



AGENDA 7c
DATE 2-4-2020
Internal Memo

January 29, 2020

TO: Mark C. Meyers, City Administrator

FROM: Anthony Chandler, Director of Administrative Services *AC*

SUBJECT: High Water Level – Great Lakes

As you are well aware, areas along the Lake Michigan shoreline have experienced significant erosion due to the record high water levels causing damage to both public and privately-owned property. The high water has also affected inland lakes which would include those owning property on Mona Lake. As a result, the City and many property owners within have been burdened by this catastrophe and the costs to mitigate the impact of the high water is mounting.

The County of Muskegon and other communities along Lake Michigan have adopted a resolution to declare the shoreline a disaster area in an effort to obtain State and Federal funding. Attached is a resolution for Council's consideration.

I am requesting this item be included on the Council agenda for the February 4, 2020 meeting.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, record high water levels in the Great Lakes as well as the bays, rivers, and inland lakes connected to them, have contributed toward erosion on beaches and shorelines all across the State of Michigan throughout 2019 and currently in 2020; and

WHEREAS, it is anticipated that the Michigan winter with ice flows and jams will continue to worsen the already bad situation throughout the Great Lakes; and

WHEREAS, the City of Norton Shores recognizes the effects of storms, high water, and wind driven currents and wave action that are causing severe erosion of the shoreline as well as related infrastructure damage; and

WHEREAS, the Great Lakes are the State of Michigan's economic and property value driver for the tax base along the shoreline and connecting tributaries; and

WHEREAS, the current condition of the Great Lakes' shoreline negatively affects businesses and the tourism industry by limiting access to the beaches and the loss of private property along the shoreline negatively affects the local, county, and state tax base; in addition to municipal water systems and the inland water levels being negatively affected; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Norton Shores City Council hereby requests that the Governor of the State of Michigan along with our State Legislature declare the shoreline and other waters of the State impacted by the record high water levels as a disaster area and that the Governor and the State Legislature seek assistance from Congress and the President of the United States for this devastating situation which has a damaging impact statewide.

At a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Norton Shores, held at the Norton Shores Branch Library, 705 Seminole Road, on the 4th day of February, 2020, the foregoing resolution was moved for adoption by Council Member _____. The motion was supported by Council Member _____.

Ayes:

Nays:

Shelly Stibitz, City Clerk