

**November 9, 2021  
REGULAR MEETING**

**CALL TO ORDER**

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Mayor Neidhamer called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Mayor Neidhamer, Mayor Pro-Tem Ron Grunch, Commissioners Hugh Conklin, Sally Page and Dean Solomon

Absent: None

Staff: Michael Cain, Kevin Spate, Tim Faas, Jessica Puroll, Mark Fowler, Dick Brennan, Dennis Amesbury, Barb Brooks, John Lamont, Scott McPherson, and City Attorney James Murray

Others: There were 48 citizens in attendance.

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Mayor Neidhamer gives the outgoing Commissioners an opportunity to make a closing statement.

Grunch states to keep the dream alive. This started 22 years ago for me. It's been a wild ride. Appreciate your support over the years. Keep the dream alive is where we started and we are still there. Great things are to come. Congratulations to the incoming Commissioners.

Solomon states that it has truly been an honor to serve over the past four years, and best of luck to the new Commission.

Page has appreciated being a Commissioner, and wishes the new Commissioners the best.

Mayor Neidhamer presents certificates of appreciation to Solomon, Grunch, and Page.

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City Clerk/Treasurer Jessica Puroll provides a report of the election.

We had a very successful election. 1,225 voters voted on November 2, 2021. That is roughly a 37% turnout of our registered voters. Our canvassed results were 441 votes for Ron Grunch, 776 votes for George Lasater, 725 votes for Marty Moody, 719 votes for Tim Nemecek, 376 votes for Sally Page, and 493 votes for Dean Solomon. These are for four year terms that start beginning now through November 2025 to fill the three open City Commission positions the City has available.

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Mayor Neidhamer invites the incoming Commissioners to the front of the room to be sworn in by City Clerk/Treasurer Jessica Puroll.

Lasater is honored and humble to be here. He will do the best he can for our small town.

Moody is looking forward to serving this community.

Nemecek would like to thank the three incumbent Commissioners. Hopes today is the day that we can start moving forward, and continue to build on the successes they are leaving behind. Offered

an open door invitation to anyone who has anything they would like to reach out please do so by using the contact information on the City website.

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**ROLL CALL**

Present: Commissioners Tom Neidhamer, Hugh Conklin, George Lasater, Tim Nemecek, and Marty Moody.

Absent: None

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**ELECTION OF MAYOR MOTION**

2021-11-141  
 Moved by Moody  
 Second by Lasater

To elect Hugh Conklin as the Mayor of Boyne City

Ayes: 3 Nemecek, Moody, Lasater  
 Nays: 2 Neidhamer, Conklin  
 Absent: 0  
 Motion carried

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**ELECTION OF MAYOR PRO-TEM MOTION**

2021-11-142  
 Moved by Moody  
 Second by Lasater

To elect Tim Nemecek as the Mayor Pro-Tem of Boyne City

Ayes: 4 Nemecek, Moody, Lasater, Conklin  
 Nays: 1 Neidhamer  
 Absent: 0  
 Motion carried

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**CONSENT AGENDA MOTION**

2021-11-143  
 Moved by Moody  
 Second by Nemecek

Approve the October 26, 2021 regular meeting minutes as presented.

Ayes: 5  
 Nays: 0  
 Absent: 0  
 Motion carried

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**CITIZENS COMMENT**

City Manager Michael Cain addressed a question that came up at the last City Commission meeting. A citizen asked if there was any damage at the River Mouth Restrooms from the new roof not being on. Cain spoke to the contractor and if there are any repairs that need to be done there will be no charges.

-Penny Hardy presented a petition to show how many people are opposed to the marina expansion. She hopes that ethically they make you think about what the people of the community really want. 660 City resident signatures were collected and 310 Township signatures were collected.

-Sandy Pritchard does not believe that the individual that was recommended for the Main Street Executive Director position is qualified. Suggests that any action on that be tabled.

-Pat Anzell spoke regarding the petition. There is a reason why petitions are to be set up in a way that represent what City and Township people think. I heard that there was misinformation given. There are a lot more than 694 people in Boyne City, and to say the majority of Boyne City does not support the marina expansion off a petition that is not legitimate is not fair.

