

REGULAR COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

CITY OF FLAT ROCK, MICHIGAN

MONDAY, MAY 16, 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, Martin, Painter, Wrobel and Moore.

ABSENT: Council Member Tefend.

05-16-01 Motion by Painter supported by Moore to excuse absent member Tefend.

All present voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

ALSO PRESENT: DPS Director Hammond, Economic Director Mans, City Attorney Grunow, Fire Chief/Building Director Vack, Recreation Director Pawlukiewicz, and Clerk Butski.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

05-16-02 Motion by Gagne supported by Wrobel to approve the regular minutes of May 2, 2011 as presented.

All present voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

4. CITIZENS TO BE HEARD:

James Schaal, E. Huron River Drive, asked for the progress in legal proceedings regarding the old Coleman Building on E. Huron. City Attorney Grunow stated a warrant is out for the arrest of the owners. He said going through 33rd District Court will be an inefficient way to get the building torn down. He told Mr. Schaal that if we can get a circuit court judge to agree with us that the building is a danger, a hazard and a nuisance and get an order for demolition from the circuit court judge, it shouldn't be too difficult. Then when the owner doesn't tear it down the city will have to pay for tearing it down and assess the property. The down side is that it will cost the city \$30,000 to \$40,000. Mayor Dropiewski said there is the potential to explore using Block Grant funds for the demolition.

Sue Farrar reported the City-Wide Garage Sale went very well with over 170 households participating. She thanked Jessica DeAngelo, an Honor Student from the high school, for handing out maps, lists and helping load the trucks. She thanked Gary Borden for helping both days, the DPS for the cones, St. Vincent DePaul for the trucks, Clerk's Office and the residents who participated.

Mayor Dropiewski said the credit goes Terry and Sue Farrar who do most of the work for the sale. Ms. Farrar reminded everyone there will be another City-Wide Sale September 10-11, 2011.

5. REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS:

George Mans, Economic Development, gave an update on the Flat Rock Plaza. He said we now have two businesses operating there and a third ready to come in. Mr. Pattah is going to work on the largest store. Mr. Mans thanked Joe Pagano and the DDA for the Façade Improvement Program which has been successful. He reported that about half dozen small businesses are taking advantage of it. He thanked Mr. Vack for his help with design and Mr. Grunow for his help with the wording which helps the small businesses qualify for the Façade Program.

Council Member Painter asked how businesses apply for the program and Mr. Mans told him we have a simple two page application which they may get from his office or from Mr. Grunow's office.

City Clerk said there will be no Primary Election August 2nd due to only six applications for Council and one for Mayor being filed.

City Attorney asked for a Closed Session to discuss the SHVUA Litigation.

6. REPORTS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Council Member Martin asked Mr. Hammond about the status of the flooded west side of Gibraltar Road by Mazda/AAI. Mr. Hammond said Wayne County told him the drain is filled with asphalt. He will contact them again.

Council Member Gagne reported the Library had a special meeting to set fees for Romulus residents to use our library due to the Romulus library being closed. He said he attended the DCC meeting where Wayne County Executive Ficano spoke of engineering firms designing hi-rise buildings for China. Also Wayne County Sheriff introduced a proposal for plans to build a new jail facility at a cost of 2-3 million dollars.

Council Member Moore asked that residents do not park on the sidewalk. Children ride their bikes on the sidewalk and it could be dangerous.

7. MAYOR'S COMMENTS:

Mayor Dropiewski thanked the DDA for sponsoring the Classic Car Show Saturday. He stated that he and Mr. Vack attended a dedication to 911 and the victims of 911 at the VFW.

He did a power point presentation on our Current Financial Picture. As it stands right now our revenues will drop nearly \$780,000 due mainly to further AAI depreciation and decrease in property values plus a \$107,000 decrease in State Revenue Sharing. Also, health care costs continue to rise and water revenues are down (elimination of AAI shift) and cost of water is up nearly 10%. With our revenue at \$6.9 and expenditures at \$7.9 we will have an ending fund balance deficit of -\$622,156.

Mayor said the 2011-2012 budget: (1) must close \$622,000 fund balance deficit (2) Responsible budgeting would cover 1 million structural deficit leaving 400K fund

balance to cover unexpected maintenance and emergency items (3) begin to address long term liabilities. Mayor listed things we “could” do with department reorganization. He also listed several things that could be done to bring in revenue.

In conclusion the Mayor said the budget contains no capital spending. Revenues and expenditures estimates are being updated with current information. There will be a budget workshop Wednesday, May 25th at 7:00 p.m.

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Item A – Public Hearing: Single Premises Special Assessment.

Mayor opened the public hearing at 8:25 pm.

05-16-03 Motion by Painter supported by Martin to close the public hearing at 8:26 pm.

All present voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

05-16-04 Motion by Painter supported by Martin to adopt the Single Premise Special Assessment roll as presented.

All present voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Item B – Award bid for Water Main Breaks Pavement Repairs.

05-16-05 Motion by Martin supported by Gagne to approve the City Engineer’s recommendation and award the bid to the low bidder (GV Cement Contracting) in the amount of \$27,294.00.

All present voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

9. NEW BUSINESS:

Item A – 1st Reading: Ordinance re: Illicit Discharge & Connection.

05-16-06 Motion by Martin supported by Painter to suspend the first reading. All present voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Item B – Set a public hearing for the budget – June 6, 2011 Council Meeting.

05-16-07 Motion by Painter supported by Martin to set a public hearing for June 6, 2011 Council Meeting.

All present voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Item C – Agreement & Resolution re: Recreation Grant/Playground Equipment-Huroc Park.

05-16-08 Motion by Painter supported by Wrobel to authorize the Mayor and Clerk to sign the agreement.

All present voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Item D – Appointment to the DDA (Downtown Development Authority).

05-16-09 Motion by Gagne supported by Martin to approve Mayor's recommendation and appoint Sandra Gilland to the DDA to fill the unexpired term of Wendy Smith with term of office to expire June 13, 2014.

All present voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Item E – Payment to Midwest Testing for installation of new meter at AAI.

05-16-10 Motion by Gagne supported by Moore to approve payment in the amount of \$4,510.40.

All present voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Item F – Payment to Midwest Testing for testing various meters in the City.

05-16-11 Motion by Martin supported by Wrobel to approve payment in the amount of \$2,765.00.

All present voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

10. CORRESPONDENCE:

Item A – Letter from resident re: Community Park landscape.

05-16-12 Motion by Martin supported by Gagne to go into Closed Session to discuss the SHVUA litigation.

Roll call vote: Yes: Painter, Wrobel, Dropiewski, Gagne, Martin and Moore.

No: None

All present voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Dropiewski called a 5 minute recess at 8:30 pm.

Open Session 8:55 pm.

05-16-13 Motion by Wrobel supported by Painter that as ordered and mandated by an Order of Mandamus dated May 12, 2011, issued by Judge Brian R. Sullivan of the Wayne Circuit Court, and reserving the City's right to appeal such Order, to approve the Resolution and Contract attached to the Order of the Court as Exhibits 2 and 3, respectfully.

All present voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

05-16-14 Motion by Martin supported by Gagne to file an appeal as recommended by the City Attorney.

All present voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

11. ADJOURNMENT:

05-16-15 Motion by Wrobel supported by Martin to adjourn the Regular Council Meeting at 9:00 pm.

All present voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

JONATHAN D. DROPIEWSKI, MAYOR

LORENE BUTSKI, CMC, CITY CLERK

DATE: _____