

REGULAR COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

CITY OF FLAT ROCK, MICHIGAN

TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2015

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. ROLL CALL OF COUNCIL MEMBERS:

PRESENT: Mayor Dropiewski, Council Members: Beller, Bergeron, Martin, and Thomas

ALSO PRESENT: Fire Chief Bill Vack, Police Chief John Leacher, DPS Director Matt Sype, Treasurer Brian Marciniak, Building Director Bernie Ciupak, Economic Development Director Liz Hendley, Attorney David Grunow and City Clerk Meaghan Bachman

Resolution 01-20-01

Motion by Martin
Supported by Bergeron

RESOLVED, That Flat Rock City Council hereby excuses Council Members Tefend and Wrobel as absent at the regular City Council meeting of January 20, 2015

Motion carried unanimously

Note: Council Member Wrobel arrived late at 9:17 PM

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Resolution 01-20-02

Motion by Thomas
Supported by Beller

RESOLVED, to approve the minutes of the regular City Council meeting of January 5, 2015 as presented

Motion carried unanimously

4. CITIZENS TO BE HEARD:

Sue Farrar asked residents to turn their porch lights blue on Saturday, January 31, 2015 to honor, recognize and thank law enforcement. January 31, 2015 is National Day to Thank Law Enforcement.

5. REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS:

Police Chief John Leacher presented Police Officer Heather Rodery with her Ceremonial Oath of Honor and welcomed her to Flat Rock. City Clerk Meaghan Bachman presented Officer Rodery with her Oath of Office.

Building Director Bernie Ciupak gave an update on the number and figures of permits issued in 2014 - total of 873 permits issued.

Recreation Director Rodney Wade thanked the Mayor, Council and residents for their support with his new position as Recreation Director. Director Wade announced the staffed ice rink hours.

6. REPORTS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Council Member Dawn Thomas wished her husband a Happy Belated Birthday and wished him to get well soon due to a sprained ankle.

Council Member John Bergeron wished his wife a Happy Birthday.

Council Member Jim Martin welcomed Officer Rodery to Flat Rock and noted she is the 2nd female police officer in Flat Rock.

Council Member Steve Beller welcomed Officer Rodery to Flat Rock and reminded residents of delayed garbage pickup due to Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

7. MAYOR'S COMMENTS:

STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS 2014

Mayor Dropiewski delivered his annual State of the City Address to the residents of Flat Rock. Mayor Dropiewski spoke of the following highlights of 2014:

The Mayor spoke of the new Council Members of 2014. He also made mention of the passing of Council Member Gary Borden;

The Coleman Building was demolished, new playground equipment was added to the park and the Eagle Scouts helped beautify the City by refinishing and painting the playscape and adding fencing and signage to the Animal Shelter;

Key contracts were settled with the our police patrol and firefighters unions which have allowed us to hire four (4) new police officers and we are in the process of filling two (2) vacant firefighting positions;

The City purchased new police patrol vehicles, senior bus, dump truck, ambulance and street sweeper.

Launched a City Facebook page and new City Twitter Account “@FlatRockMich”;

Converted over 300 old mercury vapor street lights to modern and cost saving LEDs;

The City now accepts Credit Cards online and at City Hall for payments of all types;

Completed a Pazer Study of all roads in the City for condition and prioritize repaving and repairs;

The City was awarded a State of Michigan Saw Grant to assess the condition of our entire Water and Sewer infrastructure;

The City of Flat Rock was designated 1 of 5 Trail Towns by the Huron River Watershed Council, which will lead to grants and improvements along the Huron River;

The City hired very talented new Department Heads, including Treasurer, Police Chief, Economic Development Director, and Recreation Director;

Mayor Dropiewski spoke of plans for 2015

Throughout the year Flat Rock will be celebrating its 50th Anniversary as a City with a number of special events and activities, including:

- Historical Displays
- A Special Celebration at Riverfest in September
- The City, Schools, and Community will be asked to contribute to a Time Capsule which will be opened in 50 years at the City's 100 Anniversary.

Mayor Dropiewski announced Country Blast will be transformed to Summer Blast;

It is the 40th Anniversary of City Hall and changes will be made to the building such as, new boiler, expand parking lot, work with an Architect to change the structure of the building and entrance. The Baseball Fields will receive an expanded press box and concession stand. It is also the 50th Edition of the Ford Mustang.

