

REGULAR COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

CITY OF FLAT ROCK, MICHIGAN

MONDAY, OCTOBER 1, 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. ROLL CALL OF COUNCIL MEMBERS:

PRESENT: Mayor Dropiewski, Council members Martin, Borden, Wilkins, Wrobel and Gagne

EXCUSED AS LATE: Councilwoman Moore

ALSO PRESENT: DPS Director Hammond, Recreation Director Pawlukiewicz, Police Chief Rossow, Economic Development Director Mans, Fire Chief/Building Director Vack, Treasurer Rozga, City Attorney Grunow and Clerk Armstrong

Resolution 10-01-01

Motion by Martin

Supported by Wrobel

RESOLVED, That Flat Rock City Council hereby **EXCUSES** Councilwoman Moore, as late at the regular City Council meeting of October 1, 2012.

Motion carried unanimously

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Resolution 10-01-02

Motion by Martin

Supported by Borden

RESOLVED, to approve the minutes of the regular City Council meeting of September 17, 2012.

Motion carried unanimously

4. NEW HIRE POLICE OFFICER – ROBERT A. NIELSEN

Chief Rossow spoke about the importance of the Oath of Office. Robert A. Nielsen was sworn in by City Clerk Meaghan Armstrong. Chief Rossow gave Officer Nielsen the Oath of Honor from the International Association of Chiefs of Police. Officer Nielsen's badge was placed on him by his wife. Officer Nielsen is a veteran of the US Army, he spent two tours in Iraq, attended Macomb Community College and obtained an associates degree, attended Macomb Police Academy and is currently attending Ferris State University. He is also in the Army Reserve as a Drill Instructor.

Officer Nielsen thanked everyone for the opportunity to work in Flat Rock. He assured everyone he will be a great asset in Flat Rock. He stated although he is

currently not a Flat Rock resident he will still ensure public safety for the community and give his life for any resident.

5. CITIZENS TO BE HEARD:

Don Townsend of Mr. Beans is seeking approval to close off Seneca between the alley thru Huron River Drive on Saturday, October 27, 2012 for a Halloween Block Party with a band from 2:00 – 5:00 PM. This was voted on and approved as a resolution.

Don Townsend also requested approval for a Halloween Hayride on Saturday, October 27, 2012 with a route from the Farmers Market location to Mr. Beans. This discussion was tabled until more defined information is presented.

6. REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS:

Treasurer Lani Rozga announced the City's participation in the EVIP plan. She stated the 1st of 3rd part of the plan was submitted. The EVIP plan will generate \$30,000 for the City.

Clerk Meaghan K. Armstrong announced information regarding the General Election held on November 6, 2012. She announced ballots are two pages, front and back. She also discussed the absentee voter process. Clerk Armstrong announced the last day to register to vote for the General Election is October 9, 2012.

7. REPORTS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Felicia Moore thanked Bruce Hammond for patching the road in Hawthorne Ridge. Bruce said they will continue to patch. Councilwoman Moore congratulated Flat Rock High School on a wonderful Homecoming event.

Paul Gagne announced he was very impressed with the swearing in ceremony for the new hire Police Officer Robert A. Nielsen.

Paul spoke in regards to the financial condition of the library. The library is having trouble keeping up with increased cost. They have reduced staff and budget and need assistance. The City assesses the library \$162,000 per year and would like the City to waive this cost. Councilman Gagne made a motion that the City of Flat Rock drop take over the \$162,000 annual payment. This motion failed due to lack of support.

Ken Wrobel announced that when hiring for a police officer, the City should look at Flat Rock residents first. Councilman Wrobel said he is sure the hired police officer will do a great job but feels Flat Rock residents should be considered first for hire.

Debbie Wilkins announced overtime stats for police officers for year to date totals and previous years. Councilwoman Wilkins suggested that five much needed officers should be hired. She also suggested too much time was spent thanking Riverfest volunteers at the previous meeting and more time should have been spent discussing other topics. She said that two cars are not enough on the road and the officers are overworked. She made a motion to hire two additional officers. The motion failed due to lack of support.

Mayor Dropiewski spoke to her statement. The Mayor said he resents that Councilwoman Wilkins would suggest he has something against assuring the public safety in town. Mayor Dropiewski assured the public that their safety is a top priority. He also responded to Councilwoman Wilkins comments on the overtime stats. He reminded her that when hiring new police officers other high costs are incurred along with salary; health care, retirement, life insurance, etc.

