

City of Kingsford
Regular Council Meeting, City Hall Council Chambers
Monday, March 6th, 2023

A regular meeting of the Kingsford City Council was held on Monday, March 6th, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. in the council chambers at City Hall.

Roll Call: **Present:** Groeneveld, Dixon-Miller, Freeman, Baldinelli, Flaminio
Absent:

Also present were: City Manager Michael Stelmaszek, City Treasurer Holly Palmer, DPW Superintendent Jeff DeMuri, Public Safety Director Brandon Rutter, Maggie Lanthier [The Daily News], Floyd Lindholm, Dave Bradley, Chris McDonald, Trevor Sholden, Kevin Trevillian and Seth Miatech.

The pledge of allegiance was recited by all.

Approval of Minutes: **Motion** by Baldinelli **second** by Flaminio approve the February 21st, 2023 City Council Meeting Minutes as corrected.

Vote: Unanimous, motion carried.

Approval of Agenda: **Motion** by Dixon-Miller; **second** by Baldinelli to approve the agenda as presented.

Vote: Unanimous, motion carried.

Approval of Invoices: **Motion** by Freeman; **second** by Dixon-Miller to approve the invoices for February 22nd, 2023 through March 6th, 2023 in the amount of \$211,393.12.

Vote: Unanimous, motion carried.

Consent Agenda:

1. Public Works Report – February 2023

- a. Request to seek bids on the joint MDOT and City of Kingsford Salt/Sand Storage Shed

Motion by Baldinelli; **second** by Flaminio to seek bids for the Salt/Sand Storage shed.

Vote: Unanimous, motion carried.

- b. Request permission to advertise for (3) summer helpers due to the demand for the parks upkeep and centennial festivities.

Motion by Flaminio; **second** by Baldinelli to approve advertising for (3) summer helpers for the Public Works Department.

Vote: Unanimous, motion carried.

Motion by Baldinelli; **second** by Dixon-Miller to receive and place on file the consent agenda.

Vote: Unanimous, motion carried.

Public Comment: None received.

Communications: None Received.

Manager's Report:

1. The Dickinson County Solid Waste Management Authority (DCSWMA) ratified their annual budget at their February meeting. Starting July 1st, 2023 tipping fees at the transfer station will be increasing from \$80 to \$85 per ton. Stelmaszek will evaluate how this issue and other cost increases will affect the city's annual budget and if the current garbage fees sufficiently cover our costs.
2. The Iron Mountain Kingsford Joint Sewage Authority ratified their annual budget at their February meeting. Starting July 1st, 2023 septage fees imposed by the treatment plant will be increasing by \$.05/1,000 gallons to properly fund the authorities' budget. The city's sewage use rate is set to go up by \$.15/1,000 gallons and the meter rate by 5% (\$.28 per 5/8-inch meter). These increases are sufficient to cover the increase in septage fees and add some additional revenue to the fund balance of the Sewer (590) fund. In the first six months after last July's increase the sewer fund took in an additional \$75,000 in fees making the annual effect of the increase for our current fiscal year about \$150,000.00. The city has many planned projects coming up soon that will draw funds from the increases in sewer revenue. This year we have a planned Capital Improvement project at the High School a small sewer line relocation project being completed in conjunction with the Heights project. A third project in 2024 will be discussed later in this meeting during a presentation by MDOT regarding their Carpenter Avenue resurfacing project.
3. The Board of Review schedule and sign-up sheet is attached to this report.
4. (3) City Council positions will be open for election this year, currently held by Dan Freeman, Cynthia Dixon-Miller, and Mike Flaminio. Petitions are available at the Deputy Clerk's Office and must be returned by 4:00pm CDT on April 25th, 2023. Notices will be run in the Daily News by statute on April 5th, April 12th, and April 19th.

Motion by Dixon-Miller; **second** by Freeman to receive and place on file the manager's report.

Vote: Unanimous, motion carried.

