



City of Fraser

CENTENNIAL COMMUNITY

CITY MANAGER

Elaine Leven

CITY CLERK

Cynthia Greenia

MAYOR

Michael Carnegie

MAYOR PRO-TEM

Patrice M. Schornak

COUNCIL

Amy Baranski

Kathy Blanke

Suzanne Kalka

Patrick O'Dell

Dana Sutherland

**FRASER CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
33000 GARFIELD, FRASER, MI 48026
THURSDAY, AUGUST 10, 2023 6:30 P.M.
AS APPROVED 9/14/2023**

A regular meeting of the City of Fraser City Council was held on Thursday, August 10, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. in City Council Chambers, City Hall, 33000 Garfield, Fraser, MI 48026.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Carnegie called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Carnegie led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

Present: Baranski, Blanke*, Carnegie, Kalka, O'Dell, Sutherland

Absent: Schornak

Others: City Manager Leven, City Attorney DeNault, Director of Public Safety Kretzschmar, Director of Public Works Ragsdale, Engineer Mike Vigneron,

Motion by Baranski supported by Sutherland to excuse Council Member Schornak.

AYES: Baranski, Carnegie, Kalka, O'Dell, Sutherland

NAYS: None

Motion Carried

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Carnegie supported by Baranski to postpone Item 12.a. City Manager Evaluation to the September 14, 2023 meeting.

AYES: Baranski, Carnegie, Kalka, O'Dell, Sutherland

NAYS: None

Motion Carried

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Motion by Baranski supported by Kalka to approve the agenda for the August 10, 2023 Fraser City Council Meeting as amended.

AYES: Baranski, Carnagie, Kalka, O'Dell, Sutherland

NAYS: None

Motion Carried

5. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

There was no public comment at this time.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

The following items were on the Consent Agenda for the August 10, 2023 City Council Meeting:

- a. City Council Regular Meeting Minutes July 13, 2023
- b. Election Commission Meeting Minutes April 6, 2023
- c. Local Officials Compensation Commission Meeting Minutes December 14, 2021
- d. Planning Commission Meeting Minutes June 7, 2023
- e. Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes June 6, 2023
- f. Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes July 11, 2023
- g. Historical Commission August Report
- h. Rail Safety Week Proclamation
- i. Check Disbursements
- j. Revenue and Expenditure Report

Motion by Sutherland supported by O'Dell to approve the Consent Agenda for the August 10, 2023 City of Fraser City Council meeting as presented.

AYES: Baranski, Carnagie, Kalka, O'Dell, Schornak, Sutherland.

NAYS: None

Motion Carried

7. NEW BUSINESS

a. Public Hearing- Industrial Park Special Assessment District

*Council Member Blanke arrived at 6:42 p.m.

Mayor Carnagie opened the Public Hearing at 6:43 P.M. He explained that the public hearing was taking place on the Industrial Park Special Assessment District because City Council agreed that they would hold it at this meeting. No action will be taken. City Council understood that the business owners wanted additional time to address the issue of their roads and how to get them reconstructed.

The following business owners addressed City Council with their concerns and input:

Vincent Serio, 34401 Commerce Drive
Jeff Siciliano, 34673 Bennett

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Discussion was had on possible sources of income to help defray the cost of reconstructing the roads. It was noted that the business owners would like to meet with the members of the road sub-committee from City Council to discuss ideas on this matter.

Mr. Siciliano asked City Council for the following:

Sub-committee provides the business owners with available dates to meet over the next couple of months and asked that there be no agenda items on this subject until the business owners and the road sub-committee have met and come up with a plan. Council agreed they could do this.

Mayor Carnagie closed the Public Hearing at 6:52 p.m.

Council Member Baranski indicated that they would invite the City Engineer to attend the meetings as well.

b. FY 2021-2022 Audit Presentation

Allen Panter, Yeo and Yeo, appeared before City Council to present the FY 21/22 Audit.

They City had received an “unmodified opinion” from the auditors which was the best opinion a City could receive. Revenues have exceeded expenditures each year and the City was in a solid financial position.

City Council discussed the Audit with him and reviewed some questions regarding same.

Mike Lesich, 15201 Fairview, shared some concerns with the City’s audit.

City Council took a break at 8:08 p.m.

City Council reconvened at 8:20 p.m.

c. Body Worn Camera Request

Director Kretzschmar addressed City Council regarding her request to purchase body worn cameras for her staff. She shared that most other communities already use these and indicated that, in her opinion, they would ultimately protect the city moving forward. She assured City Council that there would not be any inappropriate use of these cameras such as an invasion of privacy on her staff members. Council Member Baranski indicated she agreed that they were a positive move forward but added that she would like to see a policy in place prior to them being used.

