

City of Kingsford
Regular Council Meeting, City Hall Council Chambers
Monday, July 17th, 2023

A regular meeting of the Kingsford City Council was held on Monday, July 17th, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. in the council chambers at City Hall.

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

Also present were: City Manager Mike Stelmaszek, KPS Director Brandon Rutter, Maggie Lanthier [The Daily News], City Attorney Bruce Brouillette, Floyd Lindholm, Nicole Dorman & Robert Goodreau

The pledge of allegiance was recited by all.

Approval of the Minutes:

A. Council Meeting of July 3rd, 2023

Motion by Baldinelli; **second** by Dixon-Miller to approve the minutes of the council meeting on July 3rd, 2023 as presented.

Vote: Unanimous, Motion carried.

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

Vote: Unanimous, motion carried.

Approval of Invoices: **Motion** by Baldinelli; **second** by Flaminio to approve the invoices from 7/4/2023 thru 7/17/2023 for payment in the amount of \$385,384.85

Vote: Unanimous, Motion carried.

Consent Agenda:

A. Public Safety Report – June 2023

B. Treasurer's Report – June 2023

C. Centennial Committee Minutes – June 2023 – Baldinelli mentioned that the Centennial Committee is looking for volunteers.

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

Vote: Unanimous, Motion carried.

Public Comment: Nicole Dorman approached the council regarding a residence that has various farm animals in Kingsford and asked that something be done. Groeneveld mentioned that he was aware of the issue and mentioned that Kyle Mulka had already gone to the residence and was working on resolving it. Stelmaszek advised we would investigate the situation and address it.

Communications:

A. MML Election Ballot – Stelmaszek went over the ballot stating this was the board of trustee's annual election. Stelmaszek requested advice from the council on how they would like to vote.

Motion by Baldinelli; **second** by Dixon-Miller to vote for the slate as presented.

Vote: Unanimous, Motion carried.

Manager's Report:

1. July Board of Review will be held on Tuesday, July 18th at 4:00pm in the Kingsford council chambers.
2. The "Storie Company" who purchased the Pine Mountain Resort property is looking into the possibility of bringing their sewage down the Pine Mountain Road in a "forced main" (under pressure) to our City Limits and then running it through our sewer system in the sewage treatment plant. Many variables are in play before this could be a feasible alternative.
3. Many of the complaints I get are from people who claim they do not get the notification of procedural changes by the city for such things as garbage pick up changes due to holidays and other city issues because they do not use computers or read the paper. To get the information to these people, we have started sending out a newsletter with our tax bills twice a year with city information. The newsletter went out with the summer tax bill. It seems to have been well received, as we have received many positive comments.
4. At a special meeting of the Kingsford – Iron Mountain Joint Sewage Authority held on July 6th, 2023; Jim Lieburn was selected to take over as the new Superintendent effective July 10th, 2023. He is a 13-year employee of the Sewage Authority who did well on his interview and was the only candidate to obtain his level B State Sewage Certification.
5. We had a bid opening on July 11th for the two small Ford Addition Sewer and Watermain projects. We received only one bid for \$293,255 from FA industrial Services of Iron River that was at least 3 times higher than where it should be. We are looking into other alternatives to complete these two projects.

6. Capital Improvement request forms have been distributed to department heads and they have been asked to complete these forms regarding capital improvement they feel are needed between now and the end of 2030. Ryan Carrig from CUPPAD is schedule to make a presentation at the July 24th, 2023 Planning Commission Meeting. We are moving forward on our next plan.
7. City Hall will close at 11:00am on August 3rd & 4th 2023 to account for low staffing during the city's centennial celebration.

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

Vote: Unanimous, motion carried.

Unfinished Business:

- A. Coleman Engineering Bill for \$5,232.75 – We have received a bill for the Engineering Services for water and sewer design for the city's portion of the M-95 Project (Carpenter Ave). The bill is for \$5,232.75. The remaining balance for the gift from the County Board of Commissioners is \$5,244.13. Stelmaszek requests approval to submit the Coleman Engineering bill to the County Board of Commissioners for them to pay on behalf of the city.

New Business:

- A. Fireworks Ordinance #277 – Under our current ordinance #277, residents are allowed to shoot off fireworks on certain days until 1:00am. Over the 4th of July holiday, many residents fully utilized this provision to the displeasure of many citizens who were trying to sleep. I received complaints that this limit is excessive and should be changed. Although our ordinances are valid under state law, state law itself only permits this activity until 11:45pm on specified days. In reviewing this matter, it has been determined the earliest the city can impose a limit on setting off fireworks is 11:45pm. Stelmaszek has been working with the City Attorney on this matter and he has drafted a new ordinance that mirrors state law and limit the lighting of fireworks on permitted days to 11:45pm. If approved by council this new ordinance can be introduced tonight as #297 and a hearing can be set for August 7th at 6:45pm. This matter can also be referred to the Planning Commission for their review or some other alternative may be applied. Lengthy discussion took place.

Motion by Baldinelli; **second** by Dixon-Miller to introduce ordinance #297 and hold a hearing on August 7th at 6:45pm.

Vote: Unanimous, motion carried.

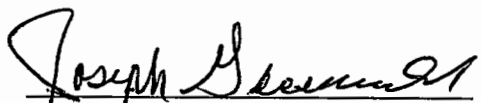
Hearings: None

Public Comment: Bob Goodreau approached the council regarding the fireworks policy. He has neighbors shooting off fireworks at all hours of the night. Groeneveld mentioned that they would address the issue.

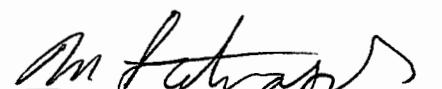
Councilmember's Privilege: Freeman stated he appreciated that two members of the community attended and voiced their concerns wishing there were more who would do the same. Dixon-Miller commented that the video ad for the Centennial was very well done. Flaminio stated that consumer fireworks are getting very huge and are out of control. Baldinelli mentioned that the fireworks are loud and he wished we could regulate the times to earlier than 11:45pm. Groeneveld encouraged people to come during the hearing.

Adjournment: **Motion** by Freeman **second** by Dixon-Miller to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 7:14pm.

Vote: Unanimous, motion carried



Mayor, Joseph Groeneveld



City Manager, Michael Stelmaszek