

REGULAR COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

CITY OF FLAT ROCK, MICHIGAN

MONDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2013

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, Councilmembers: Martin, Borden, Wilkins, Wrobel, Gagne and Moore

ALSO PRESENT: Fire Chief Bill Vack, Police Chief Neal Rossow, Interim DPS Director Matt Sype, Recreation Director Joann Pawlukiewicz, Treasurer Lani Rozga, Building Director Bernie Ciupak, Attorney David Grunow and Clerk Meaghan Bachman

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Resolution 12-16-01

Motion by Borden
Supported by Gagne

RESOLVED, to approve the minutes of the regular City Council meeting of December 2, 2013 as amended to reflect the Councilman Borden's comments regarding the event that should state "Michaels on the River" not "Big Boy" also amended in Councilman Borden's comment, "will be paying on water bill" not pay water bill.

Motion carried unanimously

4. **PRESENTATIONS:**

4-a- Firemark Award presented to Tim Webb of the Flat Rock Fire Department on behalf of Liberty Mutual Insurance

Fire Chief Vack spoke regarding the award to Tim Webb and noted several achievements and his background. He has been a full time firefighter since 2006 and active in the community education field and takes care of the departments fire prevention classes. He teaches in elementary schools each year and engages the students well with the classes. He coordinates the obstacle course at Riverfest and noted he is very passionate about his work. Chief Vack introduced Mary Herter of Liberty Mutual Insurance, who presented the award to Tim Webb. Mary gave a background on the Firemark Award and noted Tim is awarded the community service and public education. Mary then presented Tim Webb with the prestigious award. Firefighter Webb thanked firefighter Rob Nailor for nominating him for this award and thanked his family for their support. He noted the joy he receives with teaching education to the community. He noted he appreciates all the opportunities the city has given him. Mayor Dropiewski noted he has seen Tim teach in the school groups and noted it is a very impressive display of fire knowledge and thanked him for all he does.

4-B-Honorary Tribute to Councilman Paul Gagne presented by State Representative Bill LaVoy

State Representative Bill Lavoy delivered a special tribute to Councilman Gagne on his retirement to the City of Flat Rock Council and read his prestigious award with Councilman Gagne's history on his personal life and 20 year services to the City of Flat Rock. The award is signed by State Representative Bill LaVoy, Senator Patrick Colbeck and Governor Snyder. Mayor Dropiewski also presented a service award to Councilman Gagne with privilege and honor in recognition to his 20 years of service to the City of Flat Rock. He spoke regarding Paul's hard work and dedication to the community and thanked him and wished him the best of luck. Councilman Gagne spoke of his history with serving Flat Rock. He noted his efforts to keep "In God We Trust" on the welcome to Flat Rock signs. He spoke on how much he learned throughout the years through and thanked everyone for the honor.

4-C- Honorary recognition of Councilman Paul Gagne and Councilwoman Felicia Moore for their service to the community as Councilmembers

Note: recognition was given to Councilman Gagne with previous tribute.

Mayor Dropiewski presented Councilwoman Moore with privilege and honor for her 4 years of service to the City of Flat Rock as a Councilmember. He noted how impressed he is with Felicia's dedication to the Council and congratulated her. Councilwoman Moore noted the honor it has been to service the citizens of Flat Rock and thanked them for supporting her over the years.

4-D- Sue Farrar of the Beautification Commission to present the winners of the Christmas Home Decorating Contest and award Certificates of Appreciation to Molly Lumpert-Coy and DTE Energy

Sue Farrar noted the home and business decorating contest started in 1998 and DTE partnered with the city in 2004 and sponsored the city with cash prizes. She presented a certificate to Molly Lumpert-Coy for her dedication to the city. Molly noted it is a pleasure working with Flat Rock and celebrating the holidays and noted the great job Sue and the Committee perform. Sue noted Marilyn Young and Sue Martin are present and work hard on the committee. Mrs. Farrar announced the winners of the contest as follows:

RELIGIOUS CATEGORY (RESIDENT)

#1 29306 Evergreen, Mr. Wayne Halleck, \$50.00

#2 30196 Hickory, Mr. Harold Ducharme, \$25.00

TRADITIONAL CATEGORY (RESIDENT)

