



## CITY COUNCIL

March 6, 2023

A work session meeting of the City of Petoskey City Council was held in the City Hall Council Chambers, Petoskey, Michigan, on Monday, March 6, 2023. This meeting was called to order at 5:30 P.M.; then, after a recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, a roll call then determined that the following were

Present: John Murphy, Mayor  
Tina DeMoore, City Councilmember  
Derek Shiels, City Councilmember  
Brian Wagner, City Councilmember  
Lindsey Walker, City Councilmember

Absent: None

Also in attendance were City Manager Shane Horn, City Clerk Sarah Bek and City Attorney Matt Cross.

### **Discuss Proposed Ethics Ordinance**

The City Manager reviewed that he was asked by City Council to have a draft ordinance pertaining to ethics for Council to review; that the City Council Meeting and Meeting Preparation Procedures Policy document was included for review which could be combined with an ethics ordinance or kept separate and remain as a policy; that the MML Ethics Handbook is a good resource; and that he is in favor of having a new process and orientation for newly elected officials.

Councilmembers discussed draft ordinance; inquired if it was modeled after a community or provided by MML; heard from those in favor of aspirations and not punitive measures; discussed sections to remove and that were not applicable such as 26-7 and 26-8 pertaining to disclosure of campaign contributions which is completed at the County level; discussed definitions and that business and city purpose should be better defined; heard from those in favor of orientation and guidance for a newly elected official; discussed if staff should be mentioned in the ordinance; and heard from those in favor of keeping staff since it is a helpful communication tool and that ethics are important for the City and a good guideline for everyone.

The City Attorney reviewed that the draft ordinance was from a similar community, but tailored to Petoskey and reviewed ethic rules vs. criminal charges and that there should be some sort of repercussion if ordinance is violated.

The City Manager reviewed that there is no best practice and that the ordinance could be inclusive of staff or separate.

The City Attorney reviewed that he will make revisions by omitting Sections 26-8, 26-11, 26-12, 26-13 and most of 26-7 but reference the requirement to report to the County, and better define city purpose and business.

City Council will review the revised draft ordinance at the next regular scheduled meeting.

**Discuss 2023-2025 Action Plan**

The City Manager reviewed that the updated draft 2023-2025 Action Plan had been condensed; that Parks and Natural Resources was an added priority; that Sustainability priority was condensed; that the Transportation priority was removed and added Community Engagement; and recommended that this plan be discussed on a quarterly basis.

Councilmembers discussed and were in support of adding the community art plan in the Parks and Natural Resources priority; discussed adding board and commissions under key team members for any priority, but not to include contracted service groups such as NLEA, Petoskey Chamber, MEDC, etc.; heard from those in favor of addressing diversity, equity and inclusion and discussed placing matter in the Community Engagement priority; discussed Economic Development priority and to change the incentive plan to policy and whether to remove or keep an Economic Development Department Head position; and discussed fire code inspection program and whether to make it mandatory for businesses.

The City Manager responded that he would discuss possibilities of the fire inspection program and making inspections mandatory vs. voluntary with the City Attorney and revise the plan based on Council comments to further discuss at the next regular meeting.

There being no further business to come before the City Council, this March 6, 2023, meeting of the City Council adjourned at 6:44 P.M.

John Murphy, Mayor

Sarah Bek, City Clerk