

**COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS**

**CITY OF FLAT ROCK, MICHIGAN**

**MONDAY, APRIL 2, 2007**

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 Jones, Council Member Gagne, Dropiewski, Martin, Painter and Wrobel.

Absent. Councilman Tefend.

**[04-02-07-1]** Motion by Dropiewski supported by Painter to excuse the absent Council Member Tefend. Motion carried unanimously.

**ALSO PRESENT:** DPS Director Bruce Hammond, Building Director John Russ, City Attorney David Grunow; Police Chief Steve Tallman, Treasurer Brenda Tallman, Fire Chief Bill Vack; Recreation Director Joan Pawlukiewicz, Economic Development Director and Acting Clerk George Mans, and Clerk Receptionist Jevetta Smith.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**[04-02-07-2]** Motion by Gagne supported by Martin to approve the Regular City Council Meeting Minutes of 03/19/07 as submitted. Motion carried unanimously.

**4. PRESENTATION:**

Joan Pawlukiewicz, Recreation Director announced that on February 6, 2007, she attended the Michigan Recreation & Park Association Conference and the City of Flat Rock won 2 out of 3 awards. The City of Flat Rock won "Website of the Year" and "Elected Official of the Year". Mayor Jones was not able to attend the conference as he was recuperating from bypass surgery at that time. So on behalf of the MRPA, Portia Fields-Anderson presented Mayor Richard Jones the MRPA Elected Official Award which read:

**LOCAL ELECTED OFFICIAL OF THE YEAR, Presented To  
RICHARD C. JONES, MAYOR OF FLAT ROCK  
In Recognition of your dedication and leadership in promoting  
recreation and park services as an essential service  
for the people in the State of Michigan.  
MRPA Michigan Recreation & Park Association ~ February 8, 2007**

Ms. Portia Fields-Anderson said that MRPA believes in the mission of its membership; that is the recreation and park professionals who enhance the quality of life by creating and enhancing the community thru people, parks and programs that helps the community live, not merely exist. She said, "Those things that we do, that we do not have to do, will only be done because someone

believes that the quality of life means the enrichment of our daily lives through leisure, art, and culture...for all segments of the community...no matter what age, ability or their origin. It's because of people like you, Mayor Jones, with efforts like you, which enrich, nurture and grow in boundless ways. MRPA recognizes you as the elected official leader of the year who in this life's effort of quality seeking helps make it possible to bring about in this community a balance and harmony in how we live. Because you are a leader in this life's effort of quality seeking, help make it possible to build, sculpt and architect the lives of those who have placed their faith and trust in you...you alone with those regional resource professionals can only impact them during their leisure time, not while their working or sleeping, but only during leisure time that you have an impact on their quality of time." Ms. Fields-Anderson said it is an honor to recognize Richard C. Jones has the 2007 Local Elected Office Of The Year".

Mayor Jones thanked MRPA for the honor and Ms. Fields-Anderson for her kind comments. He said it was important to him and it is one of the toughest jobs and most important jobs of an elected official to provide a quality of life for his residents through recreation. He also thanked all the Recreation Directors, Staff and Recreation Committee for their time and work in helping to accomplish the goals in providing the best quality of leisure in the state of Michigan, or one of the most outstanding in the City of Flat Rock; or probably in the country...for its size. He said it is an important job to him and it is a tough job in providing quality recreation.

#### **5 CITIZENS TO BE HEARD:**

Resident Gordon Chevalier, 27917 Telegraph Road, asked if Attorney Grunow if his Freedom of Information Request had been granted. Mayor Jones said that it has been granted, but there is a cost involved. Mr. Grunow told Mr. Chevalier that the City has 10 days to respond to such a request.

Mr. Chevalier asked why the 5-Member Public Safety Committee is no longer in effect. Mayor Jones said it has ceased due to the lack of interest of the members and that the commission never really got off the ground. Mr. Grunow said in 1999 an ordinance repealed the Public Safety Commission. Mr. Chevalier told Mr. Grunow that the 1999 appeal is not in the City Ordinance Book and that it was the legal department's job to see that the ordinance book be kept current. Mr. Grunow told Mr. Chevalier that this is the duty of the City Clerk's Office. Mr. Chevalier apologized to Mr. Grunow when he realized that the City Ordinance Books were the City Clerks responsibility. He said he knew the Clerk had deceased and that the Acting Clerk should not be held responsible.

Mr. Chevalier asked Mr. Painter why Mr. Russ has allowed L.P.D. Inc. to transfer their illegally zoned M-1 products to a railroad zoned area next to his property. Mr. Painter told Mr. Chevalier that he had talked to Mr. Russ, Fire Chief Vack, DPS Director Hammond and that the Flat Rock Police Dept. looked into this matter and had concluded that there is no violation on L.P.D.'s Inc. behalf. Mr. Painter said Mr. Russ is out of town at a conference this week and he would be available next week. Mr. Chevalier asked Mr. Painter if he personally had investigated the onsite stored material. Mr. Painter said no, that's Mr. Russ's job and that Mr. Russ found no violation.

Mr. Chevalier scolded the Council for not checking on the Mayor when he didn't show up at the last council meeting. The Council responded that the Mayor was checked on and that the Mayor agreed that he was checked on. Mr. Dropiewski asked the Mayor if he felt the Council and Mayor hated each other,

as Mr. Chevalier had insinuated, and the Mayor said no, but that they don't have the best relations at times.

