



CITY COUNCIL

December 21, 2020

A regular meeting of the City of Petoskey City Council was held from virtual locations on Monday, December 21, 2020. This meeting was called to order at 7:00 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
Kate Marshall, City Councilmember
Suzanne Shumway, City Councilmember
Brian Wagner, City Councilmember
Lindsey Walker, City Councilmember

Absent: None

Also in attendance were City Manager Rob Straebel, Clerk-Treasurer Alan Terry, Parks and Recreation Director Kendall Klingelsmith and Executive Assistant Sarah Bek.

Hear Presentation for Outgoing Councilmember Shumway

Mayor Murphy presented a plaque to Councilmember Shumway thanking her for her years of public service and leadership to the City from 2019-2020. Councilmembers thanked Ms. Shumway for her service.

Amend Agenda – Resolution No. 19485

Mayor Murphy requested that the agenda be amended to include an item under new business concerning a social district application permit request that was submitted to City staff after the agenda was printed.

Councilmember Marshall moved that, seconded by Councilmember Wagner to approve amended agenda.

Said motion was adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Marshall, Shumway, Wagner, Walker, Murphy (5)

NAYS: None (0)

Hear Shiga Prefecture/Sister City Video

Councilmembers watched a video that came from Shiga Prefecture, as part of the City's Sister City Program. Shiga couldn't send the delegation to Michigan as the 2020 Goodwill Mission and all student exchanges and Goodwill Missions between sister cities were canceled due to the unprecedented pandemic. The video showed the kindness and compassion everyone is demonstrating as part of the global pandemic with hopes of Goodwill Missions in 2021.

Consent Agenda - Resolution No. 19486

Following introduction of the consent agenda for this meeting of December 21, 2020, City Councilmember Wagner moved that, seconded by City Councilmember Walker adoption of the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council does and hereby confirms that the draft minutes of the December 7, 2020 regular session City Council meeting be and are hereby approved; and

BE IT RESOLVED that receipt by the City Council of a report concerning all checks that had been issued since December 7, 2020 for contract and vendor claims at \$574,165.62, intergovernmental claims at \$0, and the December 10 payroll at \$339,554.53, for a total of \$913,720.15 be and is hereby acknowledged.

Said resolution was adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Marshall, Shumway, Wagner, Walker, Murphy (5)

NAYS: None (0)

Hear Public Comment

Mayor Murphy asked for public comments and there were no comments.

Hear City Manager Updates

The City Manager reported that on December 23 Public Safety will be helping Santa with a ride through town in the fire truck and spreading holiday cheer to everyone and reviewed Santa's schedule by ward; that solar panels and other hardware have been shipped to City Hall and Harbor Springs Electric will be on-site to start the solar panel installation on City Hall in the next two weeks; that the Burns Foundation made a \$5,000 donation to the Petoskey District Library and appreciated their generosity and spirit of giving during the holiday season; that unemployment rates continue to be extremely high with many individuals and families struggling to pay their monthly utility bills and that the City continues to partner with a number of local organizations to assist with utility payments and that the organizations are listed on the City's website; that at the most recent Planning Commission meeting, Commissioners voted to send the draft Master Plan to City Council for discussion and the City Planner will make a presentation on the plan at the January 4, 2021 Council meeting; that staff is working with Mackinac Environmental Technologies on a final environmental assessment for the MDOT right-of-way between Emmet Street and Washington Street and barring any unforeseen environmental issues identified in the assessment, the City should be closing on the property in the next few weeks; that with the Pfizer vaccine being rolled out in Emmet County this week for the first priority groups, this is an exciting and hopeful time in our region and thanked the community for their adherence to COVID safety protocols that have reduced case numbers locally; that downtown businesses continue to suffer through this pandemic so encouraged citizens to shop locally and support local restaurants; and reiterated that community members should do the right thing over the holidays and only celebrate with members of your immediate family.

City Councilmembers commented that organizations have eviction funds as well and inquired if there have been past environmental issues along the right-of-way and if Brownfield funds would be available.

Approve 2020 Budget Amendments – Resolution 19487

The Director of Finance reviewed that at the end of each fiscal year, City Council is routinely asked to formally adopt amendments to the Annual Budget. These amendments are necessitated by a variety of circumstances, and in many cases are administrative changes to formally reflect previously approved actions and priorities.

The Director of Finance further reviewed that the TIFA Fund has an increase to budgeted revenues which include current property tax of \$50,000 for a total in revenues of \$425,000; and additions to budget expenditures include the stair tower replacement (\$240,000) that was carried over from 2019, which was partially offset by Sunset Park Phase 1 put on hold (\$100,000) for a total increase of \$140,000 to \$532,000.

