

**City of Inkster
Regular (Virtual) City Council Meeting
Monday, August 2, 2021 – 7:01 PM**

The regular meeting of the Council of the City of Inkster, Wayne County, and Michigan was held virtually via Zoom in compliance with the State of Michigan Open Meetings Act and in conjunction with the Wayne County Health Departments COVID-19 mandates.

Prior to the Regular Council Meeting, City Council members discussed the agenda.

Call to Order

Mayor Pro Tem Howard called the meeting to order at 7:00p.m.

Prayer

Prayer was led by Pastor Duckworth.

Pledge of Allegiance

City Council and the public in attendance pledged allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

Roll Call

Mayor Wimberly	Absent
Mayor Pro-Tem Howard	Present (Inkster, MI.)
Councilmember Williams	Present (Inkster, MI.)
Councilmember Washington	Present (Inkster, MI.)
Councilmember Watley	Present (Inkster, MI.)
Councilmember Chisholm	Present (Inkster, MI.)
Councilmember Shaw	Present (Inkster, MI)

Approval of Agenda

MOTION: Motion by Councilmember Williams, seconded by Councilmember Washington to approve **Resolution 08-02-152COV** adopting the agenda as presented with the removal of:

Item E – Consideration to sell one (1) structure identified as #4400902109000, located on the west side of Harrison Street between Andover and Carlysle Street in the amount of \$1,000.00 to Mark Daka.

And, the addition of:

Item I - and **Item J**.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Councilmember Williams	Yea	Councilmember Chisholm	Yea
Councilmember Washington	Yea	Councilmember Shaw	Yea
Councilmember Watley	Yea		

Motion carried.

Presentations/Discussion

Public Hearings

Consent Agenda

- A. Approval of the July 19, 2021, Regular (Virtual) City Council Meeting Minutes.

MOTION: Motion by Councilmember Watley, Seconded by Councilmember Chisholm to approve **Resolution 08-02-153COV** accepting the Consent Agenda with suggested corrections to the July 19, 2021 Regular City Council Meeting Minutes by Councilmember Watley’s comments as follows:

Page 5, Mayor and Council Comment heading, second bullet point, 3rd sub-bullet point, should read:

- Asked the Council to veto Mayor Wimberly’s decision to pay Dennis Black \$4,999.00.

Page 5, Mayor and Council Comment heading, second bullet point, 4th sub-bullet point should read:

- The citizens need to address their council to get them to do what they need to do.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Councilmember Washington	Yea	Councilmember Shaw	Yea
Councilmember Watley	Yea	Councilmember Chisolm	Yea
Councilmember Williams	Yea		

Motion carried.

Boards and Commission

- A. Councilmember Shaw recommended the appointment of Deatrice Richards to the Aging Commission for a two-year term ending on 08-02-2023.

MOTION: Motion by Councilmember Shaw, Seconded by Councilmember Williams to approve **Resolution 08-02-154COV** appointing Deatrice Richards to the Aging Commission for a two (2) year term ending on 08-02-2023.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Councilmember Shaw	Yea	Councilmember Watley	Yea
Councilmember Chisolm	Yea	Councilmember Williams	Yea
Councilmember Washington	Yea		

Motion carried.

New Business

- A. Avondale Road Reconstruction Project
DPS Director Bivins presented this item for discussion.

MOTION: Motion by Councilmember Williams, seconded by Councilmember Chisholm to approve **Resolution 08-0155COV** authorizing the DPS Director to provide Wayne County with a resolution in support of abandonment of City Water Main as part of the Avondale Road Reconstruction Project and given to Wayne County Department of Public Service.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Councilmember Chisholm	Yea	Councilmember Williams	Yea
Councilmember Washington	Yea	Councilmember Shaw	Yea
Councilmember Watley	Yea		

Motion carried.

B. Sell of vacant parcels to Gary Fizer

Community Development Director Jennings presented this item.

