

**City of Northville**  
**CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**  
**October 3, 2016**

Mayor Roth called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:30 p.m. in the City of Northville Municipal Building, City Council Chambers, 215 W. Main Street, Northville, Michigan, 48167.

Mayor Roth read a statement informing those present that the City Council meeting was being recorded for rebroadcast on the City's website. By remaining at the meeting, consent is inferred by those present to have their voice and image recorded and posted on the City's website.

**ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Mayor Ken Roth, Mayor Pro Tem James Allen, Councilmembers Nancy Darga, Sam Ekong, and Marilyn Price

**Absent:** None

**Also Present:** City Manager Patrick Sullivan, City Clerk Dianne Massa, Public Works Director James Gallogly, and two citizens

**PRESENTATIONS**

**A. Citizens Comments**

Karen Schaumann, 590 Baseline, voiced concern with the number of trees removed on a neighboring lot to accommodate a new house; questioning the protocol for tree removal and how the value of a tree is determined; the damage to sidewalks by contractors and who is responsible for the repairs; and the condition of the Baseline road due to truck traffic.

The City Manager explained the tree permit process and gave examples of when replacement trees are required. It was also explained that certain exceptions for tree removal are made as trees may be removed to accommodate the footprint of the house. Contractors are responsible for damage to sidewalks. It was noted that Baseline Road is not subject to seasonal road conditions, which would allow for truck and traffic restrictions. It was suggested the Schaumann's contact the City Manager and provide the specific address to see if a tree removal permit was issued. Permit information is also available on the City's website.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA**

**Motion Darga, seconded by Price** to approve the agenda and consent agenda as presented.

Approve City Council Minutes of:  
- Regular Meeting of September 19, 2016

Receive Bills List:

- Accounts Payable Week of September 12, 2016
- Accounts Payable Week of September 19, 2016
- Accounts Payable Week of September 16, 2016

Receive Board and Commission Minutes:

- Beautification Commission: 6/27/16

Receive Departmental Reports:

- Youth Assistance: 9/16

Board and Commission Appointments: None

Special Event Request / Streets of Treats / October 29, 2016

Special Event Request / Holiday Lighted Parade / November 18, 2016

Special Event Request / Plymouth Owners Grand National Meet / July 28, 2018 (preliminary approval)

Renewed Video Service Local Franchise Agreement for AT&T (Michigan Bell Telephone)

**Motion carried unanimously.**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Brush Chipper Purchase / Department of Public Works**

The FY2017 budget includes funding the purchase of a new brush chipper for the Department of Public Works. This brush chipper is larger than the Department's current model making it more versatile to handle various sizes of trees. The new brush chipper will be used for routine tree trimming and removals, but more importantly, it is a larger machine that could better handle larger trees that may come down requiring immediate attention during severe weather events that sometimes hit the City.

The Public Works Department tested different wood chipping machines. Rigorous testing indicates that the Morbark Beaver M12R seemed to best meet the Department's needs and was most liked by Staff. Using the specifications for this unit, a bid document was prepared and advertised on the Michigan Intergovernmental Trade Network.

On September 13, 2016 two bids were received as follows:

Vermeer	\$35,000	Model #BC1200XL (gasoline engine)
Morbark LLC	\$36,500	Model Beaver M12R (diesel engine)

The Morbark unit was the chipper used to write the specifications for this purchase. Of all the units tested, the DPW liked this unit the most. The Vermeer unit is similar in size, but it does not come with a diesel engine as specified. Instead it is equipped with a gasoline engine. As a work engine, the Department believed a diesel engine can be expected to provide a longer life. In addition, extra items requested in the bid advertised by the City of Northville do not seem to be included in the Vermeer bid. These items include a spare tire and rim, an extra drum belt, and an extra set of cutting knives.

Though both of these units would work for the DPW, the Department recommends that the Morbark Beaver M12R with the additional items as specified in the bid be purchased by the City. For FY2017, \$55,000 was budgeted for a new brush chipper by the City. The unit selected will cost \$36,500, which is well under the amount budgeted. Funding for this equipment purchase will be transferred to the Equipment Fund from the Solid Waste Fund. The remaining amount of the budgeted funds not required for this purchase will remain in the Solid Waste Fund.

City Council Discussion and Comments: Comments from City Council concurred the diesel engine will pay for itself over the lifetime of this chipper.

**Motion Ekong, seconded by Price to approve the purchase of a new Mobark Beaver M12R brush chipper from Morbark, Winn, Michigan, in the not-to-exceed amount of \$36,500. Motion carried unanimously.**

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS**

**A. Mayor and Council Communications**

Roth noted:

- 10/12 Chamber of Commerce annual meeting at Genitti's
- 10/7 Skeletons Are Alive event kickoff in the downtown
- 10/21 Alliance of Rouge Communities / Great Lakes Restoration Forum (Council members are invited to attend)

Allen spoke of sidewalk issues when there is sidewalk on only one side of the street and construction blocks the sidewalk, forcing pedestrians to walk in the street. Often, the sidewalk is disrupted for several months or longer. He suggested the City consider an ordinance to require that a builder removes/blocks the sidewalk for a project, that an alternate type of sidewalk be maintained (i.e. gravel walk, wooden walkway). Allen pointed to an ordinance in Ann Arbor that addresses this matter. It was also pointed out that Berkley is also researching this matter.

**B. Staff Communications**

The City Manager noted the Police Department plans to participate in the October (breast cancer) and November (prostate cancer) movements to raise awareness for these cancers. In October, the Department will wear pink t-shirts under the uniform. In November, the Department will sport facial hair.

Fire Prevention Week begins October 9<sup>th</sup>. October 10-15, both stations will have open houses to provide tours, demonstrate the use of firefighting equipment, and other activities to raise fire safety awareness.

Parks and Recreation submitted a pre-proposal for a grant for Fish Hatchery Park (Johnson Creek). The State of Michigan reviewed the pre-proposal and invited the Department to submit a full grant application. The grant submission deadline is November 11<sup>th</sup>.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

**Adjournment: 7:51 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

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Dianne Massa, CMC  
City Clerk

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Ken Roth  
Mayor

Approved as submitted: 10/17/16