

City of Muskegon
City Commission Worksession
March 9, 2009
City Commission Chambers
5:30 PM

MINUTES

2009-20

Present: Commissioners Warmington, Wierengo, Shepherd, Wisneski, Gawron, Carter, and Spataro.

Absent: None.

Muskegon Public School Bond Issue. Colin Armstrong

Colin Armstrong presented a proposal in which Muskegon Public Schools is asking for a 5.7 mill for a bond proposal to purchase computers, upkeep on the school buildings, as well as other improvements. A special election will be held on May 5, 2009.

Muskegon Summer Celebration Payment Plan Request. City Manager

Joe Austin and Tim Achterhof presented a letter requesting approval of a payment plan for Muskegon Summer Celebration indicating even though ticket sales were large last year, artists' fees have increased dramatically.

Bryon Mazade disclosed that he is chairman of the Muskegon Summer Celebration board.

Mayor Warmington disclosed that he is chairman of Muskegon Bike Time board and find they are in a similar position.

Moved by Commissioner Shepherd, supported by Commissioner Spataro to approve Muskegon Summer Celebration's request for a payment plan of city fees incurred in 2008 that will include a \$20,000 payment by June 1, 2009 and the remainder of the balance by September 30, 2009.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

**Ayes: Wisneski, Carter, Gawron, Shepherd, Spataro, Warmington, and Wierengo.
Nays: None.**

MOTION PASSES.

Charter Amendments. City Manager

City Commissioners have been asked to consider possible charter amendments. A list of possible charter changes are as follows:

Changes in the city's fiscal year to align with the federal, state, and county fiscal years.

Change from winter to summer tax collections.

Eliminate the August Primary for City Commissioners.

Modify or eliminate the city's civil service system.

A reduction in the number of days that the Board of Review holds session to better align with the session of other local units.

A release of certain properties from the "Charter Park" restriction.

Commissioners asked that a plan be presented that would take the place of the current civil service system if it is replaced.

Mr. Mazade will provide a list of charter parks to the City Commissioners.

This item will be placed on the April worksession for consideration.

2009-2010 Healthcare Program. Finance

Mr. Tim Paul, Finance Director, presented the proposed 2009-2010 healthcare program. Citing rising costs, several changes are being recommended to the current program. It is hoped that the changes will keep premiums at approximately the same rate for 2009-2010.

Any Other Business.

Public participation was accepted.

Adjournment

Motion by Commissioner Carter, seconded by Commissioner Shepherd to adjourn at 6:30 p.m.

MOTION PASSES

**Ann Marie Becker, MMC
City Clerk**