

**WALKER CITY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
CITY COMMISSION CHAMBERS
4243 REMEMBRANCE RD.
AUGUST 9, 2010**

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

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

Motion by Holt, seconded by Parent, to open Public Hearing for 3167 Bristol Ave NW Single Lot Special Assessment Toll No. 201. Motion carried 5-0.

No Public Comment.

Motion by Deschaine, seconded by Kent, to close the Public Hearing. Motion carried 5-0.

Bruce deWitt from Rosemont Nursery attended the Commission meeting to discuss the City's Sign Ordinance. The ordinance does not address companies placing their signage at a residential property after they have completed a siding, windows, landscaping, roofing or other job. Mr. deWitt feels it is imperative this signage is allowed for his company to promote his business.

Frank Wash, Planning Director, will look at what the surrounding municipalities regulate and this will be brought back to the Ordinance Committee to be evaluated.

Motion by Deschaine, seconded by Holt, to open Public Hearing for Industrial Development Certificate for Kenona Industries located at 3044 Wilson Dr NW. Motion carried 5-0.

Brian Morrissey, Vice President of Kenona Industries, was present to answer questions related to their \$950,000 five year tax abatement. They will be making a steering component for Chrysler's Town & Country vans with this new machinery.

Motion by Kent, seconded by Holt, to close the Public Hearing for Kenona Industries. Motion carried 5-0.

The Public Safety Director, Deputy Director of Police, and Deputy Director of Fire Services gave an update on the departments. Catherine Garcia-Lindstrom is working on holding individual meetings with each of the fire department supervisors and firemen. The automatic vehicle locators have been installed in all of the fire trucks. This will help to know where the fire trucks are for Medical First Response. There are currently only 11 of the 56 firefighters who are not trained for Medical First Response. The Fire Department currently has 19 applicants and will be selecting seven candidates for training.

REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING:

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

Mayor VerHeulen gave the invocation and the City Clerk called the roll.

Present: Mayor Rob VerHeulen, Commissioners: Al Parent, Dan Kent, Barb Holt, and Charles Deschaine. Absent: Commissioner Cyndy Stek and Commissioner Steve Versluis.
Also present: City Manager Vander Meulen.

Motion by Deschaine, seconded by Holt, to approve Commission Meeting minutes of 7-26-10. Motion carried 5-0.

Public Comment: Mike Dawson, Owner of Atlantic Gold, (also known as Great Lakes Gold Rush) commented on the Sign Ordinance. Mr. Dawson feels the pedestrian signs should be allowed for businesses to promote their business. He feels Walker is taking advertising opportunities away from businesses making it harder for them to survive.

Motion by Kent, seconded by Parent, to approve the expenditures in the amount of \$1,338,326.72. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Parent, seconded by Holt, to approve Resolution 10-153 Fourth Amendment to Water and Sanitary Sewer Service Agreement with the City of Grand Rapids. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Deschaine, seconded by Holt, to approve Resolution 10-154 for an Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate (ACT 198) for Kenona Industries. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Holt, seconded by Kent, to approve Resolution 10-155 to adopt revised Building Fee Schedule and repeal previous schedule. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Holt, seconded by Parent, to approve Resolution 10-156 to approve 3167 Bristol Ave NW Single Lot Special Assessment Roll No. 201. Motion carried 5-0.

City Manager Vander Meulen reported that a Kent District Library Board seat was open and Plainfield and Alpine Township supported Penny Weller, a Walker resident for this position.

Motion by Deschaine, seconded by Kent, to approve the recommendation of Penny Weller as the Walker liaison for the KDL Board. Motion carried 5-0.

Public Comment: None.

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

Meeting was adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Bydalek CMC
City Clerk