

**WALKER CITY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
CITY COMMISSION CHAMBERS
4243 REMEMBRANCE RD.
APRIL 12, 2010**

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Mayor VerHeulen called the Committee of the Whole Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Motion by Versluis, seconded by Kent, to open the public hearing to amend the Industrial Development Certificate for Bissell Inc. Motion carried unanimously.

Tim Bosscher, Vice President and Treasurer of Bissell Inc, was present to discuss the project Bissell recently completed and the reason for their request. They converted 50,000 square foot of warehouse space into office space and have added roughly 50 salaried positions with an additional 20 currently open. They are requesting an amendment to their certificate from 2008 because they have exceeded the 10% allowed by approval. Mr. Bosscher offered tours of the facility to the Commission and Commissioner Parent requested contact information. He would organize a tour with Bissell for the Commissioners interested.

No public comment was received in regards to this hearing.

Motion by Deschaine, seconded by Parent, to close the public hearing. Motion carried unanimously.

Gary Carey, Chairperson for the Bond Campaign for Kenowa Hills Public Schools, gave a brief overview of the bond issue that is proposed on the upcoming May 4, 2010 election.

The City Commission reviewed the items on the agenda.

Mayor VerHeulen discussed the Business License Ordinance Amendment that is proposed on the agenda. After research from the Clerk's Office from neighboring communities, he felt that they should remove proposed Chapter 18 from the amendment eliminating noncommercial enterprises from being required to file emergency contact information. The Clerk's Office will send a letter requesting the information and he feels that they will comply with the request. The Commission agreed. The language in Chapter 22 would still be amended.

Mayor VerHeulen requested that the Commission change the order of the agenda this evening for the Regular meeting. He anticipated that there would be a majority of audience members that would be in attendance for the Business License Ordinance Amendment and he felt they could address this issue in the beginning. The Commission agreed.

Motion by Kent, seconded by Stek, to open the public hearing for an Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate for Micron Manufacturing Co. Motion carried unanimously.

Mike Preston, General Manager of Micron Manufacturing Co, was present to discuss his application for IFT abatement for \$685,000 in personal property with the addition of two employees. The company has recently seen growth and they are gaining an edge on their national competition. Recently they acquired some new work and they should be seeing higher wages based on the higher level of skill the work requires.

No public comment was received in regards to this hearing.

Motion by Deschaine, seconded by Holt, to close the public hearing. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Versluis, seconded by Kent, to open the public hearing for an Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate for Great Lakes Bottling Co. Motion carried unanimously.

Duane DeWitt and Curtis Larsen were present from Grand Rapids Bottling Co to discuss their application for IFT abatement. They are requesting abatement of \$1,000,000 in personal property and they are creating 30 new positions.

No public comment was received in regards to this hearing.

Motion by Parent, seconded by Holt, to close the public hearing. Motion carried unanimously.

The City Commission continued reviewing the items on the agenda.

REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING:

Mayor VerHeulen called the meeting to order at 8:00 p.m.

Commissioner Deschaine gave the invocation and the Deputy City Clerk called the roll.

Present: Mayor Rob VerHeulen, Commissioners: Al Parent, Charles Deschaine, Barb Holt, Cyndy Stek, Steve Versluis and Dan Kent. Also present: City Manager Vander Meulen and City Attorney Dick Butler. Absent: None.

Motion by Deschaine, seconded by Versluis, to approve Commission meeting minutes of 3-22-10. Motion carried unanimously.

Claude "Bob" Walter was sworn in as a volunteer policeman and Tom Bart was sworn in as a new member of the Downtown Development Authority.

Mayor VerHeulen addressed the public present and discussed the proposed business license ordinance amendment as discussed during the Committee of the Whole meeting.

Motion by Deschaine, seconded by Versluis, to remove ORD 10-580 to amend Chapter 18, entitled "Buildings and Building Regulations," to add a new Article VI, Sections 18-190 and 18-191; to Amend Chapter 22, Article I, Section 22-1, and to repeal Chapter 22, Article I, Section 22-6, entitled "Business Licenses," of the Code of Ordinances from the table. Motion carried unanimously.

City Attorney Dick Butler reviewed the procedure for substituting the new language. The current proposed ordinance amendment addresses Chapters 18 and 22 of the Code of Ordinances. The new proposed language addresses only the amendments to Chapter 22 and removed the requirement of noncommercial enterprises filing emergency contact information.

