

BRIDGMAN CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
July 6, 2020
6:30 PM

The regular meeting of the Bridgman City Council was held on July 6, 2020 remotely by means of electronic conferencing and called to order by Mayor Rose at 6:32 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, Attorney Senica, Police Chief Unruh, Parks and Recreation Director Root, DPS Director Kading, Building Official Mattner, Fire Chief Buist

Pledge of Allegiance was led by council.

Mayor Rose explained the meeting procedure and how the public will be able to comment under the Hearing of Citizens portion of the agenda.

APPROVE/AMEND THE AGENDA:

Motion by Council Member Gedeon-Kuhn, seconded by Council Member Trapani to approve the agenda for July 6, 2020

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: Gedeon-Kuhn, Stine, Trapani, Rose, Fuller, Gipson, Buist

Nays: None

Motion carried.

HEARING OF CITIZENS:

- Dennis Kreps, Bridgman Public Library Director – Still doing curbside service and they do not have a solid opening date yet.
- Jacquie Blackwell – Introduced herself as a Bridgman resident running for office as a Representative in the 79th District.

ACTION ITEMS:

Motion by Council Member Gedeon-Kuhn, seconded by Council Member Stine to approve the minutes from the June 15, 2020 regular meeting,

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: Stine, Trapani, Rose, Fuller, Gipson, Buist, Gedeon-Kuhn

Nays: None

Motion carried.

Motion by Council Member Gedeon-Kuhn, seconded by Council Member Gipson to approve the bills in the amount of \$114,886.08,

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: Trapani, Rose, Fuller, Gipson, Buist, Gedeon-Kuhn, Stine

Nays: None
Motion carried.

WORKSHOP DISCUSSION ITEMS AND REPORTS:

Presentation of Habitat for Humanity development at the intersection of Vineyard St. and Willow St. by Erin Hudson, Executive Director of Harbor Habitat for Humanity and Carl Baxmeyer, Planning Manager for Wightman

Hudson explained how the initial concept was going to be a cottage style community, but this style ended up being too costly, so they went back to the drawing board. The changes that have been made are for the greatest use of the space. The new plan has both duplex style homes and stand-alone homes. There will be a common area as well. Basements and garages are also being factored in these homes. With COVID-19, the building of these houses will be a hybrid to make sure that volunteers have a safe space. There will be volunteers on this project but not as many as usual.

Baxmeyer explained the common area is going to be a retention area for run-off water to go. Part of it will have landscape and include a pocket park. The areas that retain water will have a rain garden.

The council agrees that this design is a better alternative.

City Manager's Report

In addition to the written report, Ganum gave a verbal report on the following:

- The City will honor the 2019 Bridgman Girls Cross Country state championship team with new signage at the city limits on Red Arrow Highway on Tuesday, July 7th at 5:30 p.m.
- The owners of a new business called Hearth & Market will be located at the corner of Red Arrow Highway and Lake Street, in the Monogram Centre building.
- The Parks Department along with volunteers have organized a clean-up at Toth Park on July 11th from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
- The partnership with Habitat has been fantastic. The property for this project will need to go through a conditional rezoning of the property.

Kerry Rateringer with Republic Services discussed an alternative option for the City to lower its cost regarding the trash and recycling services contract. Instead of the proposed \$1.92/address/month increase, the City could eliminate the recycling roll carts and replace with a centralized roll-off container. This would allow the residents that want to recycle a place to take them as often as they would like. He gave an example of how Muskegon has handled their trash and recycling through a millage and an additional charge and line item on the resident's water bill.

Ganum explained that this container would be located near the DPS building and cameras will be installed. The DPS would be responsible for monitoring this container. If the City passed along recycling directly to the residents, it would be cost prohibited. The council discussed the information presented and need to pursue an option. Ganum said information can go out in the next Community Buzz to inform residents of the upcoming changes and what to expect.

HEARING OF CITIZENS:

- Jacquie Blackwell, 3786 Stadium Dr. – Commented on recycling and how it will evolve moving forward through COVID. Bridgman has been referenced twice in neighboring communities.

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

- Member Gedeon-Kuhn is resigning from the city council after this meeting. She has family consideration and cannot get it all done.
- Mayor Rose thanked Gedeon-Kuhn for all her involvement with the community and schools.
- Member Buist had questions on the new City Hall office hours. She has concerns with the new hours, how the staff is getting paid, and making sure the office hours are accommodating to the public. She also commented on the seating area next to Accents and how often people are using it. The space needs umbrellas to shade the area from being so hot.
- Attorney Senica stated she is sorry to hear about Gedeon-Kuhn's resignation. Procedurally she will need to submit it in writing and documented by the council. Member Gedeon-Kuhn stated she did send an email to Ganum a couple weeks ago.

Motion by Council Member Gipson, seconded by Council member Stine to accept Council Member Gedeon-Kuhn's resignation,

Roll Call:

Yeas: Stine, Trapani, Rose, Fuller, Gipson, Buist, Gedeon-Kuhn

Nays: None

Motion carried.

- Mayor Rose talked about people climbing the water intake at the beach and jumping off it. There is a sign but not everyone obeys. He would like to see a fine for those doing it. Attorney Senica stated signs that say no trespassing and no jumping signs would have to be clear. Kading stated it was a federal offence to climb on the water intake. Senica will talk to the prosecutor. There needs to be more clear signage of this.
- Member Fuller talked to Nick who is running the Farmer's Market. He needs more clientele. Member Stine suggested the campground could pass out handouts to get the word out. Mayor Rose suggested an LED sign at Lake St. and Red Arrow Highway that could display the information.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Council Member Gedeon-Kuhn, seconded by Council Member Trapani to adjourn the meeting at 7:53 p.m.,

Roll Call:

Yeas: Rose, Fuller, Gipson, Buist, Gedeon-Kuhn, Stine, Trapani

Nays: None

Absent for vote: None

Motion carried.

Vince Rose, Mayor

Allyson Holm, City Clerk