Meijer has received their permit from the State DEQ and will continue with the construction of their store in the spring;

Leo's Coney Island and Fiesta Grande are set to open over the next several weeks. O'Riley Auto Parts will also join the City later in 2015 and possibly Burger King;

Mayor Dropiewski announced the City is very excited about Calder Dairy choosing to expand into Flat Rock. He noted, they are a great family business and along with great dairy products and provide valuable educational programming to thousands of school children every year. Mayor Dropiewski noted Calder's investment into our Community is an important part of the redevelopment of the Telegraph Road corridor;

The Mayor noted the City is seeing increased interest into the Old Kmart Plaza and are working with the Owner and Real Estate Broker to fill those vacant storefronts;

Grant funding has been secured for the installation of a new SplashPad in the Community Park;

Mayor Dropiewski mentioned the City is studying ways to address the long term retirement and health care liabilities and will continue to try to settle our outstanding labor agreements on terms that aid in that process;

Several road projects are planned for the spring, including Aspen Blvd and the Huron Woods Subdivision. As budget allows the city plans on potentially adding more projects for the summer and fall. Water, sewer, streets and sidewalks will be repaired and replaced.

He announced the City is looking for ways to add and repair Sidewalks where they are sorely needed including Seneca, Huron River Drive and Gibraltar Road near Cambridge;

The City and DDA will again be hosting a Business Forum in the spring for all of the businesses in town where Marketing, Banking, and other experts are brought in to help our current businesses;

Mayor Dropiewski noted the City will be focusing on ordinance enforcement with our businesses and residents. It will be done in a very transparent and consistent manner for all;

Records Retention assessments will be done to minimize our records storage and digitize files. A Citizen Alert System for emergencies will be implemented and a Citizen Request System will launch.

The Flat Rock Main Street Committee and DDA are working together to help plan and reimagine our Downtown Area. Focus will be placed on Streetscaping and improving the Lighting on the Telegraph Road Corridor. Flat Rock will participate in the Detroit Institute of Arts, Inside Out Program, and displaying works of art around the City. This will begin in August of 2015 through the fall. Ideas are being explored for the ability to do a bike share program. More signage will appear downtown and in other areas of the City such as the bike path.

The Mayor noted one other area of focus will be improving the appearance of the Railroad Viaduct across Telegraph. It is currently filled with overgrown weeds and vegetation, crumbling concrete, peeling paint, and poor lighting. A Committee is currently working on proposed design on what could be done to improve this area. The effort will involve lots of coordination with CN Railroad, State of Michigan, Wayne County, and the City. This coordination will take time but the project can make a big impact on the entire area;

Mayor Dropiewski closed the State of the City Address and noted the City has a very exciting opportunity ahead of us in 2015 and he will be working hard as the Mayor to make sure we take advantage of that opportunity. He noted great days are ahead for the City of Flat Rock as we celebrate 50 years as a City.

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Item 8-A- Public Hearing for Community Development Block Grant Funds – Program Year 2015

Resolution 01-20-03

Motion by Martin
Supported by Thomas

RESOLVED, to open the Public Hearing for Community Development Block Grant Funds for Program Year 2015 and to hear/consider any public comments

Motion carried unanimously

Public Hearing was opened for public comment – Mayor Dropiewski asked if anyone wished to comment on block grant projects

- No public wished to comment

- Mayor Dropiewski reminded everyone what Community Development Block Grant Funds cover and how we can expend the funds. He noted the estimated available funds are \$76,735.82. He spoke of projects done in past years; The Mayor suggested the ideas to use the funds for purchase of an ambulance. He also suggested using the funds to build a pole barn to store the senior bus. Mayor Dropiewski noted a portion of the funds are used for senior services and administration.
- Council Member Martin suggested the City look into partial financing of the ambulance
- Mayor Dropiewski asked if any other public or Council Members wished to speak

Motion to close the Public Hearing for Community Development Block Grant Funds – Program Year 2015

Resolution 01-20-04

Motion by Martin
Supported Beller

RESOLVED, to close the Public Hearing for Community Development Block Grant Funds – Program Year 2015

Motion carried unanimously

9. NEW BUSINESS

Item 9-A- Renewal for The Knot Wedding Publications for Stone Creek Banquet Hall

Resolution 01-20-05

Motion by Thomas
Supported by Martin

RESOLVED, to approve the renewal for The Knot Wedding Publications for Stone Creek Banquet Hall in the amount of \$2106.00

Motion carried unanimously

Item 9-B- Permission to bid for woodwork renovation at the Langs-Wagar House

Resolution 01-20-06

Motion by Thomas
Supported by Beller

RESOLVED, to approve the request to bid for woodwork renovation at the Langs-Wagar House

Motion carried unanimously

Item 9-C- Request to purchase dispatch furniture in the Police Department

Resolution 01-20-07

Motion by Beller
Supported by Bergeron

RESOLVED, to approve the purchase new dispatch furniture in the police department dispatch center; the new furniture will provide the following:

1. Replacement of one workstation
2. Addition of a single arm monitor arm
3. Replacement of old multi-monitor arm with a five (5) monitor arm
4. Addition of a two (2) drawer 36W lateral file.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, two quotes were received by the vendor (The Interior Group); the least expensive quote from the manufacturer Unisource was awarded, minus installation and disposal of existing equipment, for a total of \$3633.17