MOTION: Motion by Councilmember Williams, second by Councilmember Shaw to approve **Resolution 08-02-156COV** authorization to sell three (3) vacant parcels identified as #44014030066300, #44014030067000, and #44014030068000, located on the east side of Harrison Street in the amount of \$750.00 to Gary Fizer.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Councilmember Chisholm	Yea	Councilmember Williams	Yea
Councilmember Shaw	Yea	Councilmember Washington	Yea
Councilmember Watley	Yea		

Motion Carried.

C. Sale of Vacant Parcel to Gotrell Wood

Community Development Director Jennings presented this item for discussion.

MOTION: Motion by Councilmember Williams, second by Councilmember Chisholm to approve **Resolution 08-02-157COV** accepting an offer from Gotrell Wood in the amount of five hundred dollars and zero cents (\$500.00) to purchase one (1) vacant parcel located on the west side of Hickory Street, legally described as Parcel ID #44010040723000.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Councilmember Watley	Yea	Councilmember Shaw	Yea
Councilmember Williams	Yea	Councilmember Chisholm	Yea
Councilmember Washington	Yea		

Motion Carried.

D. Sale of Vacant Parcel to Tameka Dixon

Community Development Director Jennings presented this item for discussion.

MOTION: Motion by Councilmember Williams, second by Councilmember Chisholm to approve **Resolution 08-02-158COV** accepting an offer from Tameka LaShawn Dixon in the amount of five hundred dollars and zero cents (\$500.00) to purchase two (2) separate vacant parcels located on the west side of Irene Street between Andover and Carlyle Street, legally described as Parcel ID #44009020109000 and #44009020108000.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Councilmember Shaw	Yea	Councilmember Washington	Yea
Councilmember Watley	Yea	Councilmember Williams	Yea
Councilmember Chisholm	Yea		

Motion Carried.

F. Bayhan Street Block Party
City Clerk Chapman presented this special event.

MOTION: Motion by Councilmember Shaw, second by Councilmember Williams to approve **Resolution 08-02-159COV** authorizing street closure on Bayhan Street for Mother Slaughter’s annual Block Party on Saturday, August 7, 2021 from 4-10:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Councilmember Washington	Yea	Councilmember Shaw	Yea
Councilmember Watley	Yea	Councilmember Chisholm	Yea
Councilmember Williams	Yea		

Motion Carried.

G. FDCVT Fire Hydrant Replacement Project
DPS Director Bivens presented this item for discussion.

MOTION: Motion by Councilmember Williams, second by Councilmember Shaw to approve **Resolution 08-02-160COV** authorizing acceptance of the FDCVT grant in the amount of \$100,000.00 to repair and replace specific fire hydrants in the City.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Councilmember Watley	Yea	Councilmember Chisholm	Yea
Councilmember Williams	Yea	Councilmember Washington	Yea
Councilmember Shaw	Yea		

Motion Carried.

H. FDCVT Fire Station Renovations
Fire Chief Hubbard presented this item for discussion.

MOTION: Motion by Council member Williams, second by Councilmember Chisholm to approve **Resolution 08-02-161COV** authorizing acceptance of the FDCVT grant in the amount of \$214,764.00 to renovate the Fire Station.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Councilmember Williams	Yea	Councilmember Washington	Yea
Councilmember Shaw	Yea	Councilmember Watley	Yea
Councilmember Chisholm	Yea		

Motion Carried.

I. Closed Session Item

MOTION: Motion by Chisholm, second by Shaw to adjourn from orientation and convene into close session at 6:28 p.m. to discuss two items in accordance with MCL 15.268 (c) and (e).

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Councilmember Chisholm	Yea	Councilmember Williams	Yea
Councilmember Shaw	Yea	Councilmember Washington	Yea
Councilmember Watley	Yea		

Action Item #1

MOTION: Motion by Chisholm, second by Williams to retain outside counsel in accordance with MCL 15.268 (e).

