

BRIDGMAN CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
January 20, 2020
6:30 PM

The regular meeting of the Bridgman City Council was held on January 20, 2020 at Bridgman City Hall, 9765 Maple Street, Bridgman, Michigan and called to order by Mayor Rose at 6:30 p.m.

COUNCIL PRESENT: Linda Gedeon-Kuhn, Stacy Stine, Jan Trapani, Vince Rose, Rick Fuller, Georgia Gipson, Sarah Buist

COUNCIL ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: City Manager Ganum, City Clerk Holm, Police Chief Unruh, Parks Director Root, Assistant Parks Director Ball, City Attorney Senica, Fire Chief Buist

Pledge of Allegiance was led by council.

HEARING OF CITIZENS:

- No one wished to be heard.

PRESENTATION:

Audit Presentation for the Fiscal Year 2019

Paul Matz with Rehman shared the results with the council. The goal is to report on the fact that the financial statements are reported correctly. They do a test of transactions and balances, look at risk considerations, and report on findings, comments, and recommendations. The auditors issued a clean audit opinion which is the highest level that you can achieve. He went over the two recommendations at the end of the report and touched on a few highlights.

PUBLIC HEARING:

Public Hearing – City of Bridgman 2020 – 2024 Park and Recreation Plan

Mayor Rose opened the public hearing at 6:39 p.m.

Public Comments:

Noelle, resident on Baldwin Rd. – She has already spoken with Ganum, Root, and Ball regarding some concerns she has with the draft Park and Recreation Plan. Some concerns she has include the location of the playground equipment, the location of the proposed splash pad area and teen hangout space. Moving the location of the play equipment to the green space behind the pavilion would help. There is not a lot of seating areas and the trees that were planted have died or are dying from being hit when trimming around the trees.

Mayor Rose closed the public hearing at 6:48 p.m.

APPROVE/AMEND THE AGENDA:

Motion by Council Member Gedeon-Kuhn, seconded by Council Member Gipson to approve the agenda for January 20, 2020 as presented, **motion carried unanimously.**

ACTION ITEMS:

Motion by Council Member Gedeon-Kuhn, seconded by Council Member Buist to approve the minutes of the January 6, 2020 regular meeting as presented, **motion carried unanimously.**

Motion by Council Member Gedeon-Kuhn, seconded by Council Member Buist to approve the bills in the amount of \$68,034.35,
Member Trapani inquired about the monthly rubbish cost and asked if the council is going to have another conversation on the matter, discussion pursued and Ganum stated that the topic can be revisited under a Workshop Discussion item, **motion carried unanimously.**

Parks and Recreation Director Root went over a summary of the recent survey conducted on the 2020-2024 Park and Recreation Plan:

- 235 Responses
- 64% live in Bridgman or Lake Charter Township
- 88% reported leisure activities as very important or extremely important
- Room for improvement in recreation activities offered
- Overwhelming support for the improvement of all parks

Root went through the deficiencies that were identified during a walkthrough survey in November 2019 and the 5-year Recreation Capital Improvement Plan. Council then asked Root any questions they had and shared some of their ideas for the plan.

Motion by Council Member Gedeon-Kuhn, seconded by Council Member Buist to adopt the City of Bridgman 2020-2024 Park and Recreation Plan as presented, **motion carried unanimously.**

WORKSHOP DISCUSSION ITEMS:

City Manager's Report

- Ganum handed council personal and confidential mail regarding the status of the fire departments which can be discussed at a later date.
- Member Fuller spoke on the upcoming Friday Family Fests that is in the works for 2020. It would take place during May – October and each one would have a theme with a different location. These family-friendly activities will include bands, children's activities, farmers markets, food, contests, awards, and other activities. Member Gedeon-Kuhn inquired how this will be funded. Member Fuller said there will be volunteer effort and the city has a community fund that might be able to contribute a few thousand towards it. Member Stine suggested contacting the schools. She explained how Notre Dame has different teams set up concessions at every football game to raise money for their programs and maybe Bridgman could do the same.
- Member Trapani inquired about the suggested changes that Ganum and Building Official Mattner are embarking on. Ganum said they are finding that the city's sign ordinance is a little too restrictive and gave a couple examples. He said the suggested changes would go to the

Planning Commission first and then that board would make recommendations to the City Council.

HEARING OF CITIZENS:

- Noelle inquired about who takes care of the park and trails behind the campground. Mayor Rose and Ganum both replied that the city only owns maybe 20 yards and the rest is Warren Dunes.
- Dennis Kreps, Bridgman Public Library Director – has been sending the council summary of events to put in the council packets. The Library is one of the sponsors for the upcoming Polar Party. On February 11th author Edward Sarkis will be available for purchase and signing of his comprehensive biography of Bob Seger. There will be a blood drive on February 14th and encouraged all to donate. Lastly, the library website is going through a major overhaul.
- Bill Boyd inquired about changing one of the Family Fest dates because of the annual Bridgman Fire Department Street Dance. Member Fuller suggested Boyd getting a hold of him to talk about his ideas.

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

- Member Gedeon-Kuhn thanked the Bridgman Public Library and Honor Credit Union for sponsoring the Polar Party.
- Member Fuller thanked the library, beach, and school system for being so community minded and Ganum for the letter he handed out. He inquired on the status of the previous HVAC contract and funds owed to the city. Attorney Senica stated she finally located him and served him papers in mid-December but has not heard a response from him. He has 30 days to respond and is now approaching the 40-day mark. She will ask to recoup for legal costs as well as the unpaid portion in the pleading, but it will be up to the judge. His final question was on the lighting along Lake Street and how long it will stay up. Ganum said the moisture is already getting to be a problem again with the GFCl's. The Street Department will take down the garland and holiday banners in the coming days or weeks and leave the snow flakes up until the end of February or at least after the Polar Party.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Member Gedeon-Kuhn, seconded by Council Member Gipson to adjourn the meeting at 7:42 p.m., **motion carried unanimously.**

Vince Rose, Mayor

Allyson Holm, City Clerk