

**CITY OF COOPERSVILLE**  
**REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY OF COOPERSVILLE CITY COUNCIL**  
CITY HALL, 289 DANFORTH ST.; COOPERSVILLE, MICHIGAN

**December 11, 2023**

**Present:** Council Member Bowman Council Member Gerard  
Council Member Bush Council Member Weise  
Council Member Degeus Mayor Young

**Absent:** Council Member Gavin

Motion by Council Member Bush with second by Council Member Weise to excuse the absence of Council Member Gavin. Motion carried unanimously. (2023 – 128)

**Additions/Corrections to Agenda**

Motion by Council Member Bush with second by Council Member Weise to add Item 8.J., “Action” on Legal Counsel discussion that took place in the Closed Session portion of this meeting. Motion carried unanimously. (2023 – 129)

**Scheduled Guests and Public Hearings** NONE

**Citizens Input and Suggestions**

City Resident, Tom Toogood and Representative for Bonnie Toogood addressed the Council on a recent sewer backup into Bonnie Toogood’s home. Mr. Toogood stated that there needs to be a better process in place for residents to file their claims.

County Commissioner, District 11, Allison Miedema presented an update on the following:

- ***Approval of the 2024 Budget***
- ***Opening for Commissioner for District 6***
- ***Health Department Budget and Personnel***
- ***Expansion of Veterans Department***
- ***Robin Grant Round 2 for Broadband***
- ***Parks Strategic Plan***
- ***Ottawa County Adoption Day***

**Consent Agenda**

Motion by Council Member Weise with second by Council Member Bush to approve the Consent Agenda which consists of the following: Motion carried unanimously. (2023 – 130)

- ***Minutes of the City Council Meeting of November 13, 2023***
- ***Checks through December 11, 2023, Total \$672,046.37***
- ***Council Information Packet***

**Petitions and Communications**

Motion by Council Member Gerard with second by Council Member Weise to approve the Resolution for the Asset Test/Poverty Exemption Policy for 2024. Motion carried unanimously. (2023 – 131)

Motion by Council Member Gerard with second by Council Member Bush to approve Prein & Newhof to perform the Construction Engineering for Vida, Venna, and East Water Main Project totaling \$140,200.00. Motion carried unanimously. (2023 – 132)

**Petitions and Communications continued**

Motion by Council Member Bowman with second by Council Member Gerard to approve the Resolution to Implement a Duplicate Check Fee totaling \$35.00. Motion carried with Mayor Young opposing. (2023 – 133)

Motion by Council Member Gerard with second by Council Member Bush to approve the Contract Award to Montgomery Excavating for the Vida, Venna, and East Street Water Main Project totaling \$1,282,545.00. Motion carried unanimously. (2023 – 134)

**CLOSED SESSION** Entered into “Closed Session” @ 7:26 P.M., by Roll Call Vote, as permitted by Section 8 (1)(h) of the Open Meetings Act to consider a written legal opinion of Counsel. Roll call vote is as follows: Council Member Bowman- Yes, Council Member Bush – Yes, Council Member Degeus – Yes, Council Member Gerard – Yes, Council Member Weise – Yes, Mayor Young – Yes. Absent – Council Member Gavin. Motion carried unanimously. (2023 – 135)

**OPEN SESSION** Motion by Council Member Bush with second by Council Member Gerard to re-enter into the “Open Session” of the regular City Council meeting @ 8:06 P.M. Roll call vote is as follows: Council Member Bowman – Yes, Council Member Bush – Yes, Council Member Degeus – Yes, Council Member Gerard – Yes, Council Member Weise – Yes, Mayor Young – Yes. Absent – Council Member Gavin. Motion carried unanimously. (2023 – 136)

Motion by Council Member Bush with second by Council Member Degeus to approve the Ordinance Amendment to Chapter 1240, Building Height, and Grade Plane. Motion carried, with Mayor Young opposing. (2023 – 137)

Motion by Council Member Weise with second by Council Member Degeus to approve the Ordinance Amendment to Chapter 1264, PUD Modifications. Motion carried unanimously. (2023 – 138)

Motion by Council Member Bowman with second by Council Member Bush to approve the Resolution to Transfer Ownership of East Gateway Drive and Park Valley Drive. Motion carried unanimously. (2023 – 139)

Motion by Council Member Gerard with second by Council Member Weise to approve the Resolution to Accept (Phase 2) of East Gateway Drive and Park Valley Drive into the City Street System. Motion carried unanimously. (2023 – 140)

Motion by Council Member Weise with second by Council Member Gerard to direct the City Manager to work with Legal Counsel as discussed in the Closed Session. Motion carried unanimously. (2023 – 141)

**Citizens Input & Suggestions**

Jessica Murphy stated that she agrees with Mayor Young on the recent changes to the building height ordinance, stating further that people move here for a country setting and she does not like the changes to the building heights.

**City Manager, Dennis Luce reported on the following:**

*Construction has started on Ironwood Drive on the culvert and guardrail. Construction is expected to last for approximately three (3) weeks. The insurance company for the individual that hit the guardrail and culvert has paid for the repairs.*

*This week is Water & WWTP Professionals Week.*

*Mill Street sidewalk project begins December 12, 2023. Still some work to be completed on Madison Street.*

*Regarding the recent ordinance changes, Mr. Luce stated that we are a city, and we will have growth.*

**City Clerk’s Report**

City Clerk Kimberly Borgman updated the Council on the Early Voting Center Locations and wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

**City Treasurer's Report**

City Treasurer, Keri Rogers informed the Council that the December tax bills have been sent out and wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

**Adjournment**

Motion by Council Member Bush with second by Council Member Weise to adjourn the meeting at 8:39 P.M. Motion carried unanimously. (2023 – 127)

---

Duane Young, Mayor

---

Kimberly Borgman, City Clerk