Motion by Deschaine, seconded by Kent, to substitute the new language removing Chapter 18 amendments from the ordinance amendment. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Versluis, seconded by Parent, to approve the first reading of ORD 10-580 to amend Chapter 22 entitled “Business Licenses”, Article I, Section 22-1, and to Repeal Chapter 22, Article I, Section 22-6 of the Code of Ordinances. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment:

Public comment was received from Ruth Harper, Tom Grego, and Bill Mohr.

Motion by Kent, seconded by Parent, to approve the expenditures in the amount of \$240,328.42. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Versluis, seconded by Holt, to approve Traffic Control Order #208. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Stek, seconded by Holt, to approve Resolution 10-133 to add and amend authorized financial dealers and institutions for the City of Walker. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Kent, seconded by Stek, to approve Resolution 10-134 for investment pool agreement between Kent County and the City of Walker. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Parent, seconded by Versluis, to approve Resolution 10-135 adopting fees for temporary sign permits and official zoning compliance letter, adding an inadvertently deleted fee schedule for temporary uses and deleting a fee schedule that has been replaced regarding special meetings of the Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Holt, seconded by Stek, to approve Resolution 10-136 to amend Act 198 Certificate for Bissell Homecare Inc. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Kent, seconded by Parent, to approve Resolution 10-137 approving the application of an IFT Exemption Certificate for Micron Manufacturing Inc. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Deschaine, seconded by Kent, to approve Resolution 10-138 approving the application of an IFT Exemption Certificate for Great Lakes Bottling Co. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Stek, seconded by Parent, to approve the second reading and adoption of ORD 10-581 to amend Chapter 10, entitled “Amusements and Entertainment” of the Code of Ordinances by adding a New Article IV entitled “Motion Picture, Television and Radio and Photographic Productions.” Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Versluis, seconded by Parent, to approve second reading and adoption of ORD 10-582 to amend Chapter 70, Article III, Division I, Subsection 70-68(a) of the Code of Ordinances, entitled “Sidewalks to be Cleared.” Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion was held on whether this was an additional requirement that the film applicants would have to fulfill or if this was standard. It was determined that this was a standard regulation and that the Fire Department wanted it added to clarify the requirements for compliance. Follow up was requested to confirm that this was not an additional requirement.

Motion by Deschaine, seconded by Stek, to table the second reading of ORD 10-583 to amend Chapter 38, Article II of the Code of Ordinances to add New Sections 38-33, 38-34, and 38-35 to adopt by reference Chapter 32 of the NFPA 1, Fire Code, 2009 Edition, entitled “Motion Picture

and Television Production Studio Sound stages and approved Production Facilities.” Motion carried unanimously.

The City Manager read a statement from Red Creek Waste complimenting the City on work with the proposed ordinance. His one concern was on the existing language that requires both an address and a telephone number on the vehicle. He would like that it be one or the other and not both. Green Valley Disposal and Allied Waste were present at the meeting and also spoke to the good job the City has done on this ordinance. Their concerns were in regards to Section 62-57(h) and needing more clarification on that requirement of the licensing. Also Section 62-2 and 3(a) were raised as concern. Additional discussion was held on application process and licensing requirements. The Commission requested that follow up be done on these issues and brought to the Ordinance Committee for further review.

Motion by Parent, seconded by Stek, to return ORD 10-584 to amend Chapter 62 entitled “Solid Waste,” Articles I and II, Section 62-1 through 62-43, and Sections 62-56 through 62-59, and to add a new Section 62-44 to the Code of Ordinances to the Ordinance Committee for further review and clarification of the items discussed.

Public Comment:

Public comment was received.

Commissioner Deschaine discussed a concern that was brought to him by a neighbor. There are 4 x 4 posts on the edge of the street on Kinney. Mark Koning, DPW Director, was present and will look into this matter.

Commissioner Holt discussed an email that she and the entire commission received from a concerned resident regarding an incident that happened with our DPW. She informed the Commission that the City Manager did an internal investigation and they offered to discuss the outcome with the concerned resident but he wanted it brought up at the Commission meeting.

Commissioner Parent reported that the Waste Energy Advisory Committee that he is a member of discussed possible rate decreases from Kent County to the individual haulers which in turn could be rate decreases for the residents.

Pastor Maury De Young of Sportspersons Ministries International has requested that the Commission, as part of his application to the State for a gaming license, be recognized formally as a non-profit organization in Walker. They are holding a banquet dinner in Hudsonville and will be having a raffle with door prizes which requires a license from the State.

Motion by Kent, seconded by Holt, to approve Resolution 10-139 acknowledging Sportspersons Ministries International as a Non-profit organization in the City of Walker for the purposes of making application to the State of Michigan for a gaming license. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Parent, seconded by Stek, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Shannon Bales
Deputy City Clerk