, we can continue to question the decisions but that does not improve the function of the Council.

Cousins I would like to give my view of the meeting this evening from my perspective: a) if you cough, turn your head away from the microphone as it is loud; b) the door is squeaky; c) audience members are completely unseen; d) when the audience speaks, there is an echo from the microphone; and e) the later it gets, the room gets really dark, but it was ok when the sun was out. Ms. Arab, please tell me about your new family member. (Ms. Arab provided information on her new son.)

N. NON-ARRANGED PARTICIPATION:

None

O. ADJOURNMENT

Motion Fisher; support Griffin to adjourn the meeting at 9:36 PM.

Unanimous voice vote approval.

Respectfully submitted,

Justin Breyer

City Manager and City Clerk

Approved for Filing: _____