

CITY OF NORTON SHORES  
CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION  
September 25, 2018

A regular work session of the Norton Shores City Council was held on Tuesday, September 25, 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, Doug Hughes, Jon Gale, Bob Gagnon, Mike Huston, Jerry Bartoszek, Anthony Chandler and Shelly Stibitz

1. Request to Participate in Channel Wall Repair

Public Works Director Jerry Bartoszek explained to Council members that Maranatha obtained engineering proposals for repair of two breaches along the south Mona Lake Channel wall adjacent to their property. They are asking that the City and Mona Lake Improvement Association share equally in the \$2,000 initial cost for the preliminary study/meeting. Mr. Bartoszek expects that Maranatha would then request financial participation in the \$19,800 complete engineering study and report as well as repair of the wall. Mona Lake Improvement Association rejected participating in the study and contacted Great Lakes Dock and Materials who indicated that they could reinforce the wall and place large stone and sand behind it to fill the sink holes and stabilize the channel wall for approximately \$10,000. Historically, the City has maintained the north channel wall which is adjacent to Lake Harbor Park and Maranatha has maintained the south channel wall. Council Member Flanders questioned whether widening the channel could be added to the study and Mr. Bartoszek responded that the study wasn't ordered by the City. Some points of discussion included: who owns the channel wall(s), whether lakefront property owners should contribute more towards maintaining the channel, if grants or other funding may be available, would participation be on a one-time basis, and how critical the timing of the repair is. The Council concluded that this issue could be revisited when more information is available.

2. Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan Proposed Process and Timeline

Mr. Bartoszek suggested a timeline for updating the 2010 Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan. It is proposed that city staff create a potential sidewalk and/or walkway project list to be shared at a public forum during Planning Commission meetings to receive citizen input and finally to the City Council for approval. Council Member Moulatsiotis asked what factors city staff members will use to compile the list and whether Council members would have any opportunity to weigh in prior to it coming before them for approval. The Council would be encouraged to attend the Planning Commission meetings to hear citizen's opinions and will have an opportunity for input when the preliminary draft plan is presented at a work session. Council Member Sladick questioned who maintains sidewalks and would like to see an ordinance adopted that addresses this. Council Member Flanders wondered if local health care systems would be willing to fund

sidewalk construction to promote healthy lifestyles. The Council would like to encourage citizen participation early in the process and move forward with the proposed timeline.

3. Citizen and Business Awards Concept

Director of Administrative Services Anthony Chandler discussed Council Member Cross' recent suggestion to recognize citizens and businesses for their contributions to the community. Mr. Chandler cited several examples of how other communities honor both citizens and businesses and some of the criteria used in choosing them. Council Member Cross and Mayor Nelund commented that these programs cost very little to implement yet foster immeasurable community pride and good stewardship. The Council is in favor of starting a citizen recognition program.

General Comments

Council Member Cross shared her positive experience at the Michigan Municipal League Convention. The Mayor felt the social media session at the Convention had good content and would like to arrange for someone to conduct a presentation for City officials and staff.

City Administrator Mark Meyers stated that the Judgment Bonds related to the settlement with the City of Muskegon Heights' water system closed and the payment was made before the deadline. The City's bond sale was completed in six weeks when the process often takes six months to one year.

Meeting adjourned at 6:33 p.m.

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Shelly Stibitz, City Clerk