

CITY OF NORTON SHORES
CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION
February 27, 2018

A regular work session of the Norton Shores City Council was held on Tuesday, February 27, 2018 at 5:30 p.m. at Norton Shores City Hall, 4814 Henry Street.

Present: Mayor Nelund, Council Members Beecham, Cross, Flanders, Hylland, Jurkas, Morgenstern, Moulatsiotis and Sladick; also, Mark Meyers, Susan Franklin, Jon Gale, Bob Gagnon, Mike Huston, Jerry Bartoszek, Bryan DeGroot, Anthony Chandler and Shelly Stibitz

1. 50th City Anniversary Activities

Administrative Services Director/Assistant to the City Administrator Anthony Chandler spoke to the City Council about the City of Norton Shores' incorporation including that the first meeting of the City Council was held on April 17, 1968. On April 17, 2018 the City will hold a regular Council meeting and Mr. Chandler shared plans to kick-off the 50th anniversary celebration at that meeting by inviting State and local leaders. A list of activities that could be added to regular annual events such as Arts and Drafts and the Public Safety Open House was distributed. Mr. Chandler asked for Council's input on a commemorative logo he had designed which would be used on banners placed on the Henry Street Bridge, stationery and flags placed at all City buildings. Council Members liked the logo and also suggested window clings, t-shirts and bumper stickers. Council Member Morgenstern suggested issuing a press release prior to the celebration kick-off meeting. The overall opinion of the logo was positive with some minor changes in color and outline.

2. MADL Storyville Presentation

City Administrator Mark Meyers introduced Muskegon Area District Library (MADL) Director Kelly Richards and his intent to provide an update regarding the status of the Storyville Project. Mr. Richards reported that the initial objective to build an addition to the Norton Branch Library to house an entire Storyville project changed since it was first approved in 2012. The project's main goal of teaching parents to guide their children to literacy remains the same and can be accomplished by constructing smaller versions of Storyville in three separate locations. Each of the Storyville villages will be a reflection of the community they reside in and, the hope is, give residents the incentive to explore each village and each community. Plans are in place to build the first village at the Montague Branch Library with a late spring 2018 start date. Construction dates for the Norton Shores and Muskegon Heights Branch libraries are to be determined.

3. Snowplowing Procedures

Public Works Director Jerry Bartoszek introduced Streets Superintendent Bryan DeGroot who went through a PowerPoint presentation outlining the City's snowplowing procedures. The City owns a variety of different plow trucks to accommodate many types of roads and weather conditions and employs nine full-time and 21 part-time

people who are able to plow depending on availability. The 2017 winter season presented some unique challenges with heavy, consistent snowfall daily and only four experienced full-time drivers due to personnel changes. Although several part-time employees have the experience their availability is limited. Most local roads require a minimum of four passes with the plow and up to seven passes on major roads. Local road plowing presents its own challenges that slow down the process such as maneuvering around cul-de-sacs and parked cars and, also, can't be started until the major roads are taken care of. Mr. DeGroot's assessment this season was that reduced and inexperienced personnel combined with heavy, continual snowfall in a short time period caused delays in normal procedures and feels this will not be the case in the future. The Council would like to have the PowerPoint available to residents on the City's website.

General Comments

Mayor Nelund informed the City Council that Dick Dolack will be invited to the April 17th meeting where his years of service will be recognized.

Council Member Sladick commented on awards recently presented to Police Officers and, specifically, commended Officers Hoffman and Sinclair for life-saving responses to suicidal emergency calls.

Meeting adjourned at 6:57 p.m.



Shelly Stibitz, City Clerk