



CITY COUNCIL

July 20, 2015

A regular meeting of the City of Petoskey City Council was held in the City Hall Council Chambers, Petoskey, Michigan, on Monday, July 20, 2015. This meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M.; then, after a recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, a roll call then determined that the following were

Present: William Fraser, Mayor  
Kate Marshall, City Councilmember  
John Murphy, City Councilmember  
Grant Dittmar, City Councilmember  
Jeremy Wills, City Councilmember

Absent: None

Also in attendance were City Manager Robert Straebel, Clerk-Treasurer Alan Terry, Downtown Director Becky Goodman, City Planner Amy Tweeten and City Attorney James Murray.

Resolution No. 18886  
Approve Consent Agenda Items

Following introduction of the consent agenda for this meeting of July 20, 2015, City Councilmember Marshall moved that, seconded by City Councilmember Dittmar adoption of the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council does and hereby confirms that the draft minutes of the July 6, 2015 regular-session and July 7, 2015 special joint session City Council meeting be and are hereby approved; and

BE IT RESOLVED that receipt by the City Council of a report concerning all checks that had been issued since July 6 for contract and vendor claims at \$1,401,151.16, intergovernmental claims at \$0, and the July 16 payroll at \$207,856.73, for a total of \$1,609,007.89 be and is hereby acknowledged.

Said resolution was adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Marshall, Murphy, Dittmar, Wills, Fraser (5)  
NAYS: None (0)

Hear Public Comment

Mayor Fraser asked for public comments and there were no comments.

Hear City Manager Updates

The City Manager reviewed that Council hasn't approved fireworks since 2009 and that Public Safety Director John Calabrese will be present at the August 3 Council meeting to discuss firework regulations; that Grand Avenue will be repaved this week; and that work on traffic signals at the US 31/131 intersection was beginning.

Resolution No. 18887 Approve  
Parking Recommendations

The City Manager reviewed that this was the third discussion for City Council to consider 17 recommendations for changes to the overall downtown parking operation. The City Manager reviewed questions

from the last Council meeting concerning parking meter enforcement after 5:00 P.M.; that 30-35% of fines would be returned to the DMB if pursued through civil infractions; that the District Courts can suspend driver's licenses if delinquent fines aren't paid; and that there is a 3 hour limit city-wide in residential areas and is only enforced by a formal complaint.

The City Manager and City Councilmembers next reviewed the 17 proposed parking recommendations. City Councilmembers discussed the proposed increase in meter fees to \$1.00 per hour; increased rate to fund a parking deck; and how a parking fee is a user fee as only those using the parking pay for the parking.

City Councilmember Wills moved that, seconded by City Councilmember Dittmar to support increasing on-street and Saville Lot meter fees to \$1.00 per hour.

Said motion was not approved by the following vote:

AYES: Wills (1)

NAYS: Marshall, Murphy, Dittmar, Fraser (4)

Mayor Fraser asked for public comments and heard from those in favor of a parking deck; that the City should discuss with County a potential parking deck; heard from those opposed to the meter fee increase; and inquired if meters could be bagged in the winter.

City Councilmembers then discussed the recommendation of increasing all expired meter fines to \$10 and raising late fees incrementally; heard from those opposed to increasing fines except for chronic abusers; discussed meter feeding fine increase; commented that most shoppers should not get 5-9 tickets in 180 days; and discussed booting per fines schedule.

City Councilmember Murphy then moved that, seconded by City Councilmember Wills to approve the revised fine schedule as follows;

<u>Violation Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
5 to 9 tickets in 180 days	\$15.00
10 or more tickets in 180 days	\$30.00
Parking in excess of the maximum time limit in metered spaces	\$20.00
Meter feeding	\$20.00
Failing to pay a civil fine for any parking meter violation up to 48 hours	\$20.00
Failing to pay a civil fine for any parking meter violation up to 96 hours	\$30.00
Upon a person's failure to pay a civil fine for any civil infraction violation committed as proscribed herein, within 96 hours, and having been sent notice of such violation, said person shall be responsible for:	
A. Increased fee on second notice	\$30.00
B. Increased fee on third notice	\$40.00
C. Failure to pay after 3 notices	\$100.00

Said motion was approved by the following vote:

AYES: Marshall, Murphy, Dittmar, Wills, Fraser (5)

NAYS: None (0)

First Reading of Proposed Ordinance  
that would Amend the R1 & R2 Single  
Family Districts

The City Planner next reviewed the proposed amendments to the R1 and R2 Single Family Districts. As an implementation of the Master Plan, the Planning Commission had been reviewing and recommending updates to the Zoning Ordinance to make it align with the plan goals and objectives. In addition, a review of frequent variance requests indicated what changes may need to be made, particularly in the single family districts as this is where the majority of the variance requests originate.

The City Planner reviewed that the Planning Commission recommended several amendments to the R-1 and R-2 Single Family Districts including allowing home businesses with conditions; increasing lot coverage ratios to reduce the number of variance requests; correcting references to street classifications; reducing lot area regulations for two-family dwellings; using an average of existing building front-yard setbacks instead of an arbitrary 25 feet; and allowing slightly taller accessory buildings (16 feet vs. 14 feet) with an increased setback (5 feet from side and rear lot lines vs. 3 feet). The changes are proposed to fulfill the master plan design principles, goals, objectives and strategies.

City Councilmembers discussed the impact of changes and how it would reduce variance requests and not allow a significantly large home; and that revisions continue to prohibit living in detached dwellings.

Mayor Fraser asked for public comments and there were no comments.

City Council deferred action until the second reading of the proposed ordinance at the next scheduled meeting.

Discuss Draft Action Plan from  
Goal Setting Sessions

The City Manager reviewed that on June 26 and 27, 2015 City Council and City staff met with Dr. Joe Ohren to establish future goals and strategies for the City. The goals and strategies were compiled into a chart designating who is responsible and an estimated timeline in which the goals can be completed.

The City Manager proposed to send the draft action plan to both DMB and Planning Commission for comment; take written comments from these two Boards and the general public; and compile for City Council's review and approval at the August 17 City Council meeting.

City Councilmembers concurred with the draft action plan process and will further discuss at the August 17 City Council meeting.

Hear Council Comments

Mayor Fraser asked for Council comments and there were no Council comments.

There being no further business to come before the City Council, this July 20, 2015, meeting of the City Council adjourned at 9:50 P.M.

W.J. Fraser, Mayor

Alan Terry, City Clerk-Treasurer