-Skylar McNaughton discussed how he has a long term goal for Boyne City to be a stopping point for Monarch Butterflies migration.

-Auska Barden thanked the outgoing Commission for their service. We have ourselves to blame for not being involved, and should be involved going forward.

-Cindy Banner thanked Penny for her petition drive. Everyone who worked on them understands that they were not official petitions. The citizens have spoken. Hopes that the person for the Main Street Executive Director position is truly qualified.

## CORRESPONDENCE

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None

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## CITY MANAGERS REPORT

City Manager Cain reported:

-Jessica Puroll was officially sworn in as Boyne City's City Clerk/Treasurer on Thursday, October 28<sup>th</sup>.

-The front office Clerical position is now open that is a result of Puroll's promotion. Those applications are due on Monday, November 29<sup>th</sup>.

-53 trees were planted by Robinson Landscaping on October 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> for this year's program. The work is complete including five transplanted trees moved to the "Triangle Park" on Pleasant Avenue at West Cedar Street.

-On Sunday October 31<sup>st</sup> the big 75" TV on the wall in the City Commission Chambers died. Mike Peterson of our DPW, with the help of some of his fellow DPW employees took it down and found a blown fuse on the power supply board. We were able to replace that board and the TV is back up and running for less than \$25 in parts.

-Materials for the new hanger being privately paid for and constructed at the Boyne City Municipal Airport were delivered on November 5<sup>th</sup> and work has begun with the support posts up and the first trusses in place.

-Faas reports that this phase of our Waterworks Park improvements off Division Street near the 1910 building are about 50% completed. The second sidewalk pour is tomorrow November 10<sup>th</sup>. The third and final pour will be over the next few weeks given the weather forecast and hunting season. We are performing the sidewalk work in-house as match to the millage award. Robinson Landscaping planted the seven trees. The budget for this Phase is \$20,315. It is funded about 50% by one of the three Charlevoix County Parks millage awards of \$9,497.

- Bedrock Express began mobilizing equipment on November 5<sup>th</sup> for the brush grinding at the North Boyne DPW yard.
- .-Harbor Springs Excavating started the John Street Road End Park slope stabilization project today.
- Harbor Fence is installing Phase 1 of the Pickleball Courts fencing today. A notice on the court closure was sent out to the user groups.
- The City received bids on Heating and Air Conditioning Maintenance Services and on Cemetery Grounds Maintenance Services last Thursday without much in the way of responses. The Cemetery Grounds work received no bids.
- The Lincoln Street Reconstruction Project (S Lake to Grant) is out for bids. Bids are due back on Tuesday, December 7<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m.
- Lake Street Bridge, Peninsula Beach, and Tannery Park erosion control bids are due this Wednesday. We anticipate bringing this matter to the City Commission for consideration at an upcoming meeting.
- Public Works crews are cleaning up the parks (lots of leaves now) and constructing the pathway at Water Works Park.
- We anticipate that the City's Auditors will be coming to the December 14<sup>th</sup> City Commission meeting to present their annual audit report. In the past few years we have had them come early to meet with the City Commission in a Work Session prior to the regular meeting. Currently we have them being here at 5:30 p.m.
- We are starting to get information on the new Infrastructure Bill to be signed in Washington DC shortly. As we get more information we will pass it along so we can begin thinking about how we might want to use some of it in Boyne City.
- Our Curbside Leaf Collection is in week four and was scheduled to end this Friday, November 12<sup>th</sup>. The program will continue, with reduced staffing, as time permits over the next two weeks since the leaves are holding on longer this year due to the warm November temperatures.

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\*City Attorney James Murray leaves the meeting at 7:55 p.m.

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

Received and Filed:  
-Main Street Board – October 7, 2021  
-Airport Advisory Board – October 26, 2021

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**OLD BUSINESS**

None

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**NEW BUSINESS  
Compensation  
Commission  
MOTION**

2021-11-144  
Moved by Moody  
Second by Lasater

Supports to decline the recommendation from the Compensation Commission to increase the Mayor and Commissioners current compensation by 10%, which is \$3,525 annually for the Mayor and \$2,970 annually for each Commissioner, as provided by City Ordinance A-78.

