



**THE CITY OF THE VILLAGE OF DOUGLAS
WORKSHOP MEETING OF THE CITY
COUNCIL**

**MONDAY, MAY 1, 2023, AT 6:00 PM
86 W CENTER ST., DOUGLAS MI**

MINUTES

1. Call to Order: By Mayor Donovan at 6:10 pm (due to technical issues)
2. Roll Call: Freeman, Seabert, North, O'Malley, Walker, Donovan
Absent/Excused: Naumann

Addition to the agenda: Downtown Development Authority – Item 3D

3. Business:

A. Additional Officer

Chief Kent went over the need for an additional Officer to assist with coverage. Residents need 24/7 coverage and at this time the Department does not have the staffing. There is a shortage of available licensed officers, the hiring of another Officer would benefit the city, assisting him with the time required to do paperwork and other office duties. There is likely to be another retirement by the end of the year and he would like to bring on an officer prior to that. He is requesting a full-time position be added to the department staff.

The council asked what the savings would be, and due to the scarcity of officers would the department be able to find a full-time officer. What is the difference between a Corporal and a Sargent? Would this require an additional vehicle? Concern by one member was if the city was hiring another officer to cover Saugatuck. Chief Kent stated the policy will not change.

B. Employee Wages

The proposed cost of living increase is 4.4%. MERS dropped the contribution rate down.

The council asked if there was also a merit increase for employees. Further discussion was held on union and non-union dues and if holiday hours were meant to bring non-union employees up to the equivalent of union workers?

C. Health Insurance

Public Act 152 limits the amount a public employer can contribute towards an employee's health care. The city received three quotes for health care for the next fiscal year. A brief discussion was held by the council on whether it was a good idea to have employee contribution.

D. Downtown Development Budget

City Manager LaBombard presented the DDA budget, which includes the new Wayfinding signage, Gateway entrance signs, and training/conference attendance.

4. Motion by Walker to adjourn. Motion carried.

Adopted this 15th day of May, 2023

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Jerome Donovan, Mayor

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Pamela Aalderink, City Clerk

Certification of Minutes

I hereby certify that the attached is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the workshop meeting of the City Council of the City of the Village of Douglas held on May 15, 2023. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and that a quorum was present.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Pamela Aalderink, City Clerk