Motion carried unanimously

Item 9-D-Soil boring proposals for road reconstruction projects

Resolution 01-20-08

Motion by Beller
Supported by Martin

RESOLVED, to approve the soil boring proposals for road reconstruction projects for Aspen Blvd., Division St., and Huron Woods Subdivision;

The following are as submitted bids:

FK Engineering:	\$3,750.00
PSI Engineering	\$4,950.00
G2 Engineering	\$8,650.00

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, These proposals were obtained through C.E. Raines' office and it is the recommendation to award it to FK Engineering

Motion carried unanimously

Item 9- E- Proposed model resolution from the Alliance of Downriver Watersheds

Resolution 01-20-09

Motion by Thomas
Supported by Martin

RESOLVED, to adopt the proposed model resolution from the Alliance of Downriver Watersheds (ADW) stating their Bylaws to set the composition, duties, and responsibilities of the ADW;

WHEREAS, the Alliance of Downriver Watersheds ("ADW") was formed in January 2007 pursuant to Public Act 517 of the Public Laws of 2004; and

WHEREAS, the ADW consists of 24 public agencies (Allen Park, Belleville, Brownstown Township, Dearborn Heights, Ecorse, Flat Rock, Gibraltar, Grosse lie Township, Huron Township, Inkster, Lincoln Park, Melvindale, Riverview, Rockwood, Romulus, Southgate, Sumpter Township, Taylor, Van Buren Township, Wayne County, Westland, Woodhaven, Woodhaven-

Brownstown School District and Wyandotte) in the Ecorse Creek, Combined Downriver, and Lower Huron River Watersheds• in southeast Michigan. The agencies and communities that comprise the ADW have and_ continue to achieve substantial benefits by their joining together and cooperatively managing the rivers, lakes, and streams within the watersheds and in providing mutual assistance in meeting state water discharge permit requirements of the Members; and

WHEREAS, the ADW Membership benefits have included:

- Collaborative approach to stormwater management - working together with surrounding local governments to determine the best plan to improve storm water quality.
- Help meet NPDES permit requirements for Illicit Discharge Elimination Plan , Public Education Plan , Public Participation Program and TMDL Implementation Plan through collaborative watershed approach - reduces individual permittee costs. ,
- Permittee assistance for training, progress reports, and audit preparation.
- Watershed in-stream monitoring for identifying grant-eligible capital improvements and evaluating effectiveness.
- Demonstrates collaborative effort with other local governments
- Regular meetings with ADW members and Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) representatives. Keep up with the latest permit news and discuss problems/solutions with surrounding local government representatives.
- Strength in Numbers - local governments come together as a single voice and have the ability to influence higher decision-making.
- Grant Funding - since formation of the ADW, the team has secured nearly \$1.5 million in Federal and State grants to implement nearly \$2.3 million in water quality improvement projects in the downriver watersheds, and,

WHEREAS, the ADW Members approved and adopted Bylaws to set forth its composition, duties and responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, the ADW Members now desire to amend the Bylaws to conform to the customs and practices developed over the years by the ADW;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Flat Rock formally adopts the amended bylaws for the Alliance of Downriver Watersheds.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that consistent with the terms of the Alliance of Downriver Watershed bylaws, the City of Flat Rock formally authorizes the Mayor and City Council to designate a representative and an alternate representative to the Alliance of Downriver Watersheds. and additional persons to represent the City of Flat Rock, if needed, as an additional alternate to assure voting representation.

FINALLY, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Flat Rock continuing membership will be evidenced by payment of its voluntary assessment on an annual basis to the Alliance of Downriver Watersheds.

Motion carried unanimously

Resolution 01-20-10

Motion by Martin
Supported by Bergeron

RESOLVED, to appoint DPS Director Matt Sype as the Representative of the City to the Alliance of Downriver Watershed, Economic Director Liz Hendley as the Alternate and City Clerk Meaghan Bachman as the 2nd Alternate

10. CITIZENS TO BE HEARD (ADDITIONAL COMMENTS):

NONE

11. CORRESPONDENCE:

NONE

CLOSED SESSION

Item A -Labor Negotiations, Command Unit

Resolution 01-20-11

Motion by Martin
Supported by Thomas

RESOLVED, to convene into closed session to discuss labor negotiations, Command Unit, at 8:40 PM

Motion carried unanimously

Resolution 01-20-12

Motion by Martin
Supported by Beller

RESOLVED, to reconvene into the regular City Council meeting

Motion carried unanimously

12. ADJOURNMENT:

Resolution 01-20-13

Motion by Beller
Supported by Thomas

RESOLVED, to adjourn the regular City Council meeting of January 20, 2015 at 10:21 PM

All voting yes; motion carried unanimously

JONATHAN DROPIEWSKI, MAYOR

DATE: _____
Approved

MEAGHAN K. BACHMAN, CITY CLERK