

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Council Chambers, 805 St. Clair River Drive**  
**Algonac, MI 48001**  
**AS APPROVED 8/4/15**

A regular meeting of the Algonac City Council was called to order at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 21, 2015 by Mayor Irene Bird. The meeting was held in City Council Chambers, 805 St. Clair River Drive, Algonac, MI 48001.

**ROLL CALL:**

**Present:** Michael Bembas  
Irene Bird, Mayor  
Ray Martin  
Helen Meldrum  
Joe Nugent  
Mark Thompson, Mayor Pro-Tem  
Gary Tuzinowski

**Absent:** None

**Others:** City Manager Alexander, Undersheriff Tom Buckley,  
Lt. Paul Reid, Marine Division SCC Sheriff, Brian Finkey,  
Anita Zens, Brian Taylor, Sharon Taylor, Duane Corey,  
Rose M. Pfeiffer, Constance Conrad, Dan McGuire, Darlene  
McGuire, Sheila Fidler, Wood Alef, Sally Hazil, Bill Oddo,  
Barbara Oddo, Corey Blair, Joe Fidler, Kim Blair,  
Bridget Jennings, James Gallaher, Greg Loggins, Don R. Varo,  
Carol Hammond, Robert Hammond, Jeri Packer, City Clerk  
Greenia

**MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER**

Mayor Bird called for a moment of silent prayer.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Bird led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ADDITION TO AGENDA**

**CO # 07-13-15 Addition to Agenda**

Motion by Meldrum supported by Nugent to add under Communications and Notices a letter from the St. Clair County Sheriff's Department regarding

proposed placement of No Wake Buoys at the Point Aux Chene area of the St. Clair River, Item #61b. Motion Carried.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Undersheriff Tom Buckley addressed City Council regarding their semi-annual report. Council had no questions regarding the information.

Wood Alef, 206 Edgewater reviewed his concerns with the speed of the boats down at Point Aux Chene in the St. Clair River and the fact that they seemed to travel too close to the shoreline. He indicated a group of his neighbors had met with the St. Clair County Sheriff and the Marine Division Lieutenant to discuss possible options to help with his concerns.

Joe Fidler, 228 Edgewater shared he had replaced his seawall 15 years ago and did not want to have to replace it again due to the same concerns Mr. Alef stated.

Corey Blair, 104 Edgewater stated he was new to Algonac. They bought a house on the water and he was surprised how much additional money he and his wife were putting into the seawall area – he added he would like to see the SCC Sheriff uphold the 45 year old law regarding the “No Wake Zone” by his home.

Constance Conrad, 136 St. Clair River Drive agreed with her neighbors. She reviewed that her seawall was beginning to have problems due to the erosion caused by the speed of boat traffic in front of her house. She feared if this was not addressed that eventually the problem would affect the sale price of her house.

Council Member Nugent suggested that Undersheriff Buckley and Lieutenant Reid come to the microphone to address concerns. They commented that they understood all the concerns being aired here tonight, but added that they were on a tight budget and only had so many patrol hours available in the Marine Division.

Lieutenant Reid then stated that his main concern was the placement of the buoys. He further explained that there are many concerns with other no wake zones in the county as well as at this site. He added that he felt educating the public was a good way to help with this matter.

Council Member Bembas asked if it would help if the SCC Sheriff Marine Division sent letters to all the marinas in the area regarding this matter and asked if they would pass them out to their customers. They shared that much of the boat traffic was not even from St. Clair County, but from surrounding counties that liked our river.

Corey Blair, 106 Edgewater, asked what the best way to educate boaters would be. Lieutenant Reid stated that they would have to make sure the buoys were visible and that boaters were aware that this was a “no wake zone”.

Council Member Tuzinowski asked if it were possible to get the USCG Auxiliary out to help with patrolling the area and issuing warnings and tickets to boaters who disobey the buoys. Lieutenant Reid said they could be contacted but probably would not be very helpful.

Council Member Martin asked if the one buoy the City had, as well as the two (2) that were being donated by a citizen were enough. Lieutenant Reid said the SCC Sheriff would go out and look to see where to best use the three they had, more might be better, but they could still place them in a good location for most boaters to see. They would have to confer with the USCG before final placement was made. Sheila Fidler, 228 Edgewater, asked if the buoys would be marked as “official”, yes they would have the seal of the SCC Sheriff’s office on them.

