

STANDISH CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
March 10, 2025

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**

Mayor King led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. **ROLL CALL**

Present: King, Link, Fleszar, Lincoln, Niernberg, Spencer, Myers

Absent:

4. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

MOVED by Link and supported by Fleszar to approve the presented agenda with the addition of January 13, 2025, Closed Session Minutes approval and item G. Water Treatment Plant Furnace to New Business.

The motion carried.

5. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

6. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

MOVED by Fleszar and supported by Niernberg to approve the minutes of February 10, 2025, Regular Meeting.

All approved, motion carried.

MOVED by Fleszar and supported by Myers to approve the minutes of February 10, 2025, Closed Meeting.

All approved, motion carried.

MOVED by Fleszar and supported by Myers to approve the minutes of January 13, 2025, Closed Meeting.

All approved, motion carried.

7. **APPROVAL OF THE BILLS**

MOVED by Spencer and supported by Fleszar to pay the invoices for the month of March.

Roll call vote:

YEAS: Fleszar, Niernberg, Myers, Spencer, Lincoln, Link, King

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried.

8. **CURRENT BUSINESS**

A. Public Hearing – Retail Cannabis Sales within the City Limits

MOVED by Myers and supported by Fleszar to go into a Public Hearing - Retail Cannabis Sales within the City Limits at 6:11pm.

All approved, motion carried.

- Tom Reif – Gave educational session with Q&A
 - Permit comes up for renewal yearly
 - Strict State guidelines must be followed by a Cannabis businesses
 - The amount received by the state can vary year by year because it's based on product sold and the type of establishment allowed in the City Limits
 - State issued funds are unrestricted funds
 - Permit application funds are restricted on how they can be used.
 - The number of permits and types of permits issued within the city can be limited
 - Planning Commission would be utilized largely to prepare the language for ordinances for the City Council to review
- Public Comment
 - Dufort 500 E Cedar – Does not Support Cannabis Retail
 - Sullivan 6434 Sterling Rd – Interested in Establishing a Retail location.
 - Smith 2761 M 61 Bentley – Employee of Green Mitten Pharms
 - Chase Mitrzyk 708 E Cedar St – Interested in Establishing a Retail location – Owner of Green Mitten Farms
 - Mrs. Mitrzyk 708 E Cedar St. – Interested in Establishing a Retail location – Owner of Green Mitten Farms
 - Foco 319 S Cass St – Supports Cannabis Retail
 - Holbrook 319 S Cass St – Supports Cannabis Retail
 - Peak 1762 Wyatt Rd – Supports Cannabis Retail
 - Lincoln 215 N Cass – Does not Support Cannabis Retail
 - Mitrzyk 4848 M-61 – Supports Cannabis Retail

MOVED by Link and supported by Fleszar to leave the Public Hearing - Retail Cannabis Sales within the City Limits at 7:13pm.

All approved, motion carried.

MOVED by Fleszar and supported by Myers to allow one or more retail cannabis sales within the City Limits.

Roll call vote:

YEAS: Fleszar, Niernberg, King
 NAYS: Lincoln, Myers, Link, Spencer
 ABSENT: None

Motion Defeated by Majority

9. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. City Assessor Contract 5/1/2025 to 5/1/2026

- SunRise Assessing - Brandon Murphy has been the city assessor for the past year and the contract is up for renewal.
- The new contract has an increase in assessing services fee bring the current rate of \$19,500 to \$20,100 for assessing services, with everything else remaining the same.
- The assessor is in the office on a regular basis to meet with people or work on updating the city assessing database

MOVED by Myers and supported by Fleszar to accept SunRise Assessing LLC proposed contract for May 1, 2025, to May 1, 2026.

Roll call vote:

YEAS: Link, Fleszar, Spencer, Lincoln, Myers, Niernburg, King

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried.

B. Tree Quote – Grove Street

- Only one quote was received for the tree removal on Grove St.
 - Uprooted Tree Services - \$2,025
 - This does not include the stump removal

MOVED by Fleszar and supported by Niernburg to accept Uprooted Tree Servies quote of \$2,025 to remove a tree on Grove St.

Roll call vote:

YEAS: Spencer, Myers, Lincoln, Niernburg, Link, Fleszar, King

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried.

C. Resolution 25.01 – Performance Resolution for Municipalities (MDOT)

- This resolution allows our employees to work on MDOT roadways
 - This is something that MDOT requires.

MOVED by Link and supported by Fleszar to approved Resolution 25.01 – Performance Resolution for Municipalities.

All in favor, motion carried.

D. First Reading of 2025/2026 Budget

- Property tax revenue is increasing
- Road funding is increasing
- Dobson Drain the newest expense that needs to be budgeted
- Sewer Fund is struggling and has been in the negative when repairs are needed
 - Rate studies are being completed for sewer projects that may require sewer rates to increase

- Major Street fund is healthy
 - A couple of Major Streets will need to see some repairs completed soon
- Local Street funds have been depleted from the road projects completed over the last couple of years
- Rubbish is funds come from billing items in Utility billing labeled rubbish
- DDA funds are healthy
- Building Authority covers the Fire Barn and new Fire Truck expenses
- Water is very healthy and is expected to grow with the projects being completed this year.

E. Special Use Permit – Arenac County – Parcel 040-2-300-000-170-15

- The county would like to put up a barn to store all their emergency equipment inside and at one location
- There is no house located on this parcel which by our zoning ordinances to have a structure for storage is required
- The council would like to hear the County's plans for drainage on this parcel

Mayor King tabled the

F. Tribal Grant Application

- Surge Protector for the Water Treatment Plant \$9,700
- Breaker for Mini Excavator (Breaks Frozen Ground up) \$10,000
- Small Generator \$3,500
- Leaf Machine \$100,000

G. Water Treatment Plant Furnaces

- 3 of the 5 overhead furnaces are no longer working
 - All furnaces are on one system
- Three bids were received
 - Barron
 - McBride \$13,900 – Same as current brand
 - Custom \$13,900 – Same as current brand

MOVED by Link and supported by Lincoln to accepts McBride's bid to fix all three furnaces at the Water Treatment Plant.

Roll call vote:

YEAS: Spencer, Lincoln, Fleszar, Myers, Link, Niernburg, King

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried.

10. CITY MANAGER REPORT

Mason reported the following:

- Park – Spencers will be contacting EAGLE soon now that the snow is gone to review where the walking path can be located.
- 307 N Main St – The buildings are gone, we are just waiting on the ground to thaw so it can be leveled, once that is done the property will be listed for sale
- KFC – everyone on council was sent an invitation to join KFC for their ribbon cutting

12. MAYOR & FIRE AUTHORITY REPORT

King reported the following:

- Fire Authority – Nothing to report

13. COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

- Lincoln – When is Elm St. going to be repaired, there are two cones in the middle of the road where it is crumbling.
 - A patch will be placed over this area as soon as the weather permits
- Myers – Won't be at next month's meeting and apologies for missing the last few.
- Link – Would like to see the road sweep now that the weather is getting better

14. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mayor King adjourned the regular City Council meeting at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Attest:

Champagne Southworth
City Clerk

Kevin King
Mayor