

REGULAR COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

CITY OF FLAT ROCK, MICHIGAN

MONDAY, APRIL 06, 2009

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 Members Dropiewski, Martin, Gagne, Painter and Wrobel.

ABSENT: Council Member Tefend.

04-06-01 Motion by Painter supported by Dropiewski to excuse Council Member Tefend.

All present voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

04-06-02 Motion by Dropiewski supported by Martin to approve the regular minutes of March 16, 2009 as presented.

All present voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

4. CITIZENS TO BE HEARD:

Segretario Dominick, 29265 Magnolia, reported the road damage on Magnolia Street. He said chunks of concrete are being thrown by traffic into his yard and he is afraid his children will be hit by one.

Mayor Jones asked Mr. Hammond to get a cost in writing of what it would cost to repair Magnolia and Evergreen.

Patrick Van Buren of Fairlawn Drive thanked Mayor, Council and the Recreation Director for marking the indoor track at the Recreation Center. He said they did a good job.

5. REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS:

Police Chief Neal Rossow, informed everyone that from April 1 to April 30 the 33rd. District Court is having an amnesty period for anyone in Wayne County who has outstanding parking fines or civil fines. The court is waiving additional fees originally

attached to the fine. They assure anyone who has a parking ticket or civil fine they will not be arrested at the court. If you have any questions the phone number is 734-671-0201.

George Mans, Economic Development Director, reported that the city has applied to the State of Michigan for a \$500,000 grant to complete the linkage of our Greenway System with that of Oakwood Metro Park. He said last Friday he met with Congressman Dingell and they are trying to come up with a quarter million dollars of Highway Transportation Fund to put into that project. If the grant comes through it is very possible the City will not have to match. We will know in about 45 days how we make out.

Mayor Jones said any matches will be on a pro-rated basis between Flat Rock, Huron Township and the Park Authority. Flat Rock is the lead applicant because we are the only one that qualified to apply for the grant.

6. REPORTS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Council Member Painter said he had several calls regarding the “Grocery Store Coming Soon” sign at the K-Mart site. Mr. Mans assured him there are no tenants lined up yet and the sign has been removed.

Mr. Painter mentioned an article in the Monroe Evening News saying petitions for Mayor and Council are due June 25th. Mr. Painter was assured the legal news paper is the News Herald and the official notice states the petitions are due May 12, 2009 by 4:00 p.m. The notice is also on the municipal cable channel 12.

Council Member Gagne reported that he attended three meetings on March 19th. At the DCC meeting he learned the mortgage foreclosure program is a good one with an attorney on staff to provide counseling for free. He also attended the Wayne County Board of Determination regarding the Cooke and Gladding Drains. After that meeting he attended the Wayne County Block Grant meeting in Riverview.

7. MAYOR’S COMMENTS:

Mayor Jones stated there is no truth to the rumor that he will close the softball fields this summer. Mayor said people who use the fields and hear the rumor will go somewhere else and the city will lose revenue.

8. BID OPENING REPORTS: None

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Item A – Public Hearing: Reprogramming of Block Grant money.

Mayor Jones opened the public hearing at 7:40 and asked if anyone in the audience had any comments.

Mary St. Peter of Walnut Street suggested the following uses for the Block Grant money: (1) put lights on the trees at Christmas time that line Telegraph Road (2) tree lighting ceremony in front of City Hall with caroling (3) make a place for the middle school students to go, like a boys and girls club.

Charla Micallef, E. Huron River Drive, suggested demolishing the former Coleman Beauty School building at 26157 E. Huron River Drive. She said it is falling apart and water is standing in the basement and smells of mold.

Dave Grunow stated he is not positive that Wayne County owns the building. He said it is fortified for two years. Once it is foreclosed and Wayne County owns it, there will be an auction at the end of this year. If no one bids on it, it will go to the State and back to the City. He said the process is in place and he hopes by mid-summer it will be rectified.

Mayor reiterated that block grant funds are to be used for low to moderate income and blight. Mayor asked if Council had any comments.

Council Member Gagne said there has been mention of paving Seneca Street. Mayor said he recommends paving Seneca Street from Cooke Street east to Sheeks Street. He said if we pave from Cooke to Evergreen it would tie up block grant funds for 12 years. He stated he would like to turn Seneca from Sheeks to Evergreen over to the school to make a campus area out of it.