#1 25919 Seneca, Mr. and Mrs. David Lee, \$50.00

#2 30429 Torry, Mr. Bob Brushafer, \$25.00

ORIGINAL CATEGORY RESIDENT

#1 28523 Cahill, Mr. Christopher Smith, \$50.00, wants his winnings given to local food bank at Community Lutheran Church

#2 24658 Fairlawn, Mrs. Julie Cloke, \$25.00

BUSINESS, ORIGINAL CATEGORY ONLY ONE WINNER IN EACH CATEGORY

Target Steel, 24601 Vreeland, Framed Certificate

BUSINESS, TRADITIONAL CATEGORY, ONLY ONE WINNER IN EACH CATEGORY

Arthur Bobcean Funeral Home, 26307 E. Huron River Drive, Framed Certificate

5. **CITIZENS TO BE HEARD:**

None

6. **REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS:**

Police Chief Neal Rossow reminded citizens of the snow emergency ordinance. He noted the ordinance states the emergency is automatically declared with 2" of snow. Chief Rossow reminded residents not to park on street and not to plow snow into street.

Building Director Bernie Ciupak updated the council on hiring of the part time inspector/ordinance. He noted a few interviews are set up and will continue. His wished all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Recreation Director Joann Pawlukiewicz gave an update on the Senior Holiday Lunch, 220 seniors attended along with Councilmembers and department heads. She thanked the sponsors of the event: City of Gibraltar, City of Flat Rock, Crest Ford, Flat Rock Metal, Grunow and Associates, Manheim and Ford Motor Company. She announced the ice rink is up and running. The warming building is open Monday through Friday 4-8 PM and Saturday through Sunday from 12-8 PM. She noted hours will be extended for the holiday break when kids are out of school. She noted a special on yearly memberships, if a year is purchased you will receive a free monthly pass. She reminded residents of upcoming events such as, openings with Trina Miller life changing ways and dinner theater with bible bingo. She announced holiday hours at the center.

Fire Chief Bill Vack reminded residents if you have a fire hydrant in your front yard, to clear the snow around it so the fire department can see it and access it. He noted to be careful with holiday decorations such as a real Christmas tree and holiday lights and connections.

Interim DPS Director Matt Sype noted not to shovel snow into the street; it causes more work and money. He thanked to Police Department for their help over the weekend with the snow. Councilman Borden asked what residents can do not to put snow in street and Mr. Sype noted they can change the direction of their snow blower.

Clerk Meaghan Bachman congratulated Councilmembers Gagne and Moore and wished all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

7. **REPORTS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS:**

Councilwoman Wilkins gave her condolences to the family of Peggy Angelos on her passing. She also gave her condolences to Fran Martin, city employee on loss of her brother. She noted the good job to DPS workers on snow removal and reminded residents on removing snow within 48 hours from sidewalk. She congratulated Tim Webb on his award and noted how courteous he was every time she had to call upon the department for her mother. She noted he is a great asset to the city. She thanked Paul and Felicia and wished all a safe and happy holiday.

Councilman Borden wished all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. He gave his condolences to the family of Peggy Angelos. He also gave his condolences to Fran Martin on the passing of her brother.

He thanked Paul and Felicia for their work on the council. He noted how supportive Paul was when he first took council and welcoming him. He spoke of an organization (not affiliated with the City of Flat Rock) that is helping out the community. He announced an event on Thursday, December 19th from 5-9 PM at the Flat Rock Big Boy. The event will offer a free raffle tickets and anyone who takes a book will be entered into a drawing for prizes. He asks the winners come back to the council and give a brief report on the book read.

Councilman Borden made the following resolution:

Resolution 12-16-02

Motion by Borden
Supported by Gagne

Councilman Borden noted the applications will be available to residents and the organization will help pay on the water bill.

RESOLVED, to seek approval to place a drop box for accepting applications from residents to help pay on their water bills. Drop box will be placed at City Hall in the Clerk's office.