City Clerk/Treasurer Jessica Puroll discussed the recommendation from the Compensation Commission. The Compensation

Commission meant on October 19. During this meeting the Compensation Commission reached a decision to recommend that the Mayor and each Commissioner receive a 10% increase. Which is \$3,525 annually for the Mayor and \$2,970 annually for each Commissioner. This decision was based off the discussion of these positions tremendous amount of time and hard work put in.

**Staff Comment:**

City Manager Michael Cain provided some background of the Compensation Commission. This group meets every other odd year. They make a recommendation and unless the City Commission rejects it the recommendation goes into effect. This consists with State law. If no action is taken it takes effect automatically, a motion can be made to except it, no motion can be made, or make a motion to reject it. Tabling the conversation could be an option. Not sure how much time there would be before the conversation needs to happen. Would need to reach out to the City Attorney to confirm.

**Public Comment:**

Penny Hardy understands this is a time consuming job, and sees no problem with moving forward with the increase.

Cindy Banner is on the Compensation Commission, and believes that they are under paid and deserving of it.

Skylar McNaughton believes that being a Commissioner is deserving of being paid.

Cindy Banner states this is an important position and the timing for this approval is less than idea.

Pat Anzell stated that this sends a message that we appreciate your time and effort.

Peter Friedrich understands that the money is not budgeted.

**Board Discussion:**

Moody respects all the comments. Ran to dial back dollars.

Respectfully disagrees and declines. Pay is not the reason to run for this position.

Neidhamer supports the recommendation. There is a lot of time and effort put in to each meeting. It is symbolic gesture. Out of respect to the commission recommends to table the conversation.

Nemecek reviewed the meeting minutes. Respects the recommendation from the Compensation Commission. Thinks there should be more conversation.

Ayes: 4 Conklin, Nemecek, Moody, Lasater

Nays: 1 Neidhamer

Absent: 0

Motion carried

**FINISHED COMPOST  
PRODUCT PURCHASE  
MOTION**

2021-10-145

Moved by Moody

Second by Neidhamer

Approve the recommendation from the Director of Public Works Tim Faas to approve the request of Mark Smith to purchase 200 cubic yards of finished compost from the North Boyne Site at a cost of \$8 per cubic yard.

Director of Public Works Tim Faas discussed the finished compost product purchase. At the October 12<sup>th</sup> meeting the City Commission approved to allow local contractors, residents, and non-residents to remove the surplus material at no cost to the City in order to reduce the volume to about 1,000 cubic yards. Faas was contacted by three individuals requesting material. Two began hauling the surplus material off-site on October 21<sup>st</sup>. The third individual had problems arranging trucking, and was informed on October 26<sup>th</sup> that the haul out operation had ceased. He is still interested in acquiring material, and asked if he could purchase 200 cubic yards if he could arrange trucking. He was informed that material was sold to another individual at \$8 per cubic yard and we could potentially sell to him for the \$8 per cubic yard price. This would be \$1,600 in revenue. The price is based on the local going rate not including trucking. Emmet County sells to residents and non-residents for \$10 per cubic yard. Our product is not the same quality.

Staff Comment: None

Public Comment:

Skylar McNaughton questioned that we are selling to Mr. Smith, but gave product to the other two contractors. The Commission should have had Jim Baughman put on Facebook to sell before giving away. Richard Wright had previously made a recommendation to Cain and Faas to have areas filled at the Boyne City Municipal Airport to prevent dangerous situations.

Board Discussion:

Neidhamer asked is Faas could address the airport situation.

Lasater questioned what the cost per yard is to produce the compost. Nemecek stated we set a goal in October so we wouldn't incur charges from the State. What was the timeline on the request made with Mr. Smith?

Moody does not have a problem with charging. Hopefully we learned a lesson if you offer it up for free they will come. For future we should offer it up in smaller amounts than give it away for free.