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Councilmember Shaw	Yea	Councilmember Williams	Yea
Councilmember Watley	Yea	Councilmember Chisholm	Yea
Councilmember Washington	Yea		

J. Action Item #2 – Education on Municipal Lawsuits

MOTION: Motion by Chisholm, second by Shaw to educate the citizenry about municipal lawsuits and who pays the fees, settlements, and judgements.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Councilmember Watley	Yea	Councilmember Chisholm	Yea
Councilmember Washington	Yea	Councilmember Williams	Yea
Councilmember Shaw	Yea		

Public Participation

- **Denise Champagne** reminded everyone that Timothy Williams was appointed in July to the Aging Commission.
- **Jerome Bivins** reported out on a meeting he attended with State Senator Rashida Tliab regarding floods and FEMA response. He further stated that claimants must own their property to qualify. Additional information can be found on the website. Councilmember Shaw asked if there were any discussions about renters, renter advocates, and infrastructure funds.
- **Rebecca Daniels** asked if the fire hydrants were going to be repaired or replaced and how many are affected and where are they going.
- **Octavia Smith** commented on the DSNAP program, Inkster Chamber of Commerce, Calendar Ads, Western Wayne Family Health Center, and the Inkster Farmers Market on Wednesday from 4-7:00 p.m.
- **Gladys Knight** gknightsoul94@gmail.com (emailed to the City Clerk to be read into record during public comment) "In light of Gabe Leland and Andre Spivey being charged as public officials with accepting bribes in exchange for government business, I would like to know if Mayor Wimberly would like to assure the public he will never accept a bribe."
- **Betty Adams** announced that the library will participate in National Night Out, introduced Inkster.cloud.net an end of summer celebration for the community.
- **Leon Spinks** commented on non-agenda items.

City Clerk

- Clerk Chapman commended Mayor Pro Tem Howard on leading the meeting under the circumstances that she lost her sister and expressed sympathy for her loss. She also read into record a letter from the State of Michigan, Michigan Strategic Fund, State Historic Preservation Office dated July 30, 2021, to the Honorable Patrick Wimberly advising that the SHPO was recently awarded a National Park Service (NPS) African American Civil Rights grant. (See exhibit A).

City Treasurer

- Treasure Green commented on the GFL discussions and monthly budget.

Mayor and Council

- **Councilmember Shaw:** Expressed sympathy to Mayor Pro Tem Howard, encouraged everyone to say something if they see something. He further gave a shout out to Ms. A Battle, a compelling 22-year-old out of Inkster competing in the Tokyo Olympics.
- **Councilmember Washington** reported complaints of trash p/u on Grandview, she pointed out that Parkwood Park needs mowing, warned everyone to avoid FEMA scams, SBA is offering help to homeowners and renters with loans at 1%, finally expressing sympathy to Mayor Pro Tem Howard for the loss of her sister.
- **Councilmember Chisholm** reminded everyone that volunteers are still needed for Citizen's Patrol during National Night Out. He went on to say that Amherst Street needs a new stop sign. He also reported briefly on the Planning Board meeting. He expressed his condolences to Mayor Pro Tem Howard on the loss of her sister.
- **Councilmember Williams** commended District 1 for their help in the beautification event. He expressed his sympathy for Mayor Pro Tem and her family, he thanked DPS for the community, encouraged the youth of Inkster, he expressed support for Ms. Battle competing in Tokyo, he finally said that great things are in store for Inkster, and that we must unify and overcome conditions to be successful and lastly, he offered God's Blessings.
- **Councilmember Watley** had no comment.
- **Mayor Pro-Tem Howard** thanked everyone for their well wishes as she prepared to travel to bury her sister.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before Council, on a motion duly made.

By Councilmember Williams, Seconded by Councilmember Chisholm and carried, to conclude.

the Regular Virtual City Council meeting of Tuesday, August 2, 2021, at 8:24 p.m.



Verna Chapman, City Clerk

City of Inkster

Approved: August 16, 2021

Posted: October 5, 2021