

CITY OF GHENT
APPROVED MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL/EDA MEETING
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8TH, 2024

The regularly scheduled City Council/EDA meeting for the City of Ghent was held on Tuesday, October 8th at 6:30 p.m. Council members present were Mayor Doug Anderson, Adam DeRoode, Ross Williams & Tim VanKeulen. Administrator/Clerk, Dawn Vlaminc & Public Works Director, Jesse Christianson
Absent was Zac Boerboom,

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 DeRoode to approve the minutes of the September meeting. All in favor, motion carried.

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

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS: No comments were heard.

LYON COUNTY SHERRIFF'S DEPT: Concerns about large vehicles using North Chapman to get to Cty 8 were brought up. Council discussed truck route, GPS issues, and signage options.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REVIEW BOARD: In 2024 the positions of Chief I, Chief 3, & Captain I are open for applications. The Board of Review consists of the two highest ranking officers that are not running for a position, Two city councilman, & one member of the department of Chief I's choice. A motion was made by VanKeulen and seconded by Williams to appoint mayor Anderson and Councilman DeRoode to the board of review. All in favor, motion carried.

ZONING VARIANCE REQUEST: 102 MCQUESTION STREET E: Adam DeRoode is asking to build a garage on the parcel next to his home that does not have the required width of 70' and with less than required setbacks. Adam is questioning if a variance is necessary if he owns both properties. After review of the ordinance, a formal application is required. A motion was made by Williams and seconded by VanKuelen to set a public hearing for November 12th to hear comment on this application. VanKeulen, Williams, Anderson voted yes, DeRoode abstained. Motion carried.

CURB/DRIVEWAY REPLACEMENT: 107 CARDINAL CIRCLE: Gordon Loyson is requesting the ability to replace the curb/driveway as part of the new construction at this address. A motion was made by Williams and seconded by DeRoode to allow with the conditions that engineered specifications are considered for drainage and Jesse inspects. All in favor, motion carried.

ROW MAINTENANCE: Councilman Williams had consulted with MN DOT staff. They will start mowing the areas that are too steep to be mowed by the property owners. He will communicate better with them regarding which areas should be mowed.

CODE ENFORCEMENT: Council reviewed active cases.

UTILITY BILLING PROGRAM: Our current utility billing company UBmax has been purchased by gWorks and will stop supporting this program on 12/31/24. Dawn has extensively researched other companies for better services and lower prices to no avail. There is concern about the quality of the new product but the pricing is the most affordable. We would also be getting Front Desk, Forms Mngt., Agendas & Minutes, and Public notices with this package. Dawn recommends that we transition into gWorks and continue to look for other companies that would be competitive. A motion was made by Williams and seconded by VanKeulen to transition into gWorks. All in favor, motion carried.

ADJOURN: A motion was made by Williams and seconded by DeRoode to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Vlaminc
Administrator/Clerk