

**MINUTES  
CITY OF NEGAUNEE REGULAR MEETING  
FEBRUARY 8, 2018**

A Regular Meeting of the Negaunee City Council was held on Thursday February 8, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. in the Negaunee Senior Center.

Members Present: Mayor Gladwell, Council Members Maino, Wallner, Kantola, Anderson, Kangas

Members Absent: None

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Mayor Gladwell asked for a moment of silence at this time on the passing of Council Member VanStraten.

Council Member Anderson asked to have #6.3 Closed Session - employee wage adjustment, contract/job description and #6.5 of the Charter added to the agenda. City Attorney O'Dea stated that a Closed Session for those reasons does not meet the Open Meetings Act but that it could be talked about in open session.

A motion was made by Council Member Wallner, supported by Council Member Kangas and unanimously carried to approve the agenda as amended.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Rhonda Gravedoni addressed the Council and once again thanked them for the truck route change and she hopes it does not move to Maas St. She also welcomed the City Manager.

Tonja Acker Richards addressed the Council regarding the changing of the agenda at the last minute.

Bill Richards addressed the Council and welcomed the new City Manager. He also talked about the DPW needing an engineer.

**CHARTER LANGUAGE CHANGE #6.2 – CITY MANAGER**

The Charter language was sent to the Attorney General who requested some changes.

A motion was made by Council Member Maino and supported by Council Member Wallner to approve the language changes to be sent to the Governor's office for review and approval.

\*\*See attached.

The following roll call vote was taken:

Ayes: Council Members Maino, Wallner, Kantola, Anderson, Kangas and Mayor Gladwell

Nays: None

The motion passed on a 6-0 vote.

### **EMPLOYEE WAGE ADJUSTMENT, CONTRACT/JOB DESCRIPTION AND #6.5 OF THE CHARTER**

Council Member Anderson stated that he thought the Council was going to meet again regarding the employee wage adjustment. City Attorney O'Dea stated that per the contract the City Manager has the authority to make wage adjustments.

### **VACANT COUNCIL SEAT**

A motion was made by Council Member Maino and supported by Mayor Gladwell to appoint John Becker the next highest vote getter in the past election until the next regular election.

The following roll call vote was taken:

Ayes: Council Member Maino and Mayor Gladwell

Nays: Council Members Wallner, Kantola, Anderson, and Kangas

The motion failed on a 2-4 vote.

A motion was made by Council Member Wallner and supported by Council Member Kantola to fill the vacancy through the application process.

The following roll call vote was taken:

Ayes: Council Members Wallner, Kantola, Anderson, Kangas and Mayor Gladwell

Nays: Council Member Maino

The motion passed on a 5-1 vote.

### **SUPERIOR TRADE ZONE RESOLUTION**

The Next Michigan Development Act was established by PA 275 in 2010. The act is to encourage the creation of Next Michigan Development Corporations (NMDC) to foster economic opportunities in the state of Michigan. There are currently seven active NMDCs that

can grant incentives, not only to new businesses but also to expanding businesses currently residing in Michigan. The City of Negaunee would fall under the Superior Trade Zone. There is no cost for this at this time.

A motion was made Council Member Maino, supported by Council Member Kantola and unanimously carried to adopt the resolution approving an Intergovernmental Agreement and appoint the City Manager to this committee.

### **CAPITAL CONFERENCE – CITY MANAGER TO ATTEND**

A motion was made by Council Member Anderson, supported by Council Member Wallner and unanimously carried to allow the City Manager to attend the Capital Conference March 20-21, 2018.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

A motion was made Council Member Maino, supported by Council Member Kangas and unanimously carried to approve the Consent Agenda as follows: January 11, 2018 Regular Minutes, Claims and Accounts in the amount of \$324,709.61 (checks#76616-#76741), Revenue/Expenditure Trial Balance Reports.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Bill Richards addressed the Council regarding the DPW having an engineer.

Tonja Acker Richards stated that she is the only psychotherapist in Negaunee. She is glad the cancers involved were eliminated. She commented on the 45 day water shut off and no paperwork existed and it had nothing to do with the water.

Jon Becker stated that he was deeply saddened on the passing of Council Member VanStraten. He thanked Council Member Maino and the Mayor. He stated that Mike was a great neighbor and that they didn't always agree but that they both had the City's best interest in mind.

