

CITY OF ST. JOHNS

CITY COMMISSION MINUTES

FEBRUARY 26, 2024

The special meeting of the St. Johns City Commission and St. Johns Planning Commission was called to order by Mayor Dzurka and Chairperson Heather Hanover at 4:04 p.m. at the Clinton County Courthouse, 100 East State Street, 2nd Floor, Suite #2200, St. Johns, Michigan.

CITY COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Eric Hufnagel, Jean Ruestman, Brad Gurski, Scott Dzurka, Chris Hyzer
CITY COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: None
PLANNING COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Heather Hanover, Mark Holden, Eric Harger, Scott Dzurka, Eric Hufnagel, Melvin Renfrow
PLANNING COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: James Eshelman, Brian Mills
STAFF PRESENT: Chad Gamble, City Manager; Kristina Kinde, City Treasurer; Justin Smith, Director of Public Services; David Kirk, Police Chief; Bill Schafer, Recreation Director; Jeremy Ritter, DPW Supervisor; Jordan Whitford, Fire Chief & Wastewater Supervisor; Calvin Galecka, Water Supervisor

Agenda

Mayor Dzurka asked if there were any additions or deletions to the agenda.

Motion by Commissioner Hufnagel seconded by Commissioner Ruestman that the city commission approve the agenda as presented.

YEA: Hufnagel, Ruestman, Gurski, Dzurka, Hyzer

NAY: None

Motion carried.

Chairperson Hanover asked if there were any additions or deletions to the agenda.

Motion by Commissioner Holden seconded by Commissioner Harger that the planning commission approve the agenda as presented.

YEA: Hanover, Holden, Harger, Dzurka, Hufnagel, Renfrow

NAY: None

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Motion carried.

Public Comments

Mayor Dzurka asked if there were any public comments.

There were none.

Welcome, Meeting Overview

Brief Review of 2020 City Master Plan & 2023/2024 City Action Plan

City Manager Gamble said we are excited about having the joint meeting between the planning commission and city commission. He discussed the CIP and how it works with the budget process.

Presentation of Capital Improvement Plan

a. Police Department – Chief David Kirk

Chief Kirk discussed: priorities for the police department: locker rooms, patrol vehicle parking & evidence garage, carport, building security, parking lot improvements, and visual improvements with murals throughout building.

There was a discussion of:

- Grants for murals.
- Parking spaces – regional trainings.
- Garage with utilities.

b. Parks and Recreation Supervisor – Bill Schafer

Director Schafer discussed: addition to the performance shell, re-roofing performance shell, park house improvements, depot floor improvements, adding drinking fountains in the park, softball field irrigation, Fantasy Forest, and spray park replace ground sprays.

There was a discussion of:

- Park house bathrooms.
- Historic floor in the depot.
- Work with the arts council on the performance shell.
- North side pocket park.

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c. Public Services Department – Supervisor Jeremy Ritter

Supervisor Ritter discussed: replacement of dump truck #81, hoist power unit, replacement of dump truck #78, mapping & televising of stormwater system, and public works building design.

There was a discussion of:

- Public works building.

d. Wastewater Division – Supervisor Jordan Whitford

Supervisor Whitford discussed: RBC (rotating biological contractor) now have taken this project off, lining of sanitary sewer, pickup #147 replacement, maintenance building overhead door, replacement of two RBC pillow blocks, sludge transfer pump replacement, boiler and blower building roof replacement, SCADA system improvements, lift station PLC improvements, Townsend Road service area flow monitoring, and pump building heat pump replacement.

e. Fire Department – Chief Jordan Whitford

Fire Chief Whitford discussed new SCBA's (self-contained breathing apparatus), and new cascade bottles.

f. Water Division – Supervisor Calvin Galecka

Supervisor Galecka discussed: new main power pole and meters at the water plant, replacement driveways at wells #2, #7 & #8, new service truck, new 8" water main on Cass Street, installation of AMR, AMI meters, upgrade to the water plant SCADA system, water main installation CIS Trail to Searles Estates Drive, and lead and copper service line replacement.

There was a discussion of:

- Lead and copper service line replacement – required to replace to 18" inside the house.
 - No cost to homeowner.
- Applied for grant.

City Manager Gamble discussed strategic considerations for the 2024/25 budget.

Approval of the CIP and Forwarding to the City Commission for their Approval

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Chairperson Hanover asked if there was a motion to approve the CIP and forward to the city commission.

Motion by Commissioner Renfrow seconded by Commissioner Holden that the planning commission to forward the CIP program to the City Commission for their approval.

YEA: Hanover, Holden, Harger, Dzurka, Hufnagel, Renfrow

NAY: None

Motion carried.

Adjournment

Motion by Commissioner Hyzer seconded by Commissioner Gurski that the city commission meeting be adjourned.

YEA: Hufnagel, Ruestman, Gurski, Dzurka, Hyzer

NAY: None

Motion carried.

Motion by Commissioner Renfrow seconded by Commissioner Harger that the planning commission meeting be adjourned.

YEA: Hanover, Holden, Harger, Dzurka, Hufnagel, Renfrow

NAY: None

Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:55 p.m.