Motion carried unanimously

Councilman Borden noted some changes that should be made to an article in the News Herald. He noted the correction shouldn't be a "raffle ticket" but a form and the forms will not be sold. Councilman Borden reminded residents the Flat Rock Train Depot is hosting a model train display on January 4, 2014, come out and enjoy it. He spoke of the city employee event the past weekend and noted it shows appreciation to the employees and community. He hopes to see more employees come out to celebrate in the future. He thanked Matt Sype and the DPS worker for doing a great job with snow removal. He also thanked the Police Chief for the outstanding job he and his staff have done. He thanked Joann for the senior event and hard work. He also thanked her for arraigning the senior bus to take the seniors out and enjoy the Christmas lights; he noted it was very thoughtful of her. He gave a final reminder to residents to come to the Thursday, December 19th event and noted free scarfs will be given out to ladies and teddy bears to children.

Councilman Martin wished all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. He gave his condolences to the family of Peggy Angelos. He also gave his condolences to Fran Martin on the passing of her brother. He thanked Matt Sype on the good job clearing the snow from the roads. He thanked Crest Ford and Flat Rock Metal employees on serving at the Flat Rock Senior Lunch. He noted Flat Rock is lucky to have Tim Webb as an employee. Councilman Martin noted with Paul Gagne leaving, he is now the senior member of Council and noted is was good serving with him. He noted it was good serving with Felicia Moore the past 4 years and wished her luck.

Councilman Wrobel gave his condolences to the family of Peggy Angelos. He also gave his condolences to Fran Martin on the passing of her brother. He congratulated Tim Webb on his award and noted he takes the time to help the younger new firefighters. He wished the best to Paul and Felicia. He asked residents to pay it forward and if a sidewalk needs to be cleared of snow, try to help out. He commented to Bill LaVoy, that he has seen him quite often and appreciates that.

Councilwoman Moore wanted to acknowledge the department heads on their good work within their departments and noted it has been a pleasure to work with all. She questioned who is responsible to shovel the snow on the Vreeland Road sidewalk and noted portions of the walk weren't shoveled. She also asked is snowmobiles are allowed within the city and noted she has seen tracks.

Councilman Gagne said it was a pleasure to serve the past 20 years and thanked State Representative Bill LaVoy for the honor. He noted he will still be around at the meetings. He noted the current council is a compatible group and work well together. He thanked all again for the honors.

8. MAYOR'S COMMENTS:

Mayor Dropiewski gave his condolences to the family of Peggy Angelos. He also gave his condolences to Fran Martin on the passing of her brother. He noted Peggy was a teacher when his wife went to school and made a profound effect on her and other students over the years. Peggy was a DDA member and made great contributions to the DDA board and community.

He announced the ice rink is open and operational and welcomed all to use. He noted there are no skate rentals and no hockey play. The city will be tracking the usage of the rink and will report back to council with the numbers after the season ends. He noted some of the nonprofit groups of Flat Rock might be able to sell hot chocolate while the rink is open.

Mayor Dropiewski is seeking approval from Council to start the process for the attorney to apply for a limited beer license at the ball fields. This is not to approve the actual liquor license but to apply for the license and begin the application process. Beer wouldn't be for sale during high school games but available if the lease is approved with the semi-professional team and other adult leagues. The following motion was made:

Resolution 12-16-03

Motion by Dropiewski
Supported by Moore

Discussion: Councilman Borden asked when the lease would be available for review. Mayor stated the lease will be available for council review hopefully in January
Councilman Martin asked if sales would be from a separate location from concession stands. The Mayor noted this will be looked into. Martins concern was securing the alcohol, from non-alcohol.

