

HUDSONVILLE CITY COMMISSION
City Commission Minutes

May 12, 2015

Mayor VanDoeselaar, called the Regular Session of the Hudsonville City Commission to order at 7:00 P.M., May 12, 2015. The Pledge of Allegiance was stated and Commissioner O'Brien gave the invocation.

Present: Mayor Van Doeselaar, Commissioners Bolhuis, Brandsen, Northrup, O'Brien, Raterink, City Manager Waterman, Finance Director Sal and City Clerk Wiersum.

Absent: Commissioner Leerar

8502. Motion by O'Brien, seconded by Northrup, to approve the Consent Agenda consisting of the following:

1. Minutes of City Minutes of City Commission regular session dated April 14, 2015.
2. Minutes of City Commission work session dated April 28, 2015.
3. Minutes of Planning Commission meeting dated April 15, 2015.
4. Gary Byker Memorial Library Director's Report – April, 2015.

All aye, motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

8503. The City Commission continued the discussion on the request from Doug Butterworth to purchase the city-owned property at the corner of 36th Avenue and Hillcrest Road.

Planning Director Dan Strikwerda reported to the Commission on the number of ball fields in the City. The City's recreation plan recommends 1 field per 1,000 people which would total 7 fields. The City currently has 19 ball fields. This was calculated by counting a ball field on school property as half of a field. Using these calculations, there are 12 fields on City property and 14 fields on school property, which totals 19 ball fields. He feels that there is no need for additional ball diamonds in the City. Dan stated that there are other ball fields and playground equipment within ¼ to ¾ mile from this property. Other options for that property could include dividing that property into six lots. One of those

lots could be reserved as a pocket park in that area. Mr. Butterworth has submitted a plan which includes 12 units on the city-owned property.

Tim Webber, Vice President of the Hudsonville Little League was present and reported to the Commission that the league does use that ball field for practice and for games. They have been aware that this property could be sold and developed. They are not opposed to the elimination of the field. It would put a cramp in their game scheduled. They do have an area at the Port Sheldon sports complex that they could change to accommodate some smaller fields. They would decrease the size of the larger fields to accommodate smaller fields.

Commissioner Comments:

Commissioner Brandsen feels there is an abundance of ball fields readily available for residents in that area. We do not need to be in the business of providing a public parking lot.

Commissioner O'Brien questioned Mr. Butterworth on the timeline of his project. Mr. Butterworth feels the project would take place over the next three to five years. If we did agree to sell property, the city would have to put it out for bids. He feels uncomfortable taking the ball field from the Little League this season.

Commissioner Raterink – The residents of the City are used to having that area as open space. He would like to see development there but would also like to see if the development would enhance that area before the City decides to sell that property. The City will have the option of selling lots in the future.

Commissioner Bolhuis - He is leaning towards selling the property. There are other options for the Little League that would be better for them. He would like the flexibility it would give the City as far some additional funding we could use to support the non-motorized pathway.

Commissioner Northrup – He would like to keep the field and also have the development.

Mayor Van Doeselaar – Greenspace is very valuable to the city and that makes it difficult to agree to sell this space.

The City Commission did not come to a clear consensus on selling the property. City Manager Waterman gave options of (1) compromising that the City reconfigure it's boundaries to make the development happen on Mr. Butterworth's property and still be able to retain the recreation component; (2) the City would sell the property if the developer submitted a plan that the City Commission approves of. After a development plan has been reviewed by the Planning Commission, the Planning Commission would make a recommendation to the City Commission on approval of the plan.

Mr. Butterworth stated that he has presented his development plan informally to the Planning Commission. He also stated that he has cleaned up that property. They are trying to take a 3 acre piece of property in the middle of the city and develop it. They will be moving forward and come up with a plan that uses the property that they do own.

NEW BUSINESS

Public Safety

8504. Fire, Police and Emergency Services statistical reports for April received as information.

Finance

8505. Finance Director's Financial Reports for March 2015 were presented. Jan Sal also gave an update on the status of the pending Michigan Tax Tribunal cases.

8506. Payment of Bills.
Motion by Brandsen, seconded by Northrup, to confirm the payment of the bills in the amount of \$109,895.67 and to confirm payment of bills paid between meetings and reviewed by the Finance Committee.

Yea 6, Nay 0, motion carried.

8507. ACH Funds Distribution.
Motion by Brandsen, seconded by Northrup, to confirm the funds distributed via automated clearing house in the amount of \$16,305.38 which were distributed between meetings and reviewed by the City Manager.

Yea 6, Nay 0, motion carried.

Administration

8508. Fireworks Permit.
Motion by Raterink, seconded by O'Brien, to authorize Mayor Van Doeselaar to sign the permit for Display Fireworks on August 8, 2015 at dusk as part of the Saladbowl Bash Festival.

All aye, motion carried.

- 8509 Easement for 3300 Van Buren St.
Motion by O'Brien, seconded by Raterink, to approve Resolution No. 15-1588 accepting the easement related to the watermain at 3300 Van Buren Street.

Yea 6, Nay 0, motion carried.

8510. Distribution of Proposed 2015-2016 Budget.
Motion by Brandsen, seconded by Northrup, to receive a copy of the itemized proposed 2015-2016 Budget.

Yea 6, Nay 0, motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

8511. Motion by Raterink, seconded by O'Brien, to adjourn at 8:05 p.m.

All aye, motion carried.

Jan Wiersum
Hudsonville City Clerk

Mayor Van Doeselaar