Council Member Painter said he feels it would augment the City to pave by the school. With bond money the school is in the process of making great improvements to the school and that paving the corner at Evergreen and Seneca would enhance the school area which (in turn) would help attract people to Flat Rock.

Council Member Dropiewski said he feels this is a worthwhile project although he likes to see the block grant used as much as possible to supplement the general fund.

Hearing no more comments, Mayor Jones closed the public hearing at 8:10 p.m.

04-06-03 Motion by Gagne supported by Painter to re-allocate the funds in the amount of \$245,153.41 to the Seneca Street paving project starting from Evergreen to Cooke (concrete to concrete) and precommit the next 8 years block grant.

Extensive discussion continued regarding how much paving, how many years to precommit, which end of street to start the paving, etc.

Roll call vote:

Yes
Wrobel
Painter
Gagne

No
Jones
Martin
Dropiewski

Motion failed 3-3.

04-06-04 Motion by Jones supported by Gagne to pave Seneca Street easterly to Sheeks Street and pre-commit funds to finish as needed.

Motion failed 3-3.

Council Member Gagne asked for preliminary estimate for the next meeting on asphalt vs. concrete and how much more we can pave on future block grant funds.

Council member Painter asked for estimate if we pave from Evergreen down Seneca or from Cooke down Seneca plus a clarification in writing regarding paving the north 350 feet of Evergreen.

Mayor Jones will have a report for the next meeting.

Item B – Heating & Cooling Maintenance Bids.

04-06-05 Motion by Gagne supported by Martin to approve the recommendation of Building Director, John Russ, and award the bid to Meade and Sons in the amount of \$69,000.00 per year.

All present voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

10. NEW BUSINESS:

Item A – Resolution adopting identity theft prevention program.

04-06-06 Motion by Martin supported by Gagne to adopt the Resolution as presented.

All present voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Item B – Request to bid City Tennis Courts.

04-06-07 Motion by Martin supported by Painter to approve the Recreation Director's request and advertise for bids to be due May 7, 2009 by 3:00 p.m.

Motion carried 5-1 with Mayor Jones voting no.

Item C – Flat Rock Train Club's request for a life-time lease on the city building.

Discussion. City Attorney said that Sec.12.3 of the City Charter states that if the lease is over 3 years it has to go to a vote of the people and get Planning Commission approval.

04-06-08 Motion by Jones supported by Gagne to direct the City Attorney to do whatever legal work has to be done to put an amendment on the November ballot to change it to a 10 year lease.

All present voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Item D – Quote from South Huron Industrial for 2009 Dust Control.

04-06-09 Motion by Gagne supported by Martin to approve the recommendation of the DPS Director to forego the bidding procedure and approve the quote from South Huron Industrial, a Flat Rock Company and sole supplier of “pentaseal” in this area, in the amount of \$.52 cents per gallon.

All present voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Item E – Part Time Electrical Inspector Employment.

04-06-10 Motion by Jones supported by Gagne to deny the request by the Electrical Inspector to be put on the city payroll.

All present voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Item F – Permission to bid: Roof replacement for storage building by basketball courts.

04-06-11 Motion by Martin supported by Painter to approve the request to advertise for bids to be due May 7, 2009 at 3:00 p.m.

Motion carried 5-1 with Dropiewski voting no.

11. CORRESPONDENCE:

Item A – Planning Commission 2008 Annual Report.

Item B – Planning Commission Minutes of February 23, 2009.

12. LATE CORRESPONDENCE:

Item A – Flat Rock Firefighters re: Autism Awareness Fundraiser.

04-06-12 Motion by Gagne supported by Painter to grant the firefighters permission to solicit funds April 17th and 18th for Autism Awareness to help Barnes Elementary class of Ms. Shave’s to raise donations and all proceeds go to Autism Speaks.

All present voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Item B – Flat Rock Little League request to hold 3rd Annual Opening Day Parade.

04-06-13 Motion by Painter supported by Martin to grant the Little League permission to hold the 3rd Annual Opening Day Ceremonies Parade on Saturday May 2, 2009 from 10:00 am to 11:00 am.

All present voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

04-06-14 Motion by Gagne supported by Martin to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:40 p.m.

All present voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

RICHARD C. JONES, MAYOR

LORENE BUTSKI, CMC CITY CLERK

DATE: _____
approved