

City of Kingsford  
Regular Council Meeting, City Hall Council Chambers  
Monday, September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023

A regular meeting of the Kingsford City Council was held on Monday, September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. in the council chambers at City Hall.

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

Also present were: City Manager Mike Stelmaszek, City Attorney Bruce Brouillette, City Assessor Kyle Mulka, Maggie Lanthier [Daily News], Floyd Lindholm, Garritt Bader, Ryan Morgan, John Koehler, City Treasurer Holly Palmer & Kingsford Public Safety Director Rutter

The pledge of allegiance was recited by all.

**Approval of the Minutes:**

A. Regular Council Meeting September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023

**Motion** by Baldinelli; **second** by Flaminio to approve the minutes of the regular city council meeting on September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023 as presented.

B. Special Council Meeting of September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023

**Motion** by Baldinelli; **second** by Flaminio to approve the minutes of the Special Council meeting on September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023 as amended.

**Vote: Unanimous, Motion carried.**

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

**Vote: Unanimous, Motion carried.**

**Approval of Invoices:** **Motion** by Baldinelli; **second** by Flaminio to approve the invoices from 9/6/2023 thru 9/18/2023 for payment in the amount of \$287,865.05.

**Vote: Unanimous, Motion carried.**

**Consent Agenda:**

A. Public Safety Report

B. Treasurer's Report

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

**Vote: Unanimous, Motion carried.**

**Public Comment:** None.

**Communications:**

A. Thank You Letter from IM-K Community Schools for the city's support of their 2023 Summer Recreation Program.

**Motion** by Flaminio; **second** by Dixon-Miller receive and place on file the letter from IM-K Community Schools.

**Vote: Unanimous, Motion carried.**

**Manager's Report:**

1. East Breitung Avenue Road Project with its associated water main work on Woodbine is starting this week. Stelmaszek went over the project.
2. Public Safety's new Tahoe is in service. The new Durango is back in service after repairs. One of the older Durango's will be getting repairs for a transmission related issue at Chrysler World near Lena. The departments fleet issue has improved.
3. The auditor, Scott Sternhagen, from CLA and his staff will be here from October 9<sup>th</sup> through October 12<sup>th</sup> to gather information for their yearly audit.
4. We accepted the low bid from Payne & Dolan for \$188,585 for the combined Hamilton Ave sanitary sewer/Kimberly Avenue watermain project which met specifications. We are moving forward with the project.
5. Officer Cvengros has completed his Fire Fighting training. He is now Fire Fighter I & II Certified.
6. Jennifer is moving forward with our second annual Christmas Tree Lighting event which will be held on December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023 (see attached flier). Due to the large turnout this year the plan is to have the tree lighting at 4:30pm in front of the City Hall with the rest of the event being held at the Armory down the street. After the tree lighting, luminaries could guide attendees from the city hall to the Armory. Jennifer has been in contact with Breitung Township Schools and the National Guard

officials to recreate the event we had last year and possibly add more festivities. She has also consulted with our Citizen's Advisory/Decorating Committee for ideas and help.

7. The draft Intended Use Plan (IUP) is out from EGLE regarding our Ford Addition/Heights Watermain and Access Line Project. Kingsford scored an 85, however they changed the funding distribution parameters and are only offering us 50% in grant funding combined with a \$2,274,000 (2% over 40 years) loan deal. This means that for our \$13,425,000 project we have an unfunded amount of \$4,438,410 (see attached table). There are some alternative funding areas we are pursuing, however, if we are unsuccessful bringing this project to fruition, the city may need to bond on the open market for the unfunded amount. A lengthy discussion took place.

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

**Vote: Unanimous; Motion carried.**

Old Business

- A. Bid Opening for Stump Grinding Services

1. 1<sup>st</sup> Down Tree Service - \$1,645.00
2. Richard Victorson - \$2,960.00

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

**Vote: Unanimous, Motion carried.**

New Business

- A. Fireworks Permit Request from Todd Dooley

**Motion** by Baldinelli; **second** by Flaminio to approve the fireworks permit request.

**Vote: Unanimous; Motion carried.**

- B. Retail Store Variance Request (set a Hearing Date for 6:45pm on 10/16/2023)

**Motion** by Flaminio; **second** by Baldinelli to approve setting a hearing date on October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 6:45pm for the variance request.

**Vote: Unanimous; Motion carried.**

Public Comment: None.

Councilmember's Privilege: Dixon-Miller had no comment. Flaminio voiced that he was disappointed with a decision at a recent council meeting to not provide additional funding to the Kingsford Centennial Committee given all their help to make the event the success that it was. A lengthy discussion took place. Baldinelli was upset with the decision as well but mentioned that the committee is still working towards raising the funds. Groeneveld felt that it was unfortunate it happened but agreed with that the decision should wait until there is a full council. Flaminio and Baldinelli requested that the funding request be on the agenda for the next council meeting. Stelmaszek reassured it would be.

Adjournment: **Motion** by Baldinelli **second** by Dixon-Miller to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 7:16pm

**Vote: Unanimous, Motion carried.**

---

Mayor, Joseph Groeneveld

---

City Manager, Michael Stelmaszek