



May 3, 2021 Regular City Council Meeting

5/3/2021 - Minutes

1. Call To Order

Mayor Damm called the meeting to order at 7:00pm

2. Pledge Of Allegiance/Invocation

3. Roll Call

Members present: Mayor Damm; Mayor Pro-Tem Fabbro; Councilor Armstrong; Councilor McTaggart and Councilor Mecham.

Members Absent: None

4. Approval/Adjustment To The Agenda

Motion by Fabbro; second by Mecham to approve the Agenda as presented. Motion carried.

5. Adoption Of Regular Minutes

Motion by Mecham; second by Armstrong to approve the April 5, 2021 City Council Meeting Minutes as presented. Motion carried.

6. Public Comment

Carson Atkins - 133 N Cass, Vassar - Mr Atkins asked if there were plans for the monies that City would be receiving through the American Rescue Plan; that residents on Main Street were abusing street parking; and that there is a need for more trash cans at City parks.

Paul Whitney - Keep Vassar Beautiful Committee - Petunia Planting is scheduled for May 22, 2021 at 9am. He is requesting to submit a request for Road Closure to Michigan Department of Transportation and to have 2 staff members from the DPW during the event to assist with the lane closures along M-15.

7. Consent Agenda Items

Motion by Fabbro; second by Armstrong to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion carried.

7.I. Vendor Listing

April 2021 Vendor listing

7.II. Boards And Commission Minutes

Parks & Recreation - Feb 24, 2021

DDA - March 10, 2021

Planning - March 15, 2021

VAAS - April 15, 2021

7.III. Boards And Commission Appointments

Building Codes Board of Appeals:
Gene Urcan - 5 year term
Pamela Stefan - 5 year term
Bryan Root - 5 year term

8. New Business

8.1. Proposed Budget FY22

Public Hearing for FY2022 Budget
Mayor Damm opened the Public Hearing at 7:21pm.

Public Comments - Carson Atkins - 133 N Cass, Vassar - Mr. Atkins questioned the proposed water/sewer rate increase and the purpose of the Fire Department's Utilities charge.

Mayor Damm closed the Public Hearing at 7:25pm.

Resolution #2021-04 - Resolution setting Millage Rates

Motion by Fabbro; second by Mecham to approve Resolution #2021-04 - Resolution setting Millage Rates as presented. Motion carried.

Resolution #2021-05 - General Appropriations Resolution

Motion by Armstrong; second by McTaggart to approve Resolution #2021-05 - General Appropriations Resolution along with the FY2022 budget as presented.

Roll Call vote for consideration of FY22 Budget:

Yae: Fabbro; Armstrong; Mecham; McTaggart; and Damm. Motion Carried

9. Council Discussion, Direction To City Manager & Future Agenda Items

Council Members requested updates on the following:

- Pedestrian Bridge - Placement to be late summer/early fall
- Grant for pavilion updates and repairs - Grant to be completed in October for FY23 budget
- Dumpster @ City Hall - The free dumping is being abused, therefore the dumpster will be moved to the fairgrounds where it will be locked after after hours. A resident will have to request a key at City Hall to access after hours and weekends.
- Building Codes Department - The City should have final approval from the State of Michigan by July. It is the hope that other communities will request the City's services for building inspections/permits. This will allow the City to recoup its initial investment made to start this department.
- Chief Guile provided an update to the Blight notices that have been sent to residents. A total of 6 tickets have been issued and most violations are being handled through inspections and site visits.

10. Public Comment

Carson Atkins - 133 N Cass, Vassar - Mr. Atkins stated that the Pavilion area is in need of updating and asked about the timeline of the reconstruction of Athletic Street.

11. City Manager Announcements & Statements

City Manager Niedzinski provided the following:

- Youth Baseball has requested the City refurbish/upgrade the grounds, fields and buildings at the fairground ball parks. They say that the buildings and dugouts are in need of new roofing and to be painted. They are also requesting new benches and fencing. After much discussion by the Council, City Manager Niedzinski will assist this group in fundraising and/or applying for grants to complete these repairs.
- The City has been awarded a Tuscola Community Foundation grant in the amount of \$3000 to be used for children's activities during the Vassar Farmers' Market.
- Downtown Businesses have requested the City to consider a Social District in the Downtown area. After discussion by the Council it was the consensus that this type of District would not be a good fit for our Downtown.
- City Manager Niedzinski wanted to "thank" the young men from Wolverine Human Services for their assistance with the clean up at White Birch Park.

The following are upcoming City events:

- May 15, 2021 - T North Pavilion Clean up @ 10am
- May 25, 2021 - Tree planting on City owned lots on Cass Ave @ 10am
- May 26, 2021 - Harper Park Clean up @ 6pm

12. Adjourn

Motion by Fabbro; second by Mecham to adjourn the meeting at 8:06pm. Motion carried.