Councilwoman Felicia Moore also spoke to Councilwoman Wilkins statements. She announced that she did not thank Riverfest volunteers at the previous council meeting. Although she did not thank the volunteers she felt they should be acknowledged for their time for the community event. Councilwoman Moore also spoke about public safety and how important it is to her.

Gary Borden thanked all police officers for their duties of public safety. He thanked all City workers and members of the community for bringing the community together. He said he would like to hire more officers when time permits.

Councilman Borden thanked Crest Ford for donating the vehicles for Homecoming. He also thanked the Mayor for providing him with a bag of candy for the parade.

Jim Martin welcomed Robert Nielson to the Flat Rock Police Department. He thanked all Riverfest participants for volunteering their time.

8. MAYOR'S COMMENTS:

Mayor Jonathan Dropiewski welcomed Robert Nielson to Flat Rock Police Department. He spoke about police and fire units and said public safety is top priority of his.

He congratulated Flat Rock High School on a successful Homecoming event. He announced events like Homecoming and Riverfest make a great community. He announced 13,000 people attended Riverfest.

Mayor Dropiewski made a motion to set Halloween trick or treating hours from 6:00-8:00 PM. This motion passed.

Mayor Dropiewski thanked Crains Detroit Business for naming him one of the 40 under 40 and honored that a distinguished group would honor him.

Mayor Dropiewski wished his wife, Robin a happy anniversary and thanked her several wonderful years of marriage!

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Item 9-A - City Engineer's bid recommendation for pavement repairs at water main breaks (opened on 9.13.2012)

Resolution 10-01-03

Motion by Gagne
Supported by Moore

Resolved, to award bid for pavement repairs at water main breaks to GV Cement

Motion carried unanimously

10. NEW BUSINESS:

Item 10-A- Mayoral Appointments

- 1. Downtown Development Authority (DDA)**
- 2. Library Board of Directors**
- 3. TIFA – Lani Rozga**

Resolution 10-01-04

Motion by Wrobel
Supported by Moore

RESOLVED, to approve Wendy Smith to the DDA, Wendy Clark to the Library Board of Directors and Lani Rozga to the TIFA Board

Motion carried unanimously

Item 10-B- Ford Motor Company – Auto Alliance Plant (n/k/a Flat Rock Assembly) Application for Industrial Facilities Tax Exemption Certificate and approval to set a public hearing.

Resolution 10-01-05

Motion by Gagne
Supported by Martin

RESOLVED, to set a public hearing on Monday, October 15, 2012 at 7:30 PM for the purpose of hearing application for Industrial Facilities Tax Exemption Certificate for Auto Alliance

Motion carried unanimously

Item 10-C- Authorization of resolution approving vector truck lease

Resolution 10-01-06

Motion by Borden
Supported by Martin

RESOLVED, to approve vector truck lease from Jack Dohney Supplies and financed through PNC Equipment Finance. Vector is to be delivered on or around October 15, 2012

Motion carried unanimously

Item 10-D- Closing of Seneca on October 27, 2012 from 2:00 – 5:00 PM for the purpose of a Halloween block party

Resolution 10-01-07

Motion by Martin
Supported by Borden

RESOLVED, to approve street closure on Seneca between Huron River Drive and the Alley on October 27, 2012

Motion carried unanimously

Item 10-E- Halloween Trick or Treat hours for October 31, 2012

Resolution 10-01-07

Motion by Martin
Supported by Borden

RESOLVED, to approve the Halloween Trick or Treat hours between 6:00 – 8:00 PM on October 31, 2012

Motion carried unanimously

11. CORRESPONDENCE:

Item 11-A- Notice of discontinuance of business and services from AB Exterminating, Inc.

Item 11-B- Planning Commission special meeting minutes of July 30, 2012

Item 11-C – Planning Commission minutes of August 27, 2012

12. ADJOURNMENT:

Resolution 10-01-08

Motion by Martin
Supported by Borden

RESOLVED, to adjourn the regular City Council meeting of October 1, 2012

All voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

JONATHAN DROPIEWSKI, MAYOR

DATE: _____

Approved

MEAGHAN K. ARMSTRONG, CITY CLERK