City Councilmember Marshall moved that, seconded by City Councilmember Walker adoption of the following resolution:

WHEREAS, at the close of the City's 2020 fiscal year, the City staff has determined that revenues and expenditures within one City fund is anticipated to differ from amounts that had been budgeted for:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that budgeted revenues and expenditures within the TIFA Fund be adjusted as follows:

	<u>Original</u>	<u>Amendment</u>	<u>Difference</u>
TIFA Fund			
Revenues:			
TIFA	<u>\$ 375,000</u>	<u>\$ 425,000</u>	<u>\$ 50,000</u>
Expenditures:			
TIFA	<u>\$ 392,000</u>	<u>\$ 532,000</u>	<u>\$ 140,000</u>

Said resolution was adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Marshall, Shumway, Wagner, Walker, Murphy (5)

NAYS: None (0)

Conduct Public Hearing and Approve Parks and Recreation Master Plan Amendment – Resolution No. 19488

The Parks and Recreation Director reviewed that the City has been experiencing the effects of high water and the ever-changing climate for the last four years; that at the March Parks and Recreation Commission meeting, language was approved giving support to a Parks and Recreation Master Plan Amendment to specifically address resiliency and sustainability in park design, operations and maintenance; that the City is consulting with Beckett and Raeder to ensure that all State requirements are being followed as part of the process and that a public hearing needed to be conducted this evening; and that if the amendment is approved it will put the City in a proactive position when it comes to State grants.

Mayor Murphy opened the public hearing and heard from Brent Bolin, Top of Michigan Trails Council Executive Director, who showed support of the amendment and that their partnership with the City is a benefit to the community and current and future trails system.

City Councilmembers inquired on the purpose of supporting this amendment and that it supports environmental forward thinking actions and if it will enable the City to apply for grants that will allow for implementation of those policies.

Mr. Klingelsmith responded that supporting the amendment puts the City in a position for more immediate funding when applying for grants and long term planning.

City Councilmember Marshall moved that, seconded by City Councilmember Wagner adoption of the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the City of Petoskey has undertaken a planning process to determine the recreation and natural resource conservation needs and desires of its residents during a five year period covering the years 2018-2022; and

WHEREAS, the City of Petoskey began the process of developing a Parks and Recreation Master Plan Amendment focusing on resilient and sustainable park practices in accordance with the most recent guidelines developed by the Department of Natural Resources and made available to local communities; and

WHEREAS, residents of the City of Petoskey were provided with a well-advertised opportunity during the development of the draft plan to express opinions, ask questions, and discuss all aspects of the plan amendment; and

WHEREAS, the public was given a well-advertised opportunity and reasonable accommodations to review the plan amendment for a period of at least 14 days; and

WHEREAS, a virtual public hearing was held on November 9, 2020 to provide an opportunity for all residents of the planning area to express opinions, ask questions, and discuss all aspects of the plan amendment; and

WHEREAS, the City of Petoskey has developed the plan as a guideline for resilient and sustainable park design, operation and maintenance; and

WHEREAS, after the public hearing, the City of Petoskey Parks and Recreation Commission voted to adopt the plan amendment:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the City of Petoskey City Council hereby adopts the Parks and Recreation Master Plan Amendment.

Said resolution was adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Marshall, Shumway, Wagner, Walker, Murphy (5)

NAYS: None (0)

Approve Social District Application – Resolution No. 19489

The City Manager reviewed that on August 17, 2020 Council approved a resolution that established a Social District in Downtown according to a specified map and maintenance and operational plan; that as part of the resolution, five local licensees were approved to apply to the State for a Social District Permit that would allow them to sell alcohol that could be consumed in the Commons Area of the Social District; that moving forward, any local licensee that was not included in the resolution needed to be approved individually by Council before applying to the State; that Michael Kazanowski, High Five Spirits, LLC, 312 Howard Street, was asking for approval for a Social District Permit; and that Downtown staff recommended that this request be granted.

City Councilmember Wagner moved that, seconded by City Councilmember Marshall to approve the Social District Application for High Five Spirits, LLC, 312 Howard Street.

Said motion was adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Marshall, Shumway, Wagner, Walker, Murphy (5)

NAYS: None (0)

Council Comments

Mayor Murphy asked for Council comments and Councilmember Shumway commented that future Councils should resist simple solutions, that Petoskey is more than just the downtown and everyone should be addressed in the community, be wary of solutions to age old problems and thanked Councilmembers for serving with her and wished future Councilmembers the best of luck in 2021. Councilmember Wagner appreciated the Sister City video and encouraged the community to support the program and hopes to get more people involved going into the new year, thanked Will Perkins and Paul Steeno for their professional and fair representation of Council meetings, thanked the Chamber for the Petoskey Strong movement during the unprecedented year and encouraged the community to continue to thank front-line workers moving into the new year. Councilmember Marshall hopes to see Council in person in 2021 and wished everyone a lovely holiday. Mayor Murphy congratulated the Petoskey girls cross country team on their first state championship, encouraged citizens to drive around Petoskey and view the Christmas lights and decorations, that Council has accomplished a lot as a team this past year and thanked Councilmembers for their service to Petoskey.

There being no further business to come before the City Council, this December 21, 2020, meeting of the City Council adjourned at 8:00 P.M.

John Murphy, Mayor

Alan Terry, Clerk-Treasurer