

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

CITY OF FLAT ROCK, MICHIGAN

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2007

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 Member Gagne, Dropiewski, Martin, Painter and Wrobel.

Absent. Councilman Tefend.

02-20-07-1 Motion by Painter supported by Dropiewski to excuse the absent member Councilman Tefend. Motion carried unanimously.

ALSO PRESENT: Treasurer Brenda Tallman, DPS Director Bruce Hammond, Building Director John Russ, City Attorney David Grunow, Police Chief Steve Tallman, Fire Chief Bill Vack, Recreation Director Joan Pawlukiewicz, Economic Development Director and Acting Clerk George Mans, and Clerk Receptionist Jevetta Smith.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

02-20-07-2 Motion by Painter supported by Gagne to approve the Regular City Council Meeting Minutes of 02/05/07 as submitted. Motion carried unanimously.

4. CITIZENS TO BE HEARD:

Mrs. Gail Mathews, 29732 Larches, complimented the DPS Director Bruce Hammond and the employees of the department for doing a good job on removing a tree in front of her house.

A resident from Rockridge Estates, asked about the article in the newspaper concerning Meijers building at the Telegraph/Vreeland Road site. Mayor Jones stated that due to the excessive land fill that would be required by DEQ at Wayne County, to bring the site up out of the flood plain, Meijers has decided to look elsewhere in the City.

Mr. Gordon Chevalier, 27949 West Telegraph, appeared again for the second consecutive time presenting to the Mayor and Council two documents: 1) Affidavit addressed to the City Attorney regarding the allegations he made at the last Council Meeting regarding the statements Mr. Chevalier said he made in reference to what Police Chief Tallman and Building & Safety Director John Russ made to him and 2) a letter from the State Of Michigan, Department of Transportation, dated September 8, 2004, written to Police Chief Stephen Tallman.

Mr. Chevalier said that he believed that the services rightly due him and his family was not provided to him as a resident because of prejudices and City employees have not backed up the City's statues and ordinances.

Mr. Chevalier said that the statement Chief Tallman made about Martin Luther King Day should have not been and that James Earl Ray Day was not worthy of discussion and that no one should ever exalt a convicted murderer.

The letter Mr. Chevalier presented to Council from the State of Michigan, Dept. of Transportation, dated September 8, 2004, to Chief Tallman, was in reference to the entrance and egress of his property off 27949 and 27919 Telegraph Road. Mr. Chevalier stated that Flat Rock Bagging took it over two years ago without consent from the City or State and decided they were going to use it for commercial truck traffic. Mr. Chevalier stated that his neighbor Frank Anderson (also a mixed marriage) has tried for years to get things done and neither could he accomplish anything. Mr. Chevalier paraphrased the letter and stated that under no circumstances should truck traffic be allowed to use this entrance and egress. He stated that daily, dozens of semis use this road and at night time trucks sit there and idle keeping him and his family awake. He stated that great damage has been done to the road and his personnel entrance and they have bent the fire hydrant over as well. Mr. Chevalier asked Chief Tallman directly why he had not enforced this letter from MDOT since it directly states that the local law enforcement should enforce this operation. There was no comment from Chief Tallman on the matter.

Mr. Chevalier asked Chief Tallman and Building & Safety Director John Russ if they would like to respond to the racial comments they made. Chief Tallman in reference to the comment about Martin Luther King Day, and John Russ's statement in question asking Mr. Chevalier if a black family lived at his address or has a black family ever lived at his address.

Neither Chief Tallman nor Building & Safety Director John Russ had a comment.

Mr. Chevalier asked the Council to please address his letter and to help him out on this matter. Mayor Jones told Mr. Chevalier that his opinion of this letter from MDOT is very clear and that he will discuss it with the City Attorney David Grunow and that there is no question that this driveway in mention should not be used for commercial equipment.

Mr. Chevalier commented to the City Council that when it comes to strategic financial matters, that the Mayor is the expert and should be listened to.

5. REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS:

City Attorney, David Grunow, stated to the City Council that he had received a letter for reclassifications from the Clerical Union. The unit would like to reopen their contract for renegotiation due to fact that there had been a change of duties because of the Asst. Clerk being off on medical leave. Mr. Grunow asked Council if they would like to appoint a team to meet with the Clerical Unit. (No motion was made.)

6. REPORTS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Councilman Dropiewski welcomed Mayor Jones back from his recent surgery and complemented the DPS Department on their good work of snow removal.

Councilman Painter said he was surprised to see the Mayor back so soon and welcomed him back.

Councilman Wrobel welcomed the Mayor back and thanked the DPS Department for doing a good job on their recent snow removal. