

REGULAR COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

CITY OF FLAT ROCK, MICHIGAN

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2012

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, Mayor Pro-Tem Martin, Council Members Gagne, Wrobel and Wilkins.

ABSENT: Council Members Borden and Moore.

02-21-01 Motion by Wrobel supported by Martin to excuse absent members. All voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

ALSO PRESENT: DPS Director Hammond, Attorney Grunow, Police Chief Rossow, Treasurer Lambrix, Building/Fire Department Vack, Recreation Director Pawlukiewicz, Economic Development Mans and Clerk Butski.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

02-21-02 Motion by Gagne supported by Martin to approve the regular minutes of February 6, 2012 as presented. All present voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

4. CITIZENS TO BE HEARD:

Janice Friend, President of the Library Board of Directors, spoke on behalf of the Library stating the library had 91,098 visits last year.

5. REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS:

DPS Director, Bruce Hammond, reported the Vreeland Road Emergency Water Main repair has been completed and is in service.

City Clerk announced City Hall will be open Saturday from 8:00 am to 2:00 pm for last day to vote absentee and or take the ballot out. Monday, February 27th one can vote in the office but cannot take the ballot out.

Attorney Grunow stated the DPS, Clerical and Patrol Unit contracts have a reopening clause and requested permission to send out letters to that effect.

02-21-03 Motion by Martin supported by Wrobel to authorize the City Attorney to send out letters to the three unions requesting a reopening of the contracts. All present voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Attorney Grunow requested a closed session to discuss (1) City of Flat Rock vs. Legacy Downriver and (2) Auto Alliance vs. City of Flat Rock re: Tax Tribunal.

All present voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

6. **REPORTS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS:**

Council Member Gagne was told by Police Chief the cameras at the Library have been checked out by the company that installed them.

Council Member Wilkins sent her sympathy out to Jim Tocco on the loss of his wife.

Wilkins also announced the rabies clinic will be held May 5 by Dr. J. Oliver of Trenton. The prices will remain the same as last year. She also thanked Mr. Hammond for the report on the cost of wood chipping – will look at it in the budget. The sidewalk snow removal ordinance will also be reviewed.

7. **MAYOR’S COMMENTS:**

02-21-04 Motion by Martin supported by Wilkins to authorize the expenditure of \$1,600.00 for a traffic study at the corner of Gibraltar and Hall Roads.

All present voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor’s State of the City Address: Mayor Dropiewski stated there has been an increase in business development like Metro Shores Credit Union, Cahill Veterinary Hospital and Mr. Bean’s Treatery. A Family Dollar store will be built next to AutoZone on Telegraph Road. The city web site is being updated and will be released soon. By the end of the year residents will be able to pay their water bills online. The Community Center is drawing people in, especially the banquet center. He said he hopes to raise private funds to run the fountain in the summer and to partner with the Beautification Commission to create a larger holiday celebration, including a city Christmas tree lighting ceremony. Have summer concert series that builds up to the two-day Riverfest September 15 and 16. Mayor said the city will seek grant opportunities to further enhance the quality of life for residents

Mayor stated, “We have a tough but bright road ahead.”

8. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

Item A – Public Hearing: 2012 Community Development Block Grant.

Mayor opened the public hearing at 8:10 p.m.

Councilman Wrobel suggested finishing the Evergreen Street repair project.

Councilman Gagne suggested a bus for the Seniors and a Library project.

Councilman Martin suggested demolition of the Coleman Building.

Council Member Wilkins suggested a handicap ramp into City Hall.

Hearing no other input Mayor Dropiewski closed the public hearing at 8:17 p.m.

Item B – Tabled Item: Bike Path agreement from the DNR.

02-21-05 Motion by Martin supported by Gagne to remove Item B from the table.

All present voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

02-21-06 Motion by Martin supported by Wrobel to approve the Bike Path agreement pending certification.

Dropiewski, Wrobel and Martin voting yes – Gagne and Wilkins voting no. Motion failed.

Item C – Disposition of the Coleman Building.

02-21-07 Motion by Wrobel supported by Martin to table Item C until the next meeting.

All present voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Item D – Report from Chief Rossow & Attorney Grunow re: “Jake” Braking.

Discussion re: there is no ordinance to control Jake braking and the equipment is too cumbersome. Police Chief to look into the cost of such equipment.

9. NEW BUSINESS:

Item A - Request from the Flat Rock Public Library to reduce annual rent charge for 2012-13.

Councilman Gagne read a letter from the Library requesting the City to reduce the annual rent charged the Library for fiscal year 2012-13. There was extensive discussion regarding ways to cut cost including closing the library two days a week and reducing salaries, etc.

No Action.

Item B – Historical Commission & Planning Commission appointments.

02-21-08 Motion by Gagne supported by Wrobel to approve the Mayor’s recommendation and appoint Garrett Haase to the Historical Preservation Commission to fill the unexpired term of Walter Masson with term of office to expire February 7, 2013. Also appoint John Bergeron to the Planning Commission to fill the vacancy of Frank Acquaro with term of office to expire December 31, 2013.

All present voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Item C – Payment of invoice #M-320203 & 13 to Linden Industries for Lift Station “A” & “B” Rehabilitation Project.

02-21-09 Motion by Martin supported by Gagne to approve payment for both invoices in the total amount of \$18,022.00.

All present voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

10. CORRESPONDENCE: None

02-21-10 Motion by Martin supported by Gagne to go into Closed Session at 9:30 p.m. to discuss (1) Flat Rock vs. Legacy Downriver and (2) Auto Alliance vs. City of Flat Rock re: Tax Tribunal.

Roll Call Vote:

Mayor Dropiewski, Gagne, Martin, Wrobel and Wilkins voting yes. Borden and Moore absent. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Dropiewski called a 5 minute recess at 9:30 p.m.

02-21-11 Motion by Martin supported by Wrobel to go into Open Session at 10:05 pm.

All present voting yes. Motion carried unanimously

02-21-12 Motion by Martin supported by Gagne to pay the taxes on the 31 acres of the Downriver Legacy.

All present voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

11. ADJOURNMENT:

02-21-13 Motion by Martin supported by Wrobel to adjourn the regular meeting at 10:06 pm.

All present voting yes. Motion carried unanimously

JONATHAN D. DROPIEWSKI, MAYOR

DATE: _____

Approved

LORENE BUTSKI, CMC, CITY CLERK