

# REGULAR COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

## CITY OF FLAT ROCK, MICHIGAN

MONDAY, JANUARY 18, 2011

The regular meeting of the Flat Rock City Council convened at the Municipal Building on the above date at 7:30 p.m.

**1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**2. PRESENT ON ROLL CALL:** Mayor Dropiewski, Council Members Gagne, Wrobel, Martin, Painter, Tefend and Moore.

**ALSO PRESENT:** DPS Director Hammond, Treasurer Lambrix, Recreation Director Pawlukiewicz, Economic Director Mans, City Attorney Grunow, Fire Chief Vack, Police Chief Rossow, Building Director John Russ and Clerk Butski.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**01-18-01** Motion by Gagne supported by Wrobel to approve the regular minutes of January 03, 2011 and special minutes of January 13, 2011 as presented.

All voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

**4. CITIZENS TO BE HEARD:**

Richard Jones asked if the City voted for approval of the Administrative Consent Order for the South Huron Valley Utility Authority and was told the City voted yes. Mr. Jones said it was an amendment to the 2004 ACO for the equalization basin and has a cost allocation in it that could hurt the city in the law suit.

Mayor Dropiewski said the reason it was an amendment to the original ACO is because the MDEQ has never certified the EQ basin. He said we are not objecting to the repair of the basin, we are objecting to the method of payment.

Mr. Jones said in 1992 they approved how they would finance capital improvements and approved it in the by-laws. In 1998 they agreed that any operation and maintenance cost on transmission lines would be paid for by the people who use them – that is in the agreement. He stated the issue is whether it is or is not a capital outlay and the method of financing. Mr. Jones said he suggests the City counter sue and tell them to follow the by-laws that have been on the books a long time.

**5. REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS:**

Chief Neal Rossow stated that Lt. Wrobel will retire before Council meets again, his last day of work will be January 30<sup>th</sup>. Chief said he has served the City since 1979, was promoted to Lt. in 1997 and was Officer of the Year in 1997. He has served as patrol officer, shift supervisor, DRANO, and is very computer savvy. Chief said he has served the community well for 30 years.

**6. REPORTS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS:**

Councilman Martin asked if the lights could be turned on the fountain/ice skating rink at night and DPS Director Hammond said he will take care of it.

**7. MAYOR'S COMMENTS:**

Mayor Dropiewski reviewed the last year and previewed this year. Some of the highlights of last year beginning with Economic Development, are the signs of life at the K-Mart Plaza with one store opening next week and another to open soon. Also, it looks like we will have a grocery store there this year which began with the Farmer's Market last summer. Another highlight was the opening of Vreeland Road extension with a ribbon cutting ceremony and a very successful classic car show. The DDA facade grant program is helping business owners renovate their buildings. The DDA also has a web site and face book page featuring downtown Flat Rock. The Riverfest is being brought back September 17<sup>th</sup> and Mayor thanked Gary Borden for heading up that effort. In 2010 we had our first city-wide garage sale, spearheaded by Sue Farrar, Chairperson of the Beautification Commission. It was a huge success and was repeated in the fall. This year the city-wide garage sale will be the same day as another classic car show and will be called "Wheels & Deals".

Mayor said we have maintained our senior services – the senior dinner was a success and he thanked the Recreation Director and a number of local sponsors.

He said we repaved three major roads (Vreeland, Hall and Arsenal) with the help of federal funding. We have received a grant to continue the greenway bike path connector in Metro Park and thanked George Mans and Anita Twardesky for their work on that project.

Mayor called the Recreation Center the "Jewel of the City" and said if current projections hold the Center will break even this year. The financial success is due mainly to the banquet business and the excellent reputation of the caterer. New things the Center is trying this year are Mother's Day Brunch and a Lenten fish fry on Friday nights.

Mayor Dropiewski thanked the city workers who took furlough days, acknowledged the department heads for doing more with less, thanked the council members for their time and effort and commended the boards and commissions of the city for their contributions.

Mayor said he is looking to restore the ordinance officer by cost sharing, is fighting Ford Motor Company on the real property value and working with the South Huron Valley Utility Authority regarding the financing cost for the Trenton Arm project. In all things, he said he will fight to protect the interest of the city.

He said priorities over the next twelve months are: strong focus on economic development, keep city services going, diversify tax base, move toward a two year budgeting cycle and he said he will not jeopardize public safety.

In closing, he stated the year ahead will be a challenge as well as opportunities. He said he is proud of what the city is, its employees, leaders and residents and proud to be the Mayor.

**8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

Item A – Payment #3 for '09 pavement replacement of Red Cedar, Magnolia, Apple Grove Way and Silver Court.

**01-18-02** Motion by Martin supported by Gagne to approve payment in the amount of \$6,375.43.

All voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Item B – 2<sup>nd</sup> reading: Public Utility Franchise Ordinances (Gas & Electric).

**01-18-03** Motion by Wrobel supported by Martin to suspend the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading.

All voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

**01-18-04** Motion by Martin supported by Wrobel to adopt both ordinances as presented (#411-Gas, #412-Electric).

All voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

**9. NEW BUSINESS:**

Item A – Police Chief’s request to purchase ammunition.

**01-18-05** Motion by Tefend supported by Painter to approve the Chief’s request to purchase ammunition from CMP (Detroit) in the amount of \$4,920.00.

All voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Item B – Police Chief’s request to purchase Digital Video Recorder (DVR) for the Flat Rock Public Library.

**01-18-06** Motion by Painter supported by Tefend to approve purchase from ASC of Livonia in the amount of \$2,421.00.

All voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

**10. CORRESPONDENCE: None**

**11. LATE CORRESPONDENCE:**

Item A – Senior Alliance Area Agency on Aging 1-C – City of Flat Rock’s 2011 match in the amount of \$679.00.

**01-18-07** Motion by Painter supported by Martin to pay the city’s match in the amount of \$679.00 as presented.

All voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

**12. ADJOURNMENT:**

**01-18-08** Motion by Martin supported by Painter to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:23 p.m.

All voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

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**JONATHAN D. DROPIEWSKI, MAYOR**

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**LORENE BUTSKI, CMC, CITY CLERK**

**DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**approved**