

CITY OF NORTON SHORES  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
May 16, 2023

A regular meeting of the Norton Shores City Council was held on Monday, May 16, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. at the Norton Shores Branch Library Community Room, 705 Seminole Road. Council Member Morgenstern delivered the invocation.

Present: Mayor Nelund and Council Members Jurkas, Kasher, Morgenstern, Moulatsiotis, and Sowa; also, Doug Hughes, Mark Meyers, Shelly Stibitz, Anthony Chandler, Chris Lyonnais, Jon Gale, and Bob Gagnon

Absent: Council Members Flanders, Hylland and Olson

Correspondence

Police Chief Jon Gale introduced two recently promoted officers, David Ketchum and Jacob Brace, to the position of Corporal.

23-064 Minutes

Council Member Jurkas moved to approve minutes from the May 1 council meeting. The motion was supported by Council Member Sowa and carried unanimously.

23-065 Consent

Council Member Moulatsiotis moved to approve the Consent Agenda which consisted of: a) Departmental Reports for 1) Police, 2) Fire, 3) Public Works, 4) Administrative Services, 5) Library and 6) Quarterly Financial Report, b) Recognize Police Week, c) Recognize Public Works Week, d) Authorize Bids – 2023 HIP/Milling & Resurfacing Engineering and e) Authorize Bids – 2023 HIP/Milling & Resurfacing Construction. The motion was supported by Council Member Kasher and carried unanimously.

23-066 Planning Commission Reappointments – JJ Westgate, Nicholas Morano and Morgan Carroll

Council Member Morgenstern moved to approve the reappointment of J.J. Westgate, Nicolas Morano and Morgan Carroll to the Norton Shores Planning Commission for three-year terms expiring May 31, 2026. The motion was supported by Council Member Jurkas and carried unanimously.

23-067 Approve Pension Grant Application

Council Member Moulatsiotis moved to authorize Mark C. Meyers, City Administrator, to file a claim for a grant payment for the Protecting MI Pension Grant Program. The motion was supported by Council Member Jurkas and carried unanimously.

23-068 Land Division – 3732 Wickham Drive

Council Member Moulatsiotis moved to grant permission to Nederveld, Inc., on behalf of the property owner, to divide the property at 3732 Wickham Drive to create three (3) new parcels. The motion was supported by Council Member Kasher and carried unanimously.

23-069 Land Division – 3695 Waalkes Street

Council Member Jurkas moved to grant permission to Bill Carlston and Kevin Wright, the purchasing parties, to divide the property at 3695 Waalkes Street to create four (4) new parcels. The motion was supported by Council Member Sowa and carried unanimously.

23-070 Special Use Permit – 5797 Harvey Street

Council Member Morgenstern moved to approve the special land use application to Dickinson Wright, PLLC, who is representing Retina Specialists of Michigan, P.C., to open an ophthalmology practice at 5797 Harvey Street. The motion was supported by Council Member Sowa and carried unanimously.

23-071 Approve FY 2024 Property Tax Levy

Council Member Morgenstern moved to approve the rates for General Fund, Capital Improvement Fund, Solid Waste Fund, Public Waste Fund, Public Safety Fund and Street Improvement Fund be certified to be spread against all taxable property in the City of Norton Shores for FY 2024 as presented. The motion was supported by Council Member Sowa and carried 5/1 on a roll call vote with Council Member Moulatsiotis against.

23-072 Approve New Cemetery Name

Council Member Jurkas moved to authorize the name of the new cemetery as Ellis Cemetery. The motion was supported by Council Member Kasher and carried unanimously.

23-073 Bid Award – Public Safety Training Center Concrete Pads

Council Member Jurkas moved to award the low bid for the Public Safety Training Center concrete work to Brown Concrete of Muskegon, MI in the amount of \$18,296. The motion was supported by Council Member Sowa and carried unanimously.

23-074 Approve Grand Valley State University Agreement, Restudy of Little Black Lake

Council Member Moulatsiotis moved to authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to execute an Agreement with Grand Valley State University to perform the Little Black Lake water quality study update at a cost of \$13,910. The motion was supported by Council Member Kasher and carried unanimously.

General Public Comment

Jim Hopper, 3869 Fairway Drive, spoke on maintaining 11 special use and zoning standards as he feels it protect the city, land owners and homes owners.

Mary Ann Clark, 3694 Waalkes, had concerns about wetlands around the approved land split at 3695 Waalkes.

Holly Pelkey, Norton Shores Branch Lead Librarian, provided an overview of events held by the library at Norton Shores and throughout Muskegon. A recent poetry contest was well attended and some of the winners were Mona Shores students. Ms. Pelkey shared a district-wide newsletter and brief description of upcoming events.

Linda Hopper, 3869 Fairway Drive, asked about requested revisions at the April work session to the 11-point zoning ordinance and the timeframe of Planning Commission publications.

23-075 Closed Session – Teamsters Collective Bargaining

Council Member Jurkas moved to go into closed session at 6:04 pm to discuss Teamsters collective bargaining parameters. The motion was supported by Council Member Morgenstern and carried 5/1 with Council Member Moulatsiotis against. The regular City Council meeting resumed at 6:39 pm.

Comments

City Administrator Mark Meyers reported that new banners were being placed on the Henry Street bridge and the Seminole Road corridor along with planters. Mayor Nelund said that Finance Director Chris Lyonnais had large canvas prints made from the photos taken during the branding campaign that will be hung at City Hall. Mayor Nelund expressed his frustration about the misinformation being spread to residents regarding proposed amendments to special use permit standards making it appear that City Council is not trustworthy.

Meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

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Shelly Stibitz, City Clerk