

City of Northville
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
May 18, 2015

Mayor Christopher Johnson called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:30 p.m. in the City of Northville Municipal Building, City Council Chambers, 215 W. Main Street, Northville, Michigan, 48167.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Christopher Johnson, Councilmembers Nancy Darga and Sam Ekong

Absent: Mayor Pro Tem James Allen (excused) Councilmember Ryan McKindles (excused)

Also Present: City Manager Patrick Sullivan, City Clerk Dianne Massa, Finance Director/Treasurer

Sandi Wiktorowski, Police Chief Michael Carlson, Parks and Recreation Director Jason Spiller, Housing Director Sherry Necelis, and two citizens.

PRESENTATIONS

A. Citizens Comments None

B. The Senior Alliance / Overview of Services and Local Match

(As Mr. Maciejewski was not present, this presentation took place after New Business item A.)

Jason Maciejewski, Chief Planning Information Officer, gave a brief presentation of their programs and services.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA

Motion Allen, seconded by McKindles to adopt the agenda and consent agenda as presented:

Approve City Council Minutes of:

- Special Meeting of April 29, 2015

Receive Bills List: Checks #93299 to #93379, Checks #93380 to #93501, Checks #93502 to #93631

Receive Board and Commission Minutes:

- Beautification Commission: 4/6/15

Receive Departmental Reports:

- Youth Assistance: 5/15

Board and Commission Appointments:

- Beautification Commission: Appoint Theresa Snyder to fill a vacancy with a term expiration of 6/30/19

Request to Canvass/ Detroit Public Television

Request to Dispose of Assets / Television, Exercise Equipment, Fire Alarm Parts / Allen Terrace

Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. Fiscal Year 2016 Budget

In accordance with City Charter, on March 30, 2015, the Northville City Council was presented with the proposed fiscal year 2016 budget. That budget and five-year financial plan was reviewed in detail at two special budget study sessions during April. In accordance with City Charter, the public hearing notice and notice of availability of budget were published in the Northville Record. The complete budget document has also been available on the City's website. Section 8.4 of the City Charter requires that the City Council adopt a budget by the third Monday in May each year.

The FY2016 General Fund budget has been balanced without the use of fund balance. The general operating millage will remain at 13.5864 mills. The street, drainage, and sidewalk improvement millage will decrease to 1.7542 mills.

Public hearing opened at 7:32 p.m. No comment. Public hearing closed at 7:32 p.m.

City Council Comment and Discussion: Explanation was given pertaining to the Headline Amendment and the rollback of the current street millage. City Council acknowledged the work involved for the Finance Department to provide a balanced budget document.

Motion Allen, seconded by Darga to adopt the FY2016 budget resolution as presented. **Motion carried unanimously.**

RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES

A. Amendment to Chapter 54 / Offenses and Miscellaneous Provisions / Article VI Offenses Against Public Safety / Minors at Racetrack / First Reading

Chapter 54, Article VI of the City of Northville Code of Ordinances excluded minors under the age of 12 from race track property, and minors 12-18 years of age, unless accompanied by a parent or legal guardian. The City can see no reason to prohibit minors under the age of 12 from attending the race track provided they are accompanied at all times by a parent or legal guardian. The proposed amendment removes this restriction and has been reviewed by the City Attorney.

Motion McKindles, seconded by Allen to introduce for first reading, the proposed amendments to Chapter 54, Article VI pertaining to minors at the racetrack in the City of Northville Code of Ordinances as presented, with second reading and possible adoption scheduled for June 1, 2015. **Motion carried unanimously.**

B. Amendment to Chapter 54 / Offenses and Miscellaneous Provisions / Article VI Offenses Against Public Safety / Fireworks / First Reading

Public Act 256 of 2011 established the Michigan Fireworks Safety Act. The Act allows for the sale and use of consumer fireworks without a permit, prescribes licensing requirements and conditions for retailers, and establishes restrictions and penalties for improper use of fireworks.

Section 54-183 of the City Code of Ordinances pertaining to fireworks was vague and was revised to allow the City to reflect the changes made to the State law, to include regulating the ignition, discharge,

and use of consumer fireworks to the day preceding, the day of, and the day after a national holiday. The proposed text amendments were reviewed by the City Attorney.

City Council Comments and Discussion: In response to a question from City Council, it was explained that the hours in the proposed ordinance amendment mirror state law. The City cannot restrict beyond what is allowed under the statute.

Motion Darga, seconded by Allen to introduce for first reading the proposed amendment to Chapter 54 Offenses and Miscellaneous Provisions, Article VI Offenses against Public Safety pertaining to fireworks in the City of Northville Code of Ordinances as presented, with second reading and possible adoption scheduled for June 1, 2015. **Motion carried unanimously.**

NEW BUSINESS

A. Request to Transfer Class C and SDM Liquor License / Richards Restaurant Group, LLC

Richards Restaurant Group, L.L.C. (RRG), owned by Gregory Richards, William Richards, and Deborah Richards, is requesting transfer of ownership of an escrowed Class C and SDM Liquor License, owned by HFTFA, Inc. in Harper Woods. The current license has both an AM and PM Sunday Sales permit, Specific Purpose Food permit, as well as a Dance and Entertainment permit. RRG is requesting to drop the AM Sunday Sales and Entertainment permits and add an Outdoor Service permit to the license. The business is to be located at 144 Mary Alexander Court, which is currently being renovated to accommodate this business.

