AGENDA 5b
DATE 6·2·2020

CITY OF NORTON SHORES
CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION
May 26, 2020

A regular work session of the Norton Shores City Council was held remotely on Tuesday, May 26, 2020 at 5:30 p.m.

Present: Mayor Nelund, Council Members Beecham, Hylland, Jurkas, Morgenstern, Moulatsiotis, and Olson; also, Mark Meyers, Shelly Stibitz, Doug Hughes, Bob Gagnon, Jon Gale, Mike Huston, Jerry Bartoszek, and Anthony Chandler

1. Muskegon County Park Plan for Nugent Sand Property

City Administrator Mark Meyers introduced guest speakers Caitlin Hegedus, Bob Lukens and Mark Eisenbarth from Muskegon County. The guests explained the County's plans to purchase the former Nugent Sand property for development of a park and asked the City for a letter of support to include with their application for a Michigan Department of Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant. The 380-acre property includes two inland lakes, has Lake Michigan frontage and some of their plans include signage, lighting and parking with long-term goals of creating a master plan, hiking trails and, possibly, a campground. Council members had many questions such as whether the lake was safe to swim in, where the entrance would be located and how park traffic would affect property owners on Winnetaska, and, also, if Norton Shores residents would be liable for funding the park. County representatives replied that environmental studies and lake quality reports support recreational use, the entrance will be from Lincoln Avenue onto Winnetaska and almost immediately to a new access road to limit interference with residences and the park will be funded by grants and maintained by the County with user fees may be incorporated in the future if necessary. Council Member Olson feels there are enough parks in the area but, along with the rest of the Council, is agreeable to the City sending a letter of support for the MNRTF grant application.

2. Chart House Energy Solar Presentation

Mr. Meyers described the 2016 contract the City entered into with Chart House Energy for placement of solar arrays on Fire Station 3 and the estimated $700 per year electricity savings being realized. Chart House Energy has now approached the City to implement another phase of solar arrays to be placed on City Hall, Fire Station 2 and the Public Works facility with initial annual energy savings of up to $3,260 and $354,000 savings over the 25-year contract with $0 investment from the City. The existing solar arrays at Fire Station 3 has been a positive project and Chart House Energy has upheld all provisions of that contract. The company maintains the arrays and makes the roof accessible for any maintenance by moving them out of the way and back into place if needed at no cost to

the City. Council Member Moulatsiotis asked if there are other solar energy companies in the area and if a bid process should be initiated. Council Member Morgenstern and Mr. Meyers stated that they don't know of other solar energy companies in this area and both have only heard positive comments from other businesses and municipalities who've partnered with Chart House Energy. Council consensus was to move forward with this project.

General Comments

Police Chief Jon Gale informed Council that the new marine patrol boat is in the City's possession but not yet in the water. There was a presence on Mona Lake over the Memorial holiday at least four hours each day with officer's in the Sherriff's Department aluminum boat.

This is the last formal meeting for retiring Department of Public Works Director Jerry Bartoszek. Mayor Nelund expressed appreciation for many years of service and is confident that the City is better for having had Mr. Bartoszek on staff.

Meeting adjourned at 6:47 p.m.

Shelly Stibitz

Shelly Stibitz, City Clerk