Conklin hopes that Faas can write notes down for the next DPW director.

Nemecek we set a goal of 1,000 cubic yards and we are currently not at that goal. With Mr. Smith's 200 cubic yard request 160 cubic yards of that would bring us to the 1,000 cubic yard goal, and then there would be an additional 40 cubic yards that could be sold to him.

\*Nemecek made a motion to give Mark Smith the first 160 cubic yards of finished compost from the North Boyne site and then charge \$8 per cubic yard for the remaining 40 cubic yards of finished compost. Neidhamer second. Cain then clarifies the details of the motion of providing the first 160 yards to Mr. Smith at no cost and then charge for the remaining 40 cubic yards. Nemecek agrees that this is the motion he intended. Neidhamer resends his second after motion clarification. Neidhamer believes this is a win. Mr. Smith did not have his trucking in line as fast as the other companies. Neidhamer supports the recommendation from Tim Faas to sell the Mr. Smith the 200 cubic yards.

Ayes: 4 Conklin, Neidhamer, Moody, Lasater

Nays: 1 Nemecek

Absent: 0  
Motion carried

**CEMETERY GROUNDS  
MAINTENANCE  
SERVICES BID RESULTS  
UPDATE**

Director of Public Works Tim Faas provided an update on the cemetery grounds bid results. Speaking on behalf of Jessica Puroll and himself. Cemetery maintenance is directly underneath the Clerk/Treasurer position, however, how that has evolved over the years is the Department of Public Works has assisted substantially with serving as supervisory capacity for the physical maintenance that is contracted out. The DPW department performs the actual burials on the site, and dust control. An Invitation to Bid document was advertised on October 2021. Bid documents were sent out via email to seven local contractors on October 22, 2021 for a three year service contract. Sealed bids were due to the City on or before 1:00 p.m. on November 4, 2021. An advertisement was also placed in the Petoskey News Review. Unfortunately, when we got the bids back we only received one partial bid from Drost Landscaping. They submitted a bid on the fertilization work only. We have some time as this type of maintenance work doesn't resume until spring, however, we do not want to wait too long. We thought it would be beneficial to share with the new City Commission to understand the process we go through and hear some of the options available moving forward, and receive some input before we take our next steps.

**Staff Comment:**

Cain explains that this is a challenging situation, and the staffing situation is effecting everyone. We are usually an attractive contractor as we have a good reputation of being easy to work with. All the options are going to be challenging.

Cain suggests a hybrid recommendation for the Commission to consider. To continue conversations with Drost, reach out to Northern Michigan Escape and see if they have any interest in continuing, and review and compare to the possibility of contracting in.

**Public Comment:** None

**Board Discussion:**

Nemecek questioned if the current contractor was reached out to.

Has Drost submitted numbers for the full scope of the project?

Neidhamer understands that this is a hard time, and a company may not want to dedicate two people full time people for one project.

Moody after understanding that no one has wanted to quote the bids and knowing where we fell out at the end of the last bid the direction I would look to go is our own staff understanding this will need to be newly hired staff.

Nemecek asked if Faas could provide details on purchasing required equipment when it comes back to the Commission.

Moody likes Cain suggestion, but suggests opening the bids back up. He will talk with a few other landscapers to see if there is interest.

Conklin questions if Faas agrees with the suggested hybrid approach, and clarifies if the hybrid approach includes going back out to bid.

Neidhamer makes a recommendation that Faas, Cain, and Puroll pursue the hybrid all of the above options and get back to us.

**Good of the Order**

- Moody would like to see the Commission move forward with live streaming the meetings.

- Conklin would like to have Committee assignments be an upcoming agenda item.

**Announcements**

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- The next regular City Commission meeting is scheduled for November 23, 2021 at 12:00 p.m.
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**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Mayor-Pro Tem Nemecek, second by Commissioner Moody to adjourn at 9:01 p.m.

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Hugh Conklin  
Mayor

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Jessica Puroll  
City Clerk/Treasurer

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