Toby Smith addressed the Council and commented on the transparency of the City and its officials as it pertains to the City Manager and the MML conference. He commented on the City of Ishpeming's facebook comments regarding the Empire Mine.

### **COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Mayor Gladwell stated that he would like to see reports from NIWA, 911 and Marqtran quarterly.

Council Member Maino commented on freeze ups.

Council Member Wallner commented on the Heikki Lunta festival, the Poker Run downtown this weekend, suicide prevention alliance, thanked the City Manager for his report facebook utilization and when the meetings would be broadcast again.

Council Member Anderson commented on the City Manager report and asked that a plaque or resolution be done for Council Member VanStraten for the next meeting.

Council Member Kangas commented on the Meet & Greet and gave his condolences on Council Member VanStraten's passing.

Mayor Gladwell stated that the Council can ask to have items added to the Agenda after it is posted, the truck route moving to Maas St. is a rumor, wants an update on the water department S2 position, a resolution for CCI and the Heikki Lunta festival.

#### **CITY MANAGER**

City Manager Heffron stated that he is not sure of the status of the S2 water operator, gave an update on the Jackson Park pavilion Grant, meetings that he has been attending, opening CD's for the water and sewer capital improvement money, hiring of a DPW Director, Mechanic Foreman, Custodian and Zoning/Planning position. He spoke about a maintenance code and forming a committee.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to discuss a motion was made by Council Member Kangas, supported by Council Member Anderson and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

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Ann Ducoli  
Deputy Clerk

**CITY OF NEGAUNEE BALLOT PROPOSAL RESOLUTION**

THIS IS TO CERTIFY, that on February 8, 2018, the Negaunee City Council resolved by way of 3/5 vote to submit the following proposal to the electors at the next regular city election or general state election not earlier than 90 days from now.

**PROPOSAL NO. 1  
CITY OF NEGAUNEE  
CHARTER AMENDMENT ARTICLE VI, SECTION 6.2**

**CURRENT LANGUAGE OF ARTICLE VI, SECTION 6.2**

THE COUNCIL SHALL APPOINT A CITY MANAGER FOR AN INDEFINITE TERM. HE OR SHE SHALL BE APPOINTED BY THE AFFIRMATIVE VOTE OF AT LEAST A MAJORITY OF THE COUNCIL-ELECT. SUCH CITY MANAGER SHALL BE THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER OF THE CITY AND SHALL HOLD OFFICE AT THE PLEASURE OF THE COUNCIL. HE OR SHE SHALL BE SELECTED ON THE BASIS OF FITNESS AND ABILITY WITHOUT REGARD TO HIS OR HER POLITICAL OR RELIGIOUS PREFERENCES AND SHALL HAVE HAD TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE IN MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATION AS A CITY MANAGER....

**PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE VI, SECTION 6.2**

THE COUNCIL SHALL APPOINT A CITY MANAGER FOR AN INDEFINITE TERM. HE OR SHE SHALL BE APPOINTED BY THE AFFIRMATIVE VOTE OF AT LEAST A MAJORITY OF THE COUNCIL-ELECT. SUCH CITY MANAGER SHALL BE THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER OF THE CITY AND SHALL HOLD OFFICE AT THE PLEASURE OF THE COUNCIL. HE OR SHE SHALL BE SELECTED ON THE BASIS OF FITNESS AND ABILITY WITHOUT REGARD TO HIS OR HER POLITICAL OR RELIGIOUS PREFERENCES AND SHALL BE APPOINTED SOLELY ON THE BASIS OF HIS OR HER EXECUTIVE AND/OR ADMINISTRATIVE AND/OR PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS....

**BALLOT PROPOSAL**

SHALL SECTION 6.2 OF NEGAUNEE CITY CHARTER BE AMENDED TO DELETE THE CURRENT REQUIREMENT THAT THE CITY MANAGER HAVE PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE AS A CITY MANAGER AND INSTEAD PROVIDE THAT THE CITY MANAGER WILL BE HIRED BASED ON THE CANDIDATE'S EXECUTIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE QUALIFICATIONS?

I, Judith Twanski City Clerk hereby certify the above:

By: Judith K Twanski  
Its: City Clerk