James Gallaher, 407 Edgewater was concerned as to whether or not this area was on a chart as a “no wake zone”. He measured with his site finder and it was 1,240’ across the river where he lived. This did not leave much space for boats to travel if they had to be 600’ from the shore.

Carol Hammond, 108 Edgewater asked if it would be helpful for residents to post signs of their own stating this area was a “no wake zone”. Lieutenant Reid suggested that it might be overkill and the boaters may not pay attention to so many.

Discussion was had on how to make sure the color coded maps for “no wake zones” in Michigan are correct. Lieutenant Reid stated that the SCC Sheriff obtained their maps for this purpose from the North Channel Yacht Club.

Sheila Fidler, 228 Edgewater stated that she felt getting the press involved with this issue would help.

Duane Corey, 220 Edgewater stated that this year was the worst year for this in the last six (6) years.

Greg Loggins, 450 Lathrop wondered if he could somehow get the MC number from boats disobeying the “no wake zone” law, could he give them to the Sheriff and would they do anything. Lieutenant Reid stated they would send those boaters a warning.

Bill Oddo, 242 Edgewater, indicated that many boaters, when informed of the concerns, simply state “they forgot”.

Undersheriff Buckley assured the residents that the Sheriff was not disagreeing with the concerns or the fact that this was a problem.

### **CITY MANAGER’S REPORT**

#### **CO # 07-14-15 Approve City Manager’s Report**

Motion by Nugent supported by Martin to approve the City Manager’s report of July 17<sup>th</sup>, 2015 as presented. Motion carried.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

The following items were on the consent agenda for approval:

- 1) Consent Agenda
  - a) City Council Minutes
    - 1) Regular Meeting July 7, 2015
  - b) Communications and Notice
    - 1) Letter from St. Clair County Sheriff RE No Way Buoys St. Clair River Point Aux Chene
  - c) Department Reports
    - 1) Fire Department
    - 2) DPW Department
    - 3) Water Plant
    - 4) Housing Commission
    - 5) Library
    - 6) Building and Code Enforcement
    - 7) Calendar for August 2015

#### **CO # 07-15-15 Approval of Consent Agenda**

Motion by Nugent supported by Thompson to approve the consent agenda for the July 21, 2015 meeting of the Algonac City Council with the removal of Item 6B1 – Letter from St. Clair County Sheriff Regarding No Wake

Buoys St. Clair River Point Aux Chene and move this to Item # 8d Under New Business. Motion carried.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

None at this time.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**CO # 07-16-15 Approval of Blanket Purchase Order For The Purchase of Sodium Hypochlorite**

Motion by Nugent supported by Bembas to approve the blanket Purchase Order for Cul-Mac Industries in the amount not to exceed \$14,500 for the purchase of sodium hypochlorite (chlorine) for water treatment not to exceed \$12,000 and chlorine for the pool not to exceed \$2,500 as needed. Motion carried.

**CO # 07-17-15 Blanket Purchase Order for PVS Nolwood**

Motion by Thompson supported by Nugent to approve the blanket Purchase Order for PVS Nolwood Chemicals in the amount not to exceed \$5,000 for the purchase of chemicals for the water plant. Motion carried.

**CO # 07-18-15 Renewal of Hach Company Service Contract**

Motion by Nugent supported by Martin to waive the bid process and authorize the Hach service contract renewal at a cost of \$3,600. Motion carried.

**CO # 07-19-15 Decision on No Way Buoys at Point Aux Chene Area of St. Clair River**

Motion by Nugent supported by Meldrum to authorize the SCC Sheriff's to pursue the issue of No Wake Buoys being placed at the Point Aux Chene area on the St. Clair River, additionally noting that the St. Clair County Sheriff's Marine Division is totally responsible for the enforcement of the "no wake" regulations at this site. Motion carried.

**ACCOUNTS PAYABLE**

**CO # 07-20-15 Approve Accounts Payable**

Motion by Thompson supported by Martin to approve and pay accounts payable and payroll in the amount of \$241,801.62. Motion carried.

**ITEMS FOR NEXGT AGENDA**

None at this time.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Mayor Bird wished Council Member Meldrum a Happy Birthday.

Council Member Gary Tuzinowski reminded everyone that this Thursday was the final edition of the Algonac Riverfront Park’s “Music In The Park” and that band was Mickey Meldrum.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**CO #07-21-15 Adjournment**

Motion by Meldrum supported by Nugent to adjourn the meeting at 8:02 p.m. Motion carried.

Signed:

Respectfully Submitted:

Irene Bird, Mayor

Cynthia L. Greenia, CMC, CMMC