Unfinished Business:

- A. Bid Opening for Engineering Services for Breen Avenue Resurfacing Project.
 - a. First Bid from WickWire – Total Engineering Cost - \$76,915.00
 - b. Second Bid from Coleman Engineering – Total Engineering Cost - \$68,808.00
 - c. Third Bid from GEI Consultants – Total Engineering Costs - \$55,664.00

Motion by Flaminio; **second** by Dixon-Miller to accept the lowest bid that meets specifications.

Vote: Unanimous, motion carried.

New Business:

- A. Request to Create a Civil Service Employment list to include Non-MCOLES certified candidates for the Public Safety Department. – We currently have two vacancies at the Kingsford Public Safety department. MCOLES currently has a grant program to assist municipalities in sponsoring PSO candidates going to an approved Law Enforcement Academy. Because of the manning issue and our inability to get certified candidates, I have been working with Director Rutter and our labor attorney to prepare for the need to establish a process for sponsoring candidates at the NMU Police Academy. The first step would be to use the current Civil Service Process to establish a list that could include non-certified applicants. Stelmaszek went over the details of the request. Following a lengthy discussion, Stelmaszek requested to convene the Civil Service Commission for the purpose of establishing and entry level employment list that can include non-MCOLES certified candidates.

Motion by Flaminio; **second** by Baldinelli to establish a civil service list to allow non-MCOLES certified candidates

Vote: Unanimous, motion carried.

- B. Our Town Kingsford “Daily News” Ad Request – Stelmaszek went over the ad which has been done in the past. A brief discussion took place about additions to he types of businesses in our town along with adding a QR code to direct individuals to our Centennial site.

Motion by Flaminio; **second** by Baldinelli to approve the “Our Town Kingsford” ad.

Vote: Unanimous, motion carried.

- C. Historical Foundation Request to Host 2023 Fourth of July Parade – Stelmaszek went over the request. There are no changes to how it has been done in the past. They submitted proof of insurance coverage for the time of the event. Stelmaszek requests that the city support the request.

Motion by Dixon-Miller; **second** by Freeman to approve the Historical Foundations request to how the 2023 Fourth of July Parade.

Vote: Unanimous, motion carried.

- D. State Senator McBroom’s Dark Store Bill Resolution of Support #2023/3/6.1 – Stelmaszek went over the resolution which follows the resolution recently passed by Dickinson County and how it has affected Kingsford. A brief discussion took place.

Motion by Baldinelli; **second** by Flaminio to adopt Resolution #2023/3/6.1.

Roll Call: Yes – Groeneveld, Dixon-Miller, Freeman, Baldinelli, Flaminio

No – None.

- E. Easement request from “Zam’s” across a piece of City Property & Easement Resolution #2023/3/6.2 – Stelmaszek went over the request & resolution. A brief discussion took place with Baldinelli mentioning there was no reason why they should not grant the easement request.

Motion by Baldinelli; **second** by Freeman to grant the easement request and adopt Resolution #2023/3/6.2

Roll Call: Yes – Groeneveld, Dixon-Miller, Freeman, Baldinelli, Flaminio

No – None.

- F. MDOT Presentation of 2024 Carpenter Avenue Reconstruction Project – 4 years ago MDOT initiated discussions with the city for the purpose of resurfacing Carpenter Avenue from Woodward south past the city limits. The first phase is to complete the project in 2024 from Woodward Avenue to Hamilton Avenue. Dave Bradley, Trever Sholden & Chris McDonald were present and went over the scope of the project.

Public Comment: None.

Councilmember’s Privilege: Freeman expressed thanks to the public works department for helping with the Ski Jump event. Dixon-Miller asked how many candidates can go to the Police Academy. Baldinelli thanked the Ski Club on behalf of the Centennial Committee for providing a spot for them to promote the upcoming event. Flaminio was happy to pass the dark store resolution. Groeneveld thanked DeMuri for helping the Ski Jump event and thanked the MDOT Representatives for their presentation.

Adjournment: **Motion** by Dixon-Miller; **second** by Freeman to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 7:39 PM.

Vote: Unanimous, motion carried

Mayor Pro-Tem, Dennis Baldinelli

City Manager, Michael Stelmaszek