

**WALKER CITY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES  
CITY COMMISSION CHAMBERS  
4243 REMEMBRANCE RD.  
JUNE 14, 2010**

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

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

Mayor VerHeulen amended the agenda to add City Manger Contract Discussion.

Motion by Parent, seconded by Holt, to open the Public Hearing to review 2010-2011 Fiscal Year Budgets. Motion carried 7-0.

City Manager Vander Meulen presented the proposed budget. The most important levels of service to maintain include Fire and Police response times, Road maintenance, and snow plowing.

In reviewing the proposed revenues and expenses, 60% of revenue comes from Income Tax, and 47% of proposed expenditures is related to Public Safety. The City property tax millage rate remains at 1.336, property tax revenue reflects an average taxable value decrease of 4.0% over previous year. Expenditures have decreased 7.7% from 2009-2010 expenditures. Staff has been reduced by 18 full time positions and 4 part-time positions since 2008-2009 budget years.

Ending General Fund balance as of June 2011 is \$1,547,647 representing 13% fund balance.

Motion by Versluis, seconded by Deschaine to closed the Public Hearing. Motion carried 7-0.

The City Commission reviewed the items on the agenda.

Lowell Dispatch will be moving to Kent County Dispatch on October 1, 2010. An agreement was presented to the City Commission to approve the transfer of Lowell Dispatch from the City of Walker Dispatch to Kent County Dispatch.

Frank Wash, Planner discussed the temporary sign fee of \$50.00 being too high, and asked the City Commission to consider reducing to \$20.00 each. The Commission seemed to be in favor of this, and the Planning Department will present a Resolution with this change at the next Commission meeting.

The Commission also thanked Frank Wash for his hard work with the Standale Master Plan, and for winning the Metro Council "Blue Print Award".

**REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING:**

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

Commissioner Parent gave the invocation and the 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 Assistant City Manager Schmalzel. Absent: None.

Motion by Holt, seconded by Parent, to approve the Commission meeting minutes of 5-24-10. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment: Mr. Hansen, Community Organizer Kent County Coalition Coordinator spoke regarding the House Party Proposed Ordinance, and stated the Coalition will be helping with the City of Walker legal fees that pertain to this Ordinance adoption.

Motion by Deschaine, seconded by Kent, to approve the expenditures in the amount of \$319,710.45. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Holt, seconded by Stek, to approve the Lowell Dispatch Agreement. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Parent, seconded by Stek, to approve Resolution 10-143 to approve 2009/2010 current fiscal year budget amendments. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Stek, seconded by Holt, to approve 2010/2011 fiscal year budget. This included holding required Public Hearing, authorizing levy of 1.3360 mills, and authorizing levy of 0.668 mills on real and personal property tax. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Kent thanked the Finance Committee and City staff for its hard work during this process.

Final Preliminary Plat for Summerbrooke Estates Phrase 1 was discussed. Pete Buurstra, Engineer for Rick Miller expressed concern when reviewing the City Staff Reports from engineering department regarding the maintenance of existing pond to north of site, the issue is not regarding mowing or brush-hogging this area, in addition the Engineering department is asking that Kent County Drain Commission inspect and approve the pond for hydraulic function prior to final approval.

Motion by Deschaine, seconded by Versluis, to table Resolution 10-145. Motion carried 7-0.

Motion by Holt, seconded by Kent, to approve Certification of delinquent Special Assessments to the 2010 Summer Property Tax Roll in the amount of \$54,953.25. Motion carried 7-0.

Motion by Deschaine, seconded by Versluis, to remove ORD 10-584 from the table. Motion carried 7-0.

Motion by Holt, seconded by Parent, to approve the second reading of ORD 10-584 to add new sections 50-51 and 50-52 to Chapter 50, including amendment to c (1) as modified. Article I of the Code of Ordinances, entitled “Offenses and Miscellaneous Provisions.” Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment: None.

Motion by Versluis, seconded by Holt, to go into Closed Session under Article 8A of Open Meetings Act to discuss City Managers Contract. Roll Call Vote was taken by the Clerk. 7- 0.

The closed session began at 9:30 p.m.

The closed session ended at 11:15 p.m.

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

Meeting was adjourned at 11:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Bydalek, CMC  
City Clerk