

CITY OF GHENT
APPROVED MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL/EDA MEETING
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12TH, 2024

The regularly scheduled City Council/EDA meeting for the City of Ghent was held on Tuesday, November 12th at 6:30 p.m. Council members present were Mayor Doug Anderson, Adam DeRoode, Ross Williams, Tim VanKeulen & Zac Boerboom. Administrator/Clerk, Dawn Vlaminc & Public Works Director, Jesse Christianson

OPEN MEETING: Mayor Anderson called the meeting to order @ 6:30 p.m.
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE was recited.

APPROVE MINUTES: A motion was made by VanKeulen and seconded by Boerboom to approve the minutes of the October meeting. All in favor, motion carried.

APPROVE AGENDA: A motion was made by DeRoode and seconded by Boerboom to approve the agenda. All in favor, motion carried.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS: No comments were heard.

LYON COUNTY SHERRIFF'S DEPT: Deputy Louwagie was present. No concerns.

CANNABIS ORDINANCE DISCUSSION: Carol Biren from Lyon County Public Health was present to discuss the details of the Lyon County Cannabis ordinance. Their ordinance is as restrictive as it can be. A motion was made by DeRoode and seconded by VanKeulen to defer this decision until the December meeting so that we can review the final adopted ordinance from Lyon County. All in favor, motion carried.

RESOLUTION #11-12-24: CANVASSING BOARD: A motion was made by DeRoode and seconded by Boerboom to adopt the resolution as presented certifying the 2024 election results. All in favor, motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING: ZONING VARIANCE REQUEST #2024-3: 102 MCQUESTION STREET E: A motion was made by VanKeulen and seconded by Boerboom to open a public hearing to hear comment on the zoning variance application submitted by Adam DeRoode of 102 McQuestion St East. All in favor, motion carried. No comments were heard.

CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING: A motion was made by Boerboom and seconded by VanKeulen to close the public hearing. All in favor, motion carried.

RESOLUTION #11-12-2024-02: A motion was made by VanKeulen and seconded by Boerboom to approve the zoning variance as presented. VanKeulen, Boerboom, & Anderson voted yes, DeRoode abstained, motion carried.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REVIEW BOARD: Chief Cory Crowley presented the review board's recommendations for 2024 Fire Department Officers. Chief I: William Maertens, Chief 3: Matthew Norby, & Captain: Mike Stassen. When filling these positions, two positions were left open. The board recommends appointing Chief II: Steve Sussner and Captain II Dallas Mahoney. A motion was made by Boerboom and seconded by VanKeulen to approve the recommended appointments. All in favor, motion carried. The council would like to thank Chief Crowley for his many years of service to our community.

CODE ENFORCEMENT: Council reviewed active cases.

FORGIVE PAST DUE BALANCE: The family of Kenneth Horton are working toward selling his property to Doug Maertens. They have asked that the council forgive the past due balances for both code enforcement and water/sewer/garbage fees in the amount of \$\$2,097.51. A motion was made by DeRoode and seconded by VanKeulen to forgive the balance in an effort to support the transaction and cleanup of this property. All in favor, motion carried.

ASSESS PAST DUE BALANCES TO TAX ROLLS: A motion was made by DeRoode and seconded by VanKeulen to assess proposed past due balances to the Lyon County tax rolls. All in favor, motion carried.

UTILITY BILLING PROGRAM: Our new onboarding date with gworks is 2/3/25.

FINANCIALS: Council reviewed the final #'s for the Bluebird Court Drainage Project and the City Hall Renovation.

SUMP PUMP HOOKUPS: Council reviewed which residents have taken advantage of hooking their sump pumps to the storm sewer system in Bluebird. Jesse identified three additional residence that should be notified to hook up before winter.

111 CHAPMAN STREET N: Council discussed putting together an offer to purchase the property located next to the fire department for future expansion. The council may be interested if the EDA and fire department is willing to chip in.

SCHEDULE WORK SESSION: Council would like to schedule a work session with Bryan Bye to finalize the details of the 2025 water/sewer improvement project. We are looking at 12/5/24 @ 5:30.

ADJOURN: A motion was made by Williams and seconded by Boerboom to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Vlamincik
Administrator/Clerk