

**CITY OF ST. CLAIR, MICHIGAN  
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2019 - 6:00 P.M.**

Mayor Cedar convened the Special Meeting of the City Council to order in the meeting room of Pine Shores Golf Course, 515 Fred W. Moore Highway, at 6:00pm for a goal setting session.

PRESENT: Mayor Cedar, Members Ellery, Kindsvater, LaPorte, McCartney, Watt

ABSENT: Member Kuffa (excused)

ADMINISTRATION: Michael E. Booth, City Superintendent; James T. Downey, Jr., Kane, Clemons, Joachim & Downey; Annette Sturdy, City Clerk

AUDIENCE: There were 8 people in attendance

Clinton Avenue Parking-Mayor Cedar shared progress on the pursuit for additional parking along the Clinton Avenue Corridor, specifically between Murphy's and Ted's Coney Island. The total project cost is about \$53,000 and would add approximately 30 parking spaces. The Community Foundation has pledged \$20,000 and 6 businesses will contribute \$4300 each. The cost to the city includes storm sewer infrastructure of about \$7000. Seven businesses were approached for contributions to the project. There are currently 6 businesses on board-Murphy's, Malane's Marina, DeMarc Hair Studios, LaCroix's Riverside Bar, Ted's Coney Island and the Voyageur. Councilmember Kindsvater stated this area was previously a high priority project of the DDA with the intention to make a more walkable area. Majority of council agrees to maintain priority of this project and keep it moving forward. Additional information on the parking spaces include they are all open to a public and do not create any non-compliance parking issues with adjacent businesses.

Road improvements- 2018 road improvement projects totaled approximately \$626,300 and included local streets, major streets, gravel and paving avenues in the cemetery. 2017 road expenditures were approximately \$627,200. There are a total of 29.18 miles of roads. Nine of which are major streets.

2019 road improvement projects include finishing Henry, Thornapple, S 11<sup>th</sup> and a new project of Clinton Avenue from Third to M-29.

Local road assessment included Goffe and Cass as in need of major repair. Both have water mains that need to be repaired/replaced also. The water main along Goffe needs to be fixed concurrently with fixing the road. Superintendent Booth is looking into a grant funding source for this project.

St. Clair Highway Closure-The section of St. Clair Highway that is closed will receive attention this Spring. The guard rail will be pulled up, drainage veered back to the storm sewer and sections of the road graveled. After the temporary fix, and the section has seen some traffic, it will be re-accessed to see if there is movement.

M-29 Road Diet The final design will be presented by MDOT to council for approval prior to any work. Reduction to three lanes with a center turn lane was determined but the bike path location was not determined. The road diet will be from the North to the South of city limits. Striping could be done as early June.

Fiber Mat-Superintendent Booth wants to survey fiber mat a bit more before implementing it on any other street.

Clinton Avenue Apartments-The construction is in early stages, most notably the clearing of trees. Discussion included inquiries of the address, entrance location and road damage accountability.

Sign Ordinance subcommittee-The committee has received a lot of good input and they are moving forward.

St. Clair County Trail Plan Review- St. Clair County and the Community Foundation has worked together to get funding (from the Wilson Foundation specifically) to evaluate and enhance the trail plan. The Great Lake-to-Lake Trail from St. Josephs to Port Huron includes the city of St. Clair along the route. While the final path hasn't been approved it, there was a choice for the path to go along Gratiot or along Fred Moore and it appears they chose Fred Moore which allows the path to connect to our already established Bridge to Bay Trail. This helps funnel people through town instead of around town. Information will be put on the city website.

2018 completed projects:

- a) DNR Tree Grant-Allowed the city to plant over 20 trees in the city limits.
- b) Palmer Park Renovation Boardwalk -The boardwalk has been replaced and the rail painted. The project cost was approximately \$327,000.
- c) Memorial Bench Program-Trice Hawkins and Delos Boulter spearheaded this donation program that resulted in over 20 new benches at Palmer Park.

Public comment included inquiry of a sidewalk maintenance program. Yes, there is discussion on this that also includes tree trimming. This topic will be added to the next goal setting session.

The next goal setting session is set for Monday, April 1, 2019 at 6:00pm

Adjourned 6:50pm

Annette Sturdy, City Clerk

Bill Cedar, Jr., Mayor