



MINUTES
Committee of the Whole
Monday, December 2, 2019 @ 6:30 p.m.
Tony Benavides Lansing City Council Chambers

CALL TO ORDER

Council Member Wood called the meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m.

PRESENT

Councilmember Kathie Dunbar-
Councilmember Jeremy A. Garza
Councilmember Adam Hussain
Council Member Brian T. Jackson
Councilmember Peter Spadafore
Councilmember Patricia Spitzley
Councilmember Jody Washington
Councilmember Carol Wood

OTHERS PRESENT

Sherrie Boak, Council Staff
Jim Smiertka, City Attorney
Samantha Harkins, Deputy Mayor
Lisa Hagen, Assistant City Attorney/Council Research Assistant
Loretta Stanaway
Jim DeLine

Minutes

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER SPITZLEY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM NOVEMBER 18, 2019 AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED 8-0

Public Comment

Ms. Stanaway updated the Committee on the Parks Department discussions for the cemetery office relocation. She informed the Committee that the office at the cemetery will remain open with volunteers Monday through Friday from 8am – 4pm and the office at Foster Community Center will be used for the purchasing of plots.

Discussion/Action

RESOLUTION – Appointment; Melissa Jeffries; Board of Review; Term to Expire June 30, 2020

Ms. Jeffries was not present at the meeting, and Council President Wood explained that the Council was contacted because the appointment needed to be made before the December 10,

2019 Board of Review, and the Administration asked for urgency. The Committee was offered considerations to address it at Committee and then hopefully Ms. Jeffries would arrive later for the Council meeting. Council Member Spitzley asked why the applicant was not present, and Ms. Boak explained she was contact last week and confirmed both meetings, so her absents was a surprise. Council Member Washington note Ms. Jeffries sits on some of the Mayor's advisory boards, and with this recent recommendation for appointment, she asked Ms. Harkins if they were having a hard time getting people to apply. Council President Wood noted that the Board of Review is hard to fill because they only meet twice a year, and that the Mayor's advisory boards are different then the appointments. City Clerk Swope spoke at the DIAS that he spoke to Ms. Jeffries and she had received a letter stating the meeting was Tuesday; which would coincide with the Board of Review date of 12/10, and was on her way to the meetings.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER HUSSAIN TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF MELISSA JEFFRIES TO THE BOARD OF REVIEW.

Council Member Jackson asked what meeting was 12/10/2019 and was confirmed it would be the first meeting of the December Board of Review.

MOTION CARRIED 8-0.

RESOLUTION – Ballot Proposal; Parks and Recreation Millage Renewal

Ms. Harkins recapped for the Committee that this was a renewal of the currently millage and will be on the August, 2020 ballot. Council Member Jackson asked if the millage will go towards specific projects, or the spending is left up to the Administration. Ms. Harkins stated the potential projects will go through the Parks Board, then to the Mayor to approve for the budget, then the budget gets reviewed and approved by Council. Council President Wood reminded the Committee that this current request is only to approve the ballot language, the Council cannot use the Dias as a podium to support or not support a ballot initiative. Council Member Spitzley asked if the Administration had plans to do public outreach before it appeared on the ballot. Council Member Spadafore asked the OCA to correct the ballot language to include a comma after 'Clinton' in the first paragraph.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER SPADAF0RE TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION FOR THE BALLOT PROPOSAL FOR RENEWAL OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION MILLAGE.

Council President Wood pointed out to the Committee and the public that in 2020 there will also be a trail millage and zoo millage on one of the elections, but not on the same ballot.

MOTION CARRIED 8-0.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 6:47 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Sherrie Boak, Recording Secretary

Lansing City Council

Approved by the Committee on December 16, 2019