

HUDSONVILLE CITY COMMISSION

City Commission Minutes

September 26, 2023

Mayor Northrup called the special session of the Hudsonville City Commission to order on Tuesday, September 26, 2023 at 6:01 PM.

Present: Mayor Northrup, Commissioners Bolhuis, Brandsen, Leerar, Nyitray, City Manager Dotson, DPW Superintendent Miller, Planning and Zoning Director Strikwerda, Sgt. Steigenga, Finance Director Smith and City Clerk Gruppen.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

1064. None.

NEW BUSINESS

Administration

1065. Motion by Leerar, seconded by Brandsen to amend the order of the meeting agenda, moving Item No. 6 (Park Elementary Parking Lot) to be Item No. 4 and moving Item No.7 (Jipping Plaza and Adjacent Property Purchase Discussion) to be Item No. 10.

7 aye, 0 nay, motion carried.

1066. Park Elementary Parking Lot.
Discussion was held on the upcoming construction project at Park Elementary School. This project will include adding a gym and other interior upgrades to the building and reconfiguring the current parent drop-off area. The reconfiguration will result in expanding the current parking lot, with the expanded area being on Hughes Park property. Hudsonville Public Schools and GMB staff were present to answer questions from Commissioners - including project timeline dates, public use of the parking lot and safety issues for visitors and vehicles. City Manager Dotson outlined the next steps for this project.

1067. Early Voting Plan Update.
Motion by Groot, seconded by Nyitray, to approve the amendment to the Ottawa County Early Voting Administrative Services Agreement OR authorize the City Clerk to inform the County Clerk of the City's intention to enter into a municipal agreement for early voting, based on the decision made by the Ottawa County Board of Commissioners at their September 26th meeting and upon approval of the City Manager.

7 aye, 0 nay, motion carried.

1068. Consumers Energy Lighting Contract Change.
Motion by Leerar, seconded by Groot, to adopt Resolution No. 23-1775, authorizing change to the standard lighting contract between Consumers Energy Co. and the City of Hudsonville per Contract No. 100000083574.

7 aye, 0 nay, motion carried.

1069. Highland Drive Truck Route.
Several residents have called about the number of semi-trucks using Highland Drive to get from Chicago Drive to 32nd Avenue. Dotson explained the I-196 construction has increased all traffic on Highland Drive. Dotson has been in discussions with Sgt. Steigenga about enforcement options – fees for violations are nominal compared to the cost of continual police presence. In depth discussion was held on the different options for this road, with input from Planning & Zoning Director Strikwerda and DPW Superintendent Miller. Consensus was to wait for the highway construction to be completed and potentially revisit the issue if it continues to be a problem.

1070. Future Site Visits.
Dotson discussed the remaining city owned sites that Northrup would like the Commission to visit. Commissioners still see value in these visits and want to finish up the last three locations. With the weather becoming a factor soon, it was suggested that some visits might need to be put off until the next calendar year. Miller suggested an early meeting for the DPW visit so Commissioners can meet DPW staff. Dotson and City Clerk Gruppen will coordinate the visits.

1071. Other Items Commissioners Wish to Discuss.
An update was given on the potential use at the Nature Center. An informal presentation will be given to the Commission for their feedback. A local business has been in recent contact with Commissioners about zoning concerns. Commissioners requested more education on the process for zoning decisions and ordinances related to this issue. Strikwerda and Dotson explained more of the history of the Zoning Ordinance and process for the business going forward.

1072. Jipping Plaza and Adjacent Property Discussion.
Motion by DeVree, seconded by Leerar, to enter into special closed session pursuant to Section 8(d) of the Open Meetings Act to consider the purchase or lease of real property.

7 aye, 0 nay, motion carried.

Motion by Leerar, seconded by Brandsen, to enter back into open session.

7 aye, 0 nay, motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

1073. Motion by Leerar, seconded by Groot, to adjourn the special session at 8:33 PM.

Jill Gruppen
Hudsonville City Clerk

Mayor Northrup