The applicants have completed the Liquor License Review Committee Application indicating they intend to operate a full service Asian restaurant and bar doing business as Wok Asian Bistro (“Wok”). Their plan indicates they will have an interior seating capacity for 70 patrons, six of which will be at the bar and an additional 40 in an outdoor service area. Their plan of operation indicates that the business will be open 11:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 11:00 a.m. – 11:00 p.m. Friday and Saturday, and Noon to 7:00 p.m. on Sunday. They anticipate sales of 80% food and 20% alcohol. Patrons of the restaurant will park in public parking or the parking lot at the rear of the building, which is shared with other businesses within the multi-unit building.

Gregory Richards will run the day-to-day operations of this business. He has managed several restaurants and was the director of operations for a large stir-fry restaurant chain in Arizona. William and Deborah Richards have not been involved in the restaurant business. The Police Department has conducted a background check and has not found any negative business or Liquor License issues involving any of the applicants. All fees and costs have been paid by the applicants. Staff can find no reason to object to the approval of this request subject to final inspections and code compliance.

A public hearing with the City of Northville Liquor License Review Committee (LLRC) was held earlier and the LLRC recommends City Council pass a resolution approving the transfer of this license.

Motion Darga, seconded by Ekong that City Council take no action to object to the Michigan Liquor Control Commission approving the request by Gregory Richards to transfer a Class C and SDM license with PM Sunday Sales, Specific Purpose (food), and Outdoor Service permit. **Motion carried unanimously.**

(Presentation 3B - The Senior Alliance presentation was heard)

B. Funding for Maybury Connection

In 2014, construction commenced on Eight Mile Road, between Taft and Beck Roads. A pathway was constructed along the south side of Eight Mile Road, leading up to the Eight Mile Road and Beck Road intersection, in hopes to connect into Maybury State Park. Maybury State Park received a grant to improve their internal trail system during the spring of 2015 and part of that project was to extend their trail to allow for a new pedestrian/bike entrance. It was discovered a 200-foot connector along the south side of Eight Mile Road needs to be constructed to enter into the park due to the uneven landscape at the Eight Mile Road and Beck Road intersection.

The grant did not include funding for this connector, but with the assistance of the 2015 Wayne County Millage Fund, Northville Township was given \$194,125 for park improvements. This 200-foot connection is to be paid with these funds as approved by the Northville Parks and Recreation Commission.

There is no long term budget impact. The Northville Parks and Recreation Commission is using the Request for Proposal issued by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) for the improvements at Maybury. The DNR needs payment in full before the project starts in order to utilize their contractor. Since the Wayne County Millage funds will not be available to Northville Township until later in 2015, the Northville Parks and Recreation Commission approved \$103,904.30 of their cash reserve, which includes a 5% contingency, to pay for the project. These funds will be transferred back into the Parks and Recreation cash reserve once the Township receives the funding from Wayne County.

City Council Comments and Discussion: Discussion ensued pertaining to the signage planned to get people to Maybury Park, concern with using local funds when other grant opportunities might exist and might result in even more funding (the grant opportunities do exist but the funds would not be available until 2016 which is too late for this project), concern with Wayne County's financial crisis and if that would impact a delay in returning these funds to Parks and Recreation. It was noted that the reimbursement process in Wayne County is slow due to cash flow; however, it is believed these funds are not in jeopardy, and will be returned.

Motion Darga, seconded by Ekong to approve the use of \$103,904.30 of the Northville Parks and Recreation Cash Reserve funds to pay for the 200-foot Maybury Connection. **Motion carried unanimously.**

C. 2014-2015 Wayne County Community Development Block Grant Fund Allocation

In October 2013, the City of Northville Housing Commission received permission from Wayne County Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) to use funds to replace the fire alarm system at Allen Terrace. After recent talks with Wayne County, the Housing Commission received approval to spend its 2014-15 allocation on the project. The money cannot be spent until after July 2015 and until the Housing Commission receives a "notice to spend" from Wayne County. This 2014-15 allocation is Allen Terrace Improvement \$33,305.13 and Administration \$4,462.90.

Three years of previous allocations have been spent on the project. To date, \$89,132.42 has been spent on the replacement project. The total from Wayne County is \$126,900.45, which includes the 2014-15 allocation. The total cost of the project is \$164,800.00. Most of the fire alarm replacement project will be funded with block grants and the balance of \$37,899.55 will be paid using Allen Terrace operating funds.

City Council Comments and Discussion: Discussion ensued pertaining to the CDBG grant award formula and allocation process, the future sustainability of CDBG funds, and how those funds are allocated to the local jurisdictions.

Motion Darga, seconded by Ekong to authorize Staff to approve using the Wayne County 2014-15 Community Development Block Grant allocation in the amount of \$33,305.13 and \$4,462.90 for improvement and administrative purposes for the Allen Terrace fire alarm replacement project. **Motion carried unanimously.**

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS

A. Mayor and Council Communications None

B. Staff Communications None

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Adjournment: 8:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dianne Massa, CMC
City Clerk

Christopher J. Johnson
Mayor

Approved as submitted: 6/1/15