**6. REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS:** (None)

**7. REPORTS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS:**

Councilman Martin invited residents to come to the lobby of City Hall to view the nice artwork displayed by the Flat Rock school students. Councilman Dropiewski added to the art display comments that he would like to see even more of this kind of participation. Councilman Painter said that he was just glad to be here tonight!

**8. MAYORS COMMENTS:**

Mayor Jones stated that the American flag protocol is controlled by federal law and that the government has the right to order its half mast under federal law to honor different occasions. He said Flat Rock has always complied with honoring fallen Michigan soldiers and recently President Gerald Ford and that it was not necessary to pass motions on this matter since it is a federal law. Mayor Jones said that in the month of March there were (4) days and in February (4) days, a few in January and December...and that the City of Flat Rock has always followed that protocol. Mayor Jones said the flag must be at full mast the rest of the time and to be lowered (1) day for a fallen soldier.

**9. BID OPENING REPORTS:**

a. Letter from Police Chief Steve Tallman Re: Approval to award Car Bid for Crown Vic #2FALP71W1VX111157 for \$500 and Crown Vic #2FALP71W3VX111161 for the amount of \$100.

04-02-07-3 Motion by Gagne supported by Wrobel to award Tim Webb the two bids as requested. Motion carried unanimously.

**10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

a. Letter from City Attorney David Grunow Re: 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of the Ordinance Modifying the City Code Pertaining to Possession of Alcoholic Liquor By Persons Less Than 21 Years of Age, Our File No. 07-4567.

04-02-07-4 Motion by Gagne supported by Wrobel to suspend the 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading. Motion carried unanimously.

04-02-07-5 Motion by Painter supported by Dropiewski to approve the ordinance. Motion carried unanimously.

**11. NEW BUSINESS:**

a. Letter from Amy Harrison for Miller-Strawn Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 9363 Re: Request permission to hold their annual Buddy Poppy distribution in Flat Rock on May 10, 11 and 12, 2007.

04-02-07-6 Motion by Gagne supported by Dropiewski to approve the request as stated. Motion carried unanimously.

b. Letter from City Assessor Timothy O'Donnell Re: Single Premise Special Assessment.

04-02-07-7 Motion by Gagne supported by Martin to approve the request as stated to set the 1<sup>st</sup> public hearing for April 16, 2007 at which time Council should hear any objections and confirms the Special Assessment Roll. Motion carried unanimously.

c. Letter from Leon and Pat Simeck, 28235 N. Sheeks Re: Vacating alley

off of Cooke Street to the existing alley. Motion carried unanimously.

**04-02-07-8** Motion by Painter supported by Martin to recommend the vacating of the alley to the Planning Commission.

d. Letter from the Beautification Commission Chairman Sue Farrar Re: Permission to purchase 24 Season Greetings Banners for a total cost of \$3,045 from Wayne Manufacturing Co.

**04-02-07-9** Motion by Gagne supported by Martin to approve request as stated. Motion carried 5-1 (1-Dropiewski... Save the money right now)

e. Letter from Joseph Burke, President of the Flat Rock Little League requesting permission to hold their 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Opening Day Ceremonies Parade on Saturday, May 5, 2007.

**04-02-07-10** Motion by Gagne supported by Wrobel to approve request as stated. Motion carried unanimously.

Police Chief Steve Tallman stated that he has no issue with the request and that he has already talked to Wayne County.

f. Letter from Police Chief Steve Tallman Re: Purchasing (2) new Crown Victoria Patrol Cars.

**04-02-07-11** Motion by Painter supported by Gagne to approve request as stated. Motion carried unanimously.

The 2 units will replace Unit 17-8 and Unit 17-10. Unit 17-8 has 82,000 plus miles and Unit 17-10 has 88,392 miles. Both units causing high maintenance cost and excessive out of service time. Delivery of the new police units will be after July 1, 2007 and will be funded in the 2007-2008 budget year.

g. Letter from Police Chief Steve Tallman Re: 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Miles for Miracles Walk/Run on Saturday, May 19, 2007.

**04-02-07-12** Motion by Gagne supported by Martin to approve request on behalf of the Michigan Chapter of Progeria Research Foundation for the Miles for Miracles walk/run on area streets/sidewalks and the use of the City Park and pavilion. Motion carried unanimously.

## **12. CORRESPONDENCE:**

a. Planning Commission Minutes for February 26, 2007.

b. Letter from Acting Clerk George W. Mans Re: Correspondence addressed to Councilmen Tefend and Painter from resident Gordon Chevalier.

## **13. LATE CORRESPONDENCE:**

a. Letter from Michael MacNeil, President of the Rockwood Area Lions Club requesting permission to grant the club authority to sell White Cane Pins during April 27– May 6, 2007, within the city limits, particularly at the intersection of Telegraph and North Huron River Drive.

**04-02-07-13** Motion by Martin supported by Gagne to approve request as stated. Motion carried unanimously.

Before adjournment, Mayor Jones announced that he was very appreciative for all the number of people and the number of phone calls that he received in concern for his health. He said he just received a book today from a friend ...but, the heart doctor and the surgeon both has said "he is fixed". He said he is very appreciative for their concern and thanked everyone.

## **14. ADJOURNMENT:**

**04-02-07-14** Motion by Gagne supported by Dropiewski to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 P.M. Motion carried unanimously.

RICHARD C. JONES, MAYOR

GEORGE W. MANS, ACTING CITY CLERK

Date: 04-16-07  
Approved