RESOLVED, to direct the city attorney to begin the application process for a limited liquor license (beer sales) at the ball park;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the sale of alcohol would only be permissible during semi-professional and adult league games, not high school games;

Motion carried unanimously

Mayor Dropiewski discussed the catering services at the Community Center. He noted the current caterer didn't renew her contract and the city interviewed approximately 10 local caterers. He noted 2 of those are willing to cover the next couple months of events at the center. The plan is to sign a contract or 2 contracts with the vendors to cover the current events while the banquet manager, Joann and Mayor research the process for longer term contract. They would evaluate the current business model and make any necessary changes. He noted the council could authorize the Mayor and City Attorney to enter into agreements that would closely match the current catering agreement or we can come back into a special meeting once we have the contracts. Councilman Borden suggested we meet at a special meeting to approve the contracts. Councilwoman Moore suggested the temporary agreement with the caterers would be sufficient. Councilman Martin asked who the carters are; Mayor noted Parkplace Catering and The Market. Councilman Wrobel asked that we have their information before we approve. Borden voiced some concerns with the current suggested process. The Mayor noted we shouldn't rush into a decision; it should be discussed throughout meetings. Councilman Borden asked how long this process will take place.

Resolution 12-16-04

Motion by Martin
Supported by Moore

Discussion: Councilman Borden asked questions regarding a new business contract and what changes would be made to the current contract. Discussion between Councilmembers and the Mayor continued regarding the current contract and a future contract.

RESOLVED, to authorize the Mayor and Banquet Director to contract with one of the two firms to cover the Community Center events in January and February 2014, within the current parameters of the contract with Truly Gourmet

Motion carried 6-1 with Borden voting no

Mayor Dropiewski thanked the DPS workers with a job well done clearing the streets of snow. He reminded residents to remember to shop local Flat Rock businesses, gift cards can be purchased and some with incentives. Mayor Dropiewski wished all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. He welcomed the new Councilmembers and noted he will miss Paul and Felicia and thanked them for their service to the community.

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Item 9-A-Bid recommendation for drywall installation at the Langs-Wagar House

Resolution 12-16-05

Motion by Gagne
Supported by Wrobel

RESOLVED, to approve the bid recommendation for drywall installation at the Langs-Wagar House to Everest Building Management for 5/8" drywall in the amount of \$10,425.00

Motion carried unanimously

10. NEW BUSINESS

Item 10-A- Michael Georges of Hungerford & Company to present the 2013-2014 Audit

Resolution 12-16-06

Motion by Martin
Supported by Wilkins

RESOLVED, to accept and file the 2013-2014 City of Flat Rock audit prepared by Hungerford & Company

Motion carried unanimously

Item 10-B-DTE Energy LED street lighting replacement program

Resolution 12-16-07

Motion by Wrobel
Supported by Borden

RESOLVED, to approve the DTE Energy LED Street Lighting Replacement Program with the City of Flat Rock

Motion carried unanimously

Item 10-C-Various commission appointments

Resolution 12-16-08

Motion by Martin
Supported by Wrobel

RESOLVED, to approve the various commission appointments as follows:

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| • Beautification Commission | Sue Farrar | 12/31/2016 |
| • Beautification Commission | Donna Davis | 12/31/2016 |
| • Beautification Commission | Nancy Hassell | 12/31/2016 |
| • Board of Review | Kristin Hunt | 12/31/2016 |
| • DDA | Michael Crowder | 6/13/2016 |
| • Election Commission | Luigi Fiorelli | 12/31/2016 |
| • Historic Preservation | Margaret Ann Cooper | 2/7/2015 |
| • Historic Preservation | Garrett Haase | 2/7/2015 |
| • Library Board of Directors | Frank Hamet | 8/17/2017 |
| • TIFA | Larry Dishaw | 6/11/2014 |

Motion carried unanimously

11. CLOSED SESSION:

To convene into closed session to discuss labor negotiations at 9:20 PM

Resolution 12-16-09

Motion by Martin
Supported by Wilkins

RESOLVED, to convene into closed session at 9:20 PM to discuss labor negotiations

Motion carried unanimously

Reconvene into open meeting

Resolution 12-16-10

Motion by Martin
Supported by Borden

RESOLVED, to reconvene into the regular council meeting

Motion carried unanimously

12. ADJOURNMENT:

Resolution 12-16-11

Motion by Gagne
Supported by Moore

RESOLVED, to adjourn the regular City Council meeting of December 16, 2013 at 10:10 PM

All voting yes; motion carried unanimously.

JONATHAN DROPIEWSKI, MAYOR

DATE: _____
Approved

MEAGHAN K. BACHMAN, CITY CLERK