Further discussion was had on the cost, the grant that was obtained, what the cost included, and the warranty.

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Motion by Baranski supported by O'Dell to approve the purchase of twenty five (25) body worn cameras from Motorola, formerly Watch Guard, in the amount of \$96,531 with \$50,000 coming from a grant and the other monies coming from the forfeiture account GL 365-311-742, not to exceed \$50,000.

AYES: Baranski, Blanke, Carnagie, Kalka, O'Dell, Sutherland

NAYS: None

Motion Carried

d. Building Maintenance Position

DPW Superintendent Ragsdale brought this request to City Council. He was looking for approval from City Council to hire a full-time building maintenance technician. This person would spend most of their time at the Senior Housing Facility. It was in the budget that was approved under Senior Housing Fund.

Motion by Sutherland supported by Baranski to authorize the hiring of a newly created full-time maintenance technician that will primarily be paid for and assigned to Senior Housing at a rate of \$26.58 per hour.

AYES: Baranski, Blanke, Carnagie, Kalka, O'Dell, Sutherland

NAYS: None

Motion Carried

e. DPW Full Time Position Backfill

This request from DPW Superintendent Ragsdale was requesting to backfill the current Equipment Operator Position that will be vacant due to the retirement of Ron Nickelson. He indicated that one of the current DPW staff expressed interest in the position.

Motion by Baranski supported by Sutherland to back-fill the DPW Equipment Operator Position and post the union position.

AYES: Baranski, Blanke, Carnagie, Kalka, O'Dell, Sutherland

NAYS: None

Motion Carried

Motion by Baranski supported by Carnagie that subject to the Equipment Operator Position being filled by an existing DPW Laborer to authorize the DPW Laborer position if vacated based on the hiring of the Equipment Operator position.

AYES: Baranski, Blanke, Carnagie, Kalka, O'Dell, Sutherland

NAYS: None

Motion Carried

f. Local Officials Compensation Commission Appointment

City Manager Leven stated that the Local Officials Compensation Commission had meet on July 11, 2023 and interviewed Dawn Dudek to fill a vacancy on their Commission. The Commission recommended her for appointment.

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Motion by Baranski supported by Blanke to appoint Dawn Dudek to the Local Officials Compensation Commission with a term ending September 30, 2027.

AYES: Baranski, Blanke, Carnagie, Kalka, O'Dell, Sutherland

NAYS: None

Motion Carried

g. Local Officials Compensation Commission Reappointment

City Manager Leven stated that Rosanne Menendez was on the Local Officials Compensation Commission and that she was up for reappointment. The Commission recommended her for reappointment to City Council.

Motion by Baranski supported by O'Dell to reappoint Rosanne Menendez to the Local Officials Compensation Commission with a term ending September 30, 2028.

AYES: Baranski, Blanke, Carnagie, Kalka, O'Dell, Sutherland

NAYS: None

Motion Carried

h. MML Designation of Voting Delegate

City Manager Leven reviewed that each year the Michigan Municipal League holds their Annual Conference and asks each member to designate an elected official to be their voting representative.

City Council discussed who would be willing to represent the City of Fraser in this capacity.

Motion by Baranski supported by O'Dell to appoint Council Member Sutherland as the City of Fraser voting representative to the Michigan Municipal League Annual Conference with Mayor Carnagie as the alternate.

AYES: Baranski, Blanke, Carnagie, Kalka, O'Dell, Sutherland

NAYS: None

Motion Carried

i. November Election Precinct Consolidation

City Clerk Greenia was requesting approval from City Council to combine precincts for the upcoming November 7, 2023 election. The Election Commission had reviewed this and was recommending approval to City Council.

Motion by Kalka supported by Baranski to adopt Resolution #2023-13 which would authorize the City Clerk to combine precincts 3 and 5 to precinct 3/5 and precincts 6 and 7 to precinct 6/7 for the November 7, 2023 Election.

AYES: Baranski, Blanke, Carnagie, Kalka, O'Dell, Sutherland

NAYS: None

Motion Carried

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j. November Election Early Voting

City Clerk Greenia had presented City Council with Resolution #2023-14 which would designate the Early Voting Location for the City of Fraser. She explained that this would be the site where registered voters would come to vote during the nine (9) day early voting period that would be required for all State and Federal Elections since the passage of Proposal 2022-02.

She then indicated to them that this would be required for the February 27, 2024 Presidential Primary. She was hoping to get this approved in time to be able to do a test run for the November 7, 2023 Election. A very lengthy discussion ensued on this resolution and what City Council was being asked to approve.

Motion by Baranski supported by Sutherland to adopt Resolution #2023-14 modified so that there are no WHEREAS clauses and reads as follows:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the City of Fraser City Council approves the establishment of the Fraser Early Voting Location which will be located at City Hall, 33000 Garfield, Fraser, MI 48026 for the City of Fraser.

City Council discussed what type of authority the City Clerk would have moving forward based on when the Early Voting process was set by the State of Michigan.

AYES: Baranski, Blanke, Carnagie, Kalka, O'Dell, Sutherland
NAYS: None

Motion Carried

Motion by Kalka supported by Sutherland to authorize the City Clerk to move forward with the implementation of Early Voting for the November 7, 2023 Election if authorized by State Law.

AYES: Baranski, Blanke, Carnagie, Kalka, Sutherland
NAYS: O'Dell

Motion Carried

k. Public Comment Policy Review

Council Member Sutherland had been approached about the length of time – five (5) minutes – that City Council currently affords public to comment at their meetings. Discussion was had on the pros and cons of leaving it the same way. City Council indicated that they tried to be very accessible to all residents. They also agreed that sometimes the Council just needed to have the ability to read the room. They could amend the time limit policy if need be by a motion.

8. RETURNING BUSINESS

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9. REPORT OF CITY ADMINISTRATION

City Manager Leven wanted to thank Mary Matuz and Marie Cilluffo for all of their help getting the parade event together. They worked tirelessly to do so.

The Fire Open House was discussed at the Recreation Commission Meeting and it was noted that the Commission was looking at having a Fall Fest on the same day. The date was October 8, 2023.

Craft Days were getting quite a bit of participation. Thanks to Chris Koch for her efforts with these events.

HVAC rooftop units have been delivered to the contractor.

Kelley Road construction is slated to begin on 8/21/23 with a proposed end date of 11/17/2023.

There were concerns with vandalism at the City Parks. They were getting closer to getting Cameras at these locations.

Jennifer Mellar, the Building Department Clerk, will be leaving. Her last day is August 18, 2023. There is a new person that will be here shadowing her for a few days.

The new Finance Director will start on Monday, August 14, 2023.

10. REPORT OF MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

Council Member Sutherland thanked the business owners who came to the meeting tonight with a desire to work together.

Thanks to Chris Koch for the craft events.

There will be rock painting from 12:00 to 3:00 p.m. on August 12, 2023.

Baumgartner House is having a Barn Sale 8/13/2023. They need volunteers from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. – especially early in the morning at 8:00 a.m.

She had been getting feedback regarding the increased presence at the parks. Thank you Director Kretzschmar.

The new library location is open at 15 Mile Road and Hayes.

She wished everyone a safe and happy Labor Day.

Council Member Baranski stated that the Historical Commission was taking donations for their Barn Sale on Wednesday from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Depot.

Thanks to Sherry Stein for attending the meetings.

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The Road Bond Proposal failed- City Council will do what they can do with the roads.

She was confident we would find a good resolution to the Industrial Park road issue.

She asked that all residents try to become part of the solution to make our City a better place.

She wished everyone a good Labor Day.

Council Member Kalka wanted to thank the business owners - it was great to hear their stories and concerns. She felt the City had formed a new relationship with them and hoped it would continue on in a positive direction.

She would like to see the City try to do things that make the residents feel good about the City and themselves.

She referred to the Road Bond proposal – everyone should get involved if they want to see things change.

Council Member O'Dell thanked the volunteers for their help with the parade. It was a huge success.

The carnival and fireworks were also a huge success.

He wished everyone a safe and happy Labor day.

Council Member Blanke wanted to applaud Council Member Kalka's sincerity in her concerns with the residents needing to get involved.

She thanked Marie Cilluffo and Mary Matuz for their work on the parade. She added that Marie had been involved for many years with the City.

She apologized to Director Kretzschmar for using an incorrect first name earlier in the meeting when addressing her.

She wished everyone a good Labor Day, a good month and stated God bless you all.

Mayor Carnegie noted he thought the parade went well. He was pleased to see all the DPS vehicles in the parade this year.

He questioned regarding the striping of the Senior Housing Parking Lot. City Manager Leven indicated they were aware they still had to do it.

He asked how the upcoming water fight was going to be handled. City Manager Leven reviewed the plan.

He indicated at this time that City Council would like monthly updates for recreation activities that were happening in the City.

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On Tuesday he was going to be attending the VFW to present the National President of the Veterans of Foreign Wars a proclamation on behalf of the City of Fraser.

Grandbaby number 3 (3) has arrived!

11. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

Nothing at this time.

12. Closed Session

a. City Manager Evaluation

13. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Kalka supported by Baranski to adjourn the meeting at 10:01 p.m.

AYES: Baranski, Blanke, Carnagie, Kalka, O'Dell, Sutherland

NAYS:

Motion Carried

Respectfully Submitted

Cindi Greenia, Clerk
City of Fraser

Michael Carnagie, Mayor
City of Fraser