



MINUTES
Committee on General Services
Tuesday, February 27, 2018 @ 4:00 p.m.
City Council Chambers, City Hall 10th Floor

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting called to order at 4:01 p.m. by Council Member Hussain.

ROLL CALL

Councilmember Patricia Spitzley, Chair- excused
Councilmember Adam Hussain, Vice Chair
Councilmember Carol Wood, Member

OTHERS PRESENT

Sherrie Boak, Council Office Manager
Scott Sanford, Code Compliance
Eric Brewer, Council Internal Auditor
Amanda O'Boyle, Assistant City Attorney
Benjamin Ring Koche
Larry Ball
Maryellen Jansen, IMAGIN
Leola Watts
Robin Menafee, Native American Arts & Crafts Council
Elaine Womboldt

Minutes

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER WOOD TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 13, 2018 AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

Public Comment on Agenda Items

No public comment at this time.

Discussion/Action

RESOLUTION – Community Funding Request; Native American Arts & Crafts Council;
Riverbank Traditional Pow Wow

Mr. Menafee stated this was their 16th annual event, which is free to the public and Friday is catered all towards the schools kids that are brought there for educational presentations.

Council Member Hussain noted that the maximum \$500 but in the past the Committee has granted larger amounts to the event. Council Member Wood confirmed and added that recently the Council rolled additional funds from the previous year into the budget.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER WOOD TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION FOR COMMUNITY FUNDING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$650.00. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

Council Member Wood invited Mr. Menefee to speak to Ms. Womboldt about their event September 8th, 2018.

RESOLUTION – Request for recognition of non-profit status filed by Maryellen Jansen for IMAGIN; 416 S Cedar Street Suite C

Ms. Jansen outlined the organization which was found in 1991 and they work with assessing, equalization, and run public and private education based conferences and workshops. Recently they obtained even donation, so will be holding a raffle to give it away, and therefore need to be deemed Non-Profit to get their raffle license.

Council Member Wood asked Ms. O'Boyle if she had reviewed the By Laws and Articles of Incorporation to make sure they were correct and both included the Dissolution Clause. Ms. O'Boyle admitted she had not looked at the packet beforehand, but would review the documents and update Council before the Council meeting action. Council Member Wood asked Ms. O'Boyle to contact the applicant if she finds additional information is needed.

Ms. Jansen acknowledged that it appeared the application did not have the most recent Board Member List, so she would forward that to Council Staff.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER WOOD TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION FOR THE NON-PROFIT STATUS TO IMAGIN, WITH LAW CONFIRMING THE DISSOLUTION CLAUSE IN THE BY LAWS AND ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

RESOLUTION – Claim # 1439; B. Koche; 819 Riverview; \$523.00

Mr. Sanford provide detail on the claim, including the notice date of 5/10/2017, compliance date of 5/17/2017, the re-inspection on 5/19/17 with an extension given, with as recheck on 5/26/2017. The extension is not provided in writing, but just updated in the compliance computer program. The violations still existed after the recheck and the contractor arrived 6/16/2017 where they found the violations were still present along with additional debris.

Council Member Wood asked for confirmation of the owner at the time of the violation, and was referred to the assessing records that reflected the claimant, Mr. Koche took ownership 4/20/2017.

Mr. Brewer confirmed the Claims Review Committee did review the claim and after hearing the information proposed reducing the fees by 1 hour because the contractor waited for the code enforcement officer to arrive before they started anything.

Mr. Koche appealed with his opinion was that the fees were steep, he was not notified when someone would be on site, and on one of the dates mentioned earlier he was on site, but no one knocked on his door to inform him. Mr. Koche then went through the photos with the Committee clarifying the items that he took care of, the contractor took care of and what they left behind. This included empties in garbage bags he returned, and scrap metal he took to recycling.

Council Member Hussain asked Mr. Sanford for the costs of debris per cubic yard. Mr. Brewer confirmed it was \$175 for removal of the first yard, and Class 2 material is \$26 and each additional yard is \$22 after 3. In this case the contractor stated they had 3 hour for Class 2 removal, one tire, one hour and 2 yards with a total of \$78.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER WOOD TO REDUCE THE ORIGINAL CLAIM FROM \$673 to \$440.00 BASED ON THE INFORMATION PROVIDED AND THE LACK OF DETAILS ON WHAT WAS EXACTLY TAKEN BY THE CONTRACTOR. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

RESOLUTION – Claim Appeal #1505; L. Ball; 4615 Ora; \$1,070.00

Mr. Sanford informed the Committee that a notice was sent on 9/21/2017 and when they re-inspected the violations were still present. Council Member Hussain asked when the contractor arrived on site to clean up and Mr. Sanford confirmed it was 10/29/2017.

Mr. Brewer stated the Claims Review Committee recommended reducing the cost down 4 yards and one hour.

Mr. Ball stated to the Committee he never got the notice and provided details on his clean up of the site when he evicted the tenant.

Council Member Hussain asked Mr. Ball why he didn't accept the determination of a reduction by the Claims Review Committee, and he stated he believed that a notice was never sent to him. Mr. Sanford defended the letter was sent to him at 1026 Waverly Road, but he owner again denied it. Council Member Wood asked Ms. O'Boyle if there was anything in the ordinance that states the City has to assure that a letter was delivered. Ms. O'Boyle acknowledged it states that only a letter has to be sent. Council Member Wood then referred to the packet which reflect two notices, one to owner address and one to tenant, therefore proof it was generate.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER WOOD TO REDUCE THE CLAIM AMOUNT FROM \$1,070.00 TO \$823.50 BASED ON THE REVIEW OF THE DOCUMENTS AND THE ACTION FOR A REDUCTION BY THE CLAIMS REVIEW COMMITTEE. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

RESOLUTION – Claim Appeal #1470; L. Watts; Vacant Lot Kalamazoo; \$1,632.00

Mr. Sanford state to the Committee that a notice on tall grass was sent on 5/22/2017 in addition to a separate notice the same date on debris. On 5/29/2017 they were still in non-compliance, and it was submitted to the contractor.

Mr. Brewer confirmed the Claims Review Committee reviewed the photos, notices and original documents and based on the information denied the claim.

Ms. Watts and her daughter spoke to the Committee stating they did get two letters, one for grass and one for debris, but the tree limbs and debris had been on site for 5 years and they were confused on why now they were being fined.

The Committee reviewed the photos, and confirmed that even though they had not been notified for what they state had been there for 5 years, it was still a violation and a fire concern with the debris and leaves.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER WOOD TO DENY THE CLAIM #1470 FOR THE VACANT LOT ON KALAMAZOO OWNED BY MS. WATTS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,632.00. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

Other

No other topics.

Adjourned

Adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

Submitted by Sherrie Boak,

Office Manager, Lansing City Council

Approved by the Committee on March 27, 2018