

STANDISH CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
November 13, 2023

1. **CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

Mayor King called the regular meeting of the Standish City Council to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO AMERICA**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor King.

3. **ROLL CALL**

Present: King, Link, Fleszar, Winslow, Rang, Prout  
Absent: Spencer

4. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**MOVED** by Rang and supported by Link to approve the agenda as presented.

The motion carried.

5. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Hergott – 380 E North St  
Whitney – 220 E Cedar St

6. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOVED** by Rang and supported by Fleszar to approve the minutes of the October 9, 2023, Regular Meeting.

All approved, motion carried.

7. **APPROVAL OF THE BILLS**

**MOVED** by Rang and supported by Fleszar to pay the invoices for the month of November.

A roll call vote was taken as follows:

YEAS:	Winslow, Fleszar, Link, Rang, Prout, King
NAYS:	None
ABSENT:	Spencer

The motion carried.

8. **CURRENT BUSINESS**

**A. Public Hearing- CWSRF – Intent to Apply**

**MOVED** by Fleszar and supported by Rang to go into a Public Hearing for CWSRF Intent to Apply 6:09pm.

All approved, motion carried.

- The City of Standish is preparing an application for funding a sewer improvement project under the United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development. The total project is estimated at \$4.2 million and will consist of numerous upgrades and equipment replacement throughout the City.
- The application process requires public outreach to discuss the proposed project. A public meeting will be held during the City's regular scheduled City Commission meeting on November 13<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00pm at City Hall, 399 E Beaver St Standish MI 48658
- The public meeting will give residents an opportunity to become acquainted with the project scope and to comment on such items as economic and environmental impacts and service areas of the project.

**MOVED** by Rang and supported by Fleszar to Leave Public Hearing for CWSRF Intent to Apply 6:10pm

All approved, motion carried.

**MOVED** by Rang and supported by Fleszar to submit our application to CWSRF for the clean water renewal grant.

A roll call vote was taken as follows:

YEAS: Prout, Winslow, Rang, Fleszar, Link, King

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Spencer

The motion carried.

## **B. Bar Screen – Sewer Lift Station**

- To apply for a grant to cover the cost of replacing the bar screen in the lift station, the city needs to follow BABA guidelines.
  - New bid processes
    - All products must be purchased in the US if possible.
      - There are waivers for this, however it may take years to receive this waiver.
        - Part of the electronics/controls for the Bar Screen we need is not available in the US.
- This grant process is pushing this project out further which could lead to other problems and repairs.
- The Bar Screen keeps large materials from entering the sewage pumps.
- APRA money would cover approximately 25% of the overall costs.
  - Estimated costs are 599,000.
- There is not enough money in the sewer fund to cover the expenses, after speaking with the Auditors there is a way to an interfund loan.
- The City Manager highly recommends that the council moves forward with the Lift Station project.

- The City Manager will gather more information on interfund loans to present to the council at the next meeting.

### C. Wade Spycher – Mosquito Spraying Proposal

- Presented council with presentation and informational packets utilizing his drone services to spread granulated pellets to help with mosquito control.
- Spycher determined that there is approximately 620 acres of wood/low lighting land within the city limits that the city residents would benefit from having pellets dropped on to help control the mosquito population.
- Recommends having the application performed at least twice a year, once in early spring and mid-summer to help prevent mosquito larva from hatching.
- Cost would be approximately \$41 an acre that is treated.
- Spycher can customize the areas treated to council's specifications and guarantees that an even application will be applied to designated areas.

## 9. NEW BUSINESS

### A. Election Drop Box

- With new state regulations the City will be required to have an Absent Voter Drop Box installed that is under video monitoring.
- The drop box and cameras will be fully reimbursable by the state but will need to cover the upfront costs.

**MOVED** by Rang and supported by Winslow to move forward with purchasing Absent Voter Drop Box.

A roll call vote was taken as follows:

YEAS: Rang, Link, Winslow, Fleszar, Prout, King

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Spencer

### B. Baruch Senior Ministries – Property Tax Exemption

- Purchased Horizon Senior Center
- Requesting a none-profit property tax exemption
  - None profit religious organization.
- This property will most likely be taken to a state tribunal.

### C. Ag & Event Center Property

- The County is considering offering the Ag & Event Center property for sale to the City of Standish
  - The City could utilize this property in applying for the Spark Grant for recreational activities within the City Limits, property would need to be purchased by the city before the end of January if utilizing it to apply for the Spark Grant
    - Walking trails, wildlife viewing areas, ect
- County purchased this 54-acre parcel utilizing a tribal grant for \$140,000.

- The County will have the property appraised to determine the current value, with the knowledge that a portion of this property is considered wetland.
- Purchase of this property would be paid out of the General Fund
- Concerns that the city would not be able to do what the council would like to for a recreation area, due to the results the county received on the wetland on the parcel.
  - Is it too far from residential areas for people to walk to? Would it be utilized?

**MOVED** by Fleszar and supported by Prout to allow the City Manager to negotiate with the county to purchase the Ag & Event center parcel up to \$70,000.

A roll call vote was taken as follows:

YEAS: Prout, Link, Fleszar, Winslow, King  
 NAYS: Rang  
 ABSENT: Spencer

The motion carried.

#### **D. Road Closures**

- Saturday, November 18<sup>th</sup>, Derek Wilk Christmas Lighting, Church St from M-61 to Pine St. 6:00pm to 7:00pm

**MOVED** by Rang and supported by Fleszar to approve the road closure Saturday, November 18<sup>th</sup>, Derek Wilk Christmas Lighting, Church St from M-61 to Pine St. 6:00pm to 7:00pm

All approved, motion carried.

- Friday, November 24<sup>th</sup>, Santa Parade, Lovett Lane to Cedar, West on Cedar to Forest St, North on Forest St to Beaver St, 6:00pm to 8:00pm

**MOVED** by Link and supported by Fleszar to approve the road closure for Friday, November 24<sup>th</sup>, Santa Parade, Lovett Lane to Cedar, West on Cedar to Forest St, North on Forest St to Beaver St, 6:00pm to 8:00pm

All approved, motion carried.

- Saturday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>, Santa Train, Beaver St from US-23 to the Railroad Tracks, 8:00am to 10:00am.

**MOVED** by Rang and supported by Fleszar to approve the road closure for Saturday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>, Santa Train, Beaver St from US-23 to the Railroad Tracks, 8:00am to 10:00am

All approved, motion carried.

#### 10. **CITY MANAGER REPORT**

Mason reported the following:

- DPW is working on leave pickup.
- Banners and Flags have been put up.
- Street repairs have been completed since the last meeting.
- 307 N Main St – Information has been sent in for the Land Grant

12. **MAYOR & FIRE AUTHORITY REPORT**

King reported the following:

- Everything has been going well at the Fire Authority
- It’s nice to see how much is being accomplished within the city this past year.

13. **COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS**

- Rang – Has received complaint about Johnsfield Rd being in disrepair.

14. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Mayor King adjourned the regular City Council meeting at 7:33 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Champagne Southworth  
 City Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Kevin King  
 Mayor