

**BRIDGMAN CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
March 16, 2020
6:30 PM**

The regular meeting of the Bridgman City Council was held on March 16, 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, Attorney Senica, Police Chief Unruh, Parks and Recreation Director Root, Treasurer Lambrix, and +DPS Director Kading

Pledge of Allegiance was led by council.

HEARING OF CITIZENS:

- None

APPROVE/AMEND THE AGENDA:

Motion by Council Member Gedeon-Kuhn, seconded by Council Member Gipson to approve the agenda for March 16, 2020 with the addition of a Resolution 2020-06 for USDA grant application for the CIA plan, **motion carried unanimously.**

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

Mayor Rose opened the Public Hearing on Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund application for Toth Park Improvements at 6:31 pm and asked if there was anyone that wished to be heard. No one came forward. Motion by Council Member Gedeon-Kuhn, supported by Council Member Buist to close the Public Hearing at 6:31 pm.

Mayor Rose opened the Public Hearing on Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund application for Weko Beach House Restrooms at 6:32 pm and asked if there was anyone that wished to be heard. No one came forward. Motion by Council Member Gedeon-Kuhn, supported by Council Member Buist to close the Public Hearing at 6:32 pm.

ACTION ITEMS:

Motion by Council Member Gedeon-Kuhn, seconded by Council Member Trapani to approve the minutes of the March 2, 2020 regular meeting as presented, **motion carried unanimously.**

Motion by Council Member Gedeon-Kuhn, seconded by Council Member Gipson to approve the bills in the amount of \$119,211.76, **motion carried unanimously.**

PRESENTATION:

Erin Hudson, Executive Director and CEO, Harbor Habitat for Humanity spoke to the Council regarding the organizations desire to purchase city property located on Vineyard to development a cottage courtyard style housing. This would bring affordable housing to the community. She explained that Harbor Habitat partners with DC Cook for build homes in Benton Harbor and Benton Township, but would like to build in the Cook Plant's area for their next project. She explained the criteria used to determine who would be allowed to purchase/build in the development. A presentation was given showing how the program works, past projects and the success of the program.

John Truesdell, Principal of FC Reed Middle School spoke regarding the Habitat project and the positive impact it would have on the school district and potential students that may move into a community that is being proposed.

Sara Ball, Assistant Director of Parks and Recreation spoke regarding the difficulty to find affordable housing that move-in ready and not requiring additional improvements. She would be very interested in the Habitat project so that she could live in the community where she works.

Ena Lepinski, owner of Knots Therapeutic Massage spoke regarding the need for affordable housing that a single, small business owner such as herself could purchase. This project will fill that need in the community.

Joel Gebbie, Senior Vice-President and Chief Nuclear Officer, Donald C. Cook Nuclear Plant spoke on being a part of Bridgman for over 50 years and is looking forward to working with Habitat in Bridgman.

Council Member Fuller thanked Ms. Hudson for a wonderful presentation. Mayor Rose asked if the first owner would be able to sell the house on the open market. Ms. Hudson said they would but in the 9 years she has been with Harbor Habitat only 2 have sold their homes. Council Member Stine stated that she grew up in many different places in the Bridgman area and if this would have been offered to her family then it would have been beneficial to her. She feels it's a great program.

Motion by Council Member Gedeon-Kuhn, seconded by Council Member Buist to approve Notice of Intent to sell 1.3 acres of City-owned property located along Vineyard (property identification number 56-0019-0145-14-1), **motion carried unanimously.**

Motion by Council Member Buist, seconded by Council Member Trapani to adopt **Resolution 2020-03**, a *Resolution to establishing official hours of operation for Weko Beach and Campground, Toth Park and Legion Park*, **motion carried unanimously.**

Motion by Council Member Gedeon-Kuhn, supported by Council Member Gipson to adopt **Resolution 2020-04**, a *Resolution to approve a Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund application for Toth Park Improvements*, **motion carried unanimously.**

Motion by Council Member Buist, supported by Council Member Gedeon-Kuhn to adopt **Resolution 2020-05**, a *Resolution to approve a Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund application for Weko Beach House Restrooms*, **motion carried unanimously**

Motion by Council Member Gedeon-Kuhn, supported by Council Member Stine to approve the Special Events Application submitted by the Greater Bridgman Area Chamber of Commerce and Growth Alliance for the Makers Trail Festival on June 13, 2020 and waive support service costs except for the provision of law enforcement and labor associated with the installation of fencing , **motion carried unanimously.**

WORKSHOP DISCUSSION ITEMS AND REPORTS:

City Manager's Report – written report

In addition to his written report, Ganum introduced Parker Cote who began coming to the council meetings when it was a requirement for his government class and has continued to attend the meetings. Parker is interested in pursuing a career in Public Administration. Ganum has contacted MML regarding a pilot program of bringing young people into local government through an internship. They have offered \$2000 towards the salary of an intern. Ganum ask council to consider budgeting \$4200 in the upcoming budget to bring Mr. Cote on this summer as intern. Ganum thinks Cote may someday be his replacement.

Motion by Council Member Gipson, supported by Council Member Buist to approve **Resolution 2020-06, A Resolution to Approve the United States Department of Agriculture Rural Business Development Grant Application to Develop a Revised Corridor Improvement Authority Tax Increment Financing Plan,** **motion carried unanimously.**

HEARING OF CITIZENS:

- Bill Boyd asked for the boat ramp to be put in sooner than May 1st.
- John Truesdell wanted to thank the Council for the support of the banner project for his students

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

- None

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Council Member Gedeon-Kuhn, seconded by Council Member Buist to adjourn the meeting at 8:02 p.m., **motion carried unanimously.**

Vince Rose, Mayor

Debra Lambrix, Treasurer