

**MARCH 1, 2016  
SPECIAL MEETING**

RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE SPECIAL BOYNE CITY COMMISSION MEETING DULY CALLED AND HELD AT BOYNE CITY HALL, 319 NORTH LAKE STREET, ON TUESDAY MARCH 1, 2016

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Neidhamer called the meeting to order at noon followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Mayor Tom Neidhamer, Mayor Pro-Tem Gene Towne, Commissioners Ron Grunch, Laura Sansom and Hugh Conklin

Absent: None

Staff: Cindy Grice, Michael Cain, Barb Brooks, Scott McPherson, Jeff Gaither, Andy Kovolski and Mark Fowler

Others: There was no citizens in attendance.

**CONSENT AGENDA  
MOTION**

2016-03-025  
Moved by Sansom  
Second by Towne

2016-03-025A  
Approval of the February 23, 2016 City Commission regular meeting minutes as presented

2016-03-025B  
Approval to reappoint Oral Sutliff to the Board of Review for a three year term expiring January, 2019

Ayes: 5  
Nays: 0  
Absent: 0  
Motion carried

**CITIZENS COMMENTS**

None

**CORRESPONDENCE**

None

**CITY MANAGERS REPORT**

City Manager Cain reported:

- At the conclusion of the meeting, the Commissioners will have an opportunity to phone conference with Lew Bender who will be facilitating the March 7, 2016 Commission Retreat

**REPORTS OF OFFICERS,  
BOARDS AND STANDING  
COMMITTEES**

None

**Asbestos Abatement Bids**

Public Works Superintendent Andy Kovolski presented the Commissioners with the asbestos removal bids. Only one bid was received for removing the asbestos at the City Hall and old street garage. It was from Quality Environmental Services in the amount of \$84,000. We received a positive letter of recommendation for this contractor.

Citizens Comments: None

Staff Comments: None

Board Discussion: Commissioner Conklin asked for a recap of the process getting to this point. All Commissioners are in agreement with the recommendation.

**MOTION**

2016-03-026

Moved by Towne

Second by Sansom

To award the contract for asbestos abatement of the City Hall building and Street Garage building to Quality Environmental Services in the amount of \$84,000 and authorize the City Manager to sign the documents

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

Absent: 0

Motion carried

**House Bill 5232 /Senate  
Bill 720 Letter of  
Opposition**

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Consideration approve a letter of opposition to House Bill 5232 and Senate Bill 720 and authorize its submittal to State House and Senate Representatives

Planning Director Scott McPherson discussed the House and Senate bills that were introduced to amend PA 169 of 1970, the Local Historic District Act. The proposed changes to the bills would significantly change the existing law in regards to how historic districts are established, regulated and maintained. As Boyne City has a designated historic district, the changes in the existing law could have a direct effect on the City.

Some of the more substantive changes in the identical bills include the requirement of obtaining preliminary approval of a 2/3rds majority of voters within a proposed historic district, the requirement of obtaining a majority of voters of the local unit for the adoption of a historic district ordinance, appeals would be heard by the local legislative body and no longer the State Historic Preservation Board, provisions would be added that would allow the legislative body to consider other and more ambiguous standards than the Secretary of Interior Standards for Rehabilitation when making a determination on appeals, establishment of a sunset provision in 10 years that automatically rescinds historic district ordinance if a renewal of the ordinance is not approved by a majority of voters.

It appears likely that the net effect of the proposed changes will limit the creation of new historic districts, weaken the application and enforcement of the Secretary of Interior Standards for Rehabilitation for existing districts, and ultimately result in the elimination of many existing districts.

For these reasons the proposed legislation has garnered much concern and attention from historic districts around the state. In response to the proposed changes of PA169 of 1970 the Michigan Historic Preservation Network has drafted a letter (see attached) in opposition to House Bill 5232 and Senate Bill 720. The letter has been provided to all Michigan communities that have Historic Districts and the Michigan Historic Preservation Network is requesting the letter be approved by the local units and submitted to their State representatives. At the February 18<sup>th</sup> Historic District Commission meeting the board reviewed and approved the letter and passed a motion recommending the letter be sent. It is being

recommended that the Commissioners approve a letter in opposition to House Bill 5232 and Senate Bill 720 for submittal to State House and Senate representatives.

Staff Comments: City Manager Cain added that Boyne City has a good record for preserving our past. Don't fix what isn't broken.

Citizens Comments: None

Board Discussion: All Commissioners support the recommendation.

**MOTION**

2016-03-027

Moved by Towne

Second by Sansom

To approve a letter of opposition to House Bill 5232 and Senate Bill 720 and authorize its submittal to State House and Senate Representatives

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

Absent: 0

Motion carried

**GOOD OF THE ORDER**

Commissioner Sansom inquired if there was something we could do to assist in our Sister City request to help us. The Commissioners discussed possible options, including a short video presentation of the Irish Festival to send to Sloan, Ireland.

A telephone conversation was held with Lew Bender and the City Commissioners, who will be facilitating the City Commissioner Retreat that will be held on Monday, March 7 from noon to 7:00 p.m.

**Closed Session**

2016-03-028

Moved by Neidhamer

Second by Grunch

To approve the request of the City Manager to go into closed session to consider the purchase of real property as provided in MCL 15.268 (d) of the Michigan Open Meetings Act (PA 267 of 1976) at 12:55 p.m.

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

Absent: 0

Motion carried

**Return to Open Session**

2016-03-029

Moved by Neidhamer

Second by Grunch

To return to Open Session at 1:57 p.m.

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

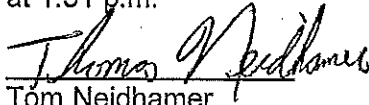
Absent: 0

Motion carried

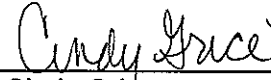
**ADJOURNMENT**  
**MOTION**

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Motion by Mayor Neidhamer seconded by Commissioner Conklin to adjourn the special City Commission meeting of Tuesday, March 1, 2016 at 1:51 p.m.



Tom Neidhamer  
Mayor



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Cindy Grice  
Clerk / Treasurer