

**City of Northville**  
**CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**  
**March 6, 2017**

Mayor Roth called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:00 p.m. in the City of Northville Municipal Building, City Council Chambers, 215 W. Main Street, Northville, Michigan, 48167.

**ROLL CALL**

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

**Absent:** Councilmember Nancy Darga (excused)

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

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.

**PRESENTATIONS**

**A. Citizens Comments**

Bill Flohr, 16304 Lincoln Drive, voiced concern with the Ford Field rental fee for special events. He is the assistant baseball coach at Northville High School. Annually, the baseball team holds an Armed Forces fundraiser event. Proceeds go to "Homes for Troops," where a house is built for a deserving vet. 2019 will mark the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of this event and planned to hold it at Ford Field. He asked for a consideration of a waiver of the \$2,200 weekend fee as this is a one-day event.

City Council directed the City Manager to follow up and see if there were alternatives available to offer a reduced fee for one-day use.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA**

**Motion Ekong, seconded by Allen** to approve the agenda and consent agenda as presented.

Approve City Council Minutes of:

- Regular Meeting of February 21, 2017

Receive Bills List:

- Accounts Payable Week of March 3, 2017

Receive Board and Commission Minutes: None

Receive Departmental Reports: None

Board and Commission Appointments: None

Special Event Request / Independence Day Parade / July 4, 2017

Special Event Request / North Center Brewing Anniversary Celebration / April 15, 2017

**Motion carried unanimously.**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. Rural Hill Drive Bridge/ MDOT Local Bridge Program**

Every two years the City of Northville retains an engineering firm to inspect three bridges under the jurisdiction of the City. The three bridges include the Beal Avenue Bridge, the Old Novi Road Bridge, and the Rural Hill Drive Bridge. Based on the findings of the most recent 2016 inspection, the City was informed that the bridge on Rural Hill Drive needs to be significantly rehabilitated or replaced.

The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) has a Local Bridge Program. This is a state-wide program that provides funding for 95% of the construction cost to rehabilitate or replace deteriorated bridges. For the City of Northville to obtain this funding, it must apply and compete against all other bridge needs in the state. If successful, 2020 is the earliest this funding could be made available to Northville.

The estimated cost to improve this bridge could range from \$680,000 (rehabilitation) to \$905,000 (replacement). Therefore, obtaining state and federal funding is important, if the City is to move forward with this project.

Applications for 2020 funding must be submitted by the first of May 2017, and a resolution is needed as part of the application process. The resolution is a critical part of the application as MDOT needs to know that the City is serious about rehabilitating or replacing this bridge, and will come up with the required local match of 5% of the construction costs plus engineering fees. As Rural Hill Drive is a local street, funding would come from the 2020 Local Street Fund.

City Council Comments and Discussion: It was further explained that there are funds available in the budget to retain an engineer to inspect the bridge. The engineer will make a recommendation on rehabilitation or reconstruction. This recommendation will be used for the grant application. The engineer provided a current assessment of the bridge. The bridge is safe to use, but it is deteriorating.

Should the City be successful with a grant award, the local match will be a line item in the 2020 budget. If the City does not receive funding, the City would need to find local funds. The bridge is critical as it is the only access to Rural Hill Cemetery.

**Motion Allen, seconded by Ekong** to approve a resolution authorizing the Public Works Director to submit an application to the Michigan Department of Transportation Local Bridge Program for state and federal bridge funding of the rehabilitation/reconstruction of the Rural Hill Drive Bridge over the Johnson Drain. **Motion carried unanimously.**

## **MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS**

**A. Mayor and Council Communications** None

**B. Staff Communications** None

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

**Adjournment: 7:15 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

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Dianne Massa, CMC  
City Clerk

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Ken Roth  
Mayor

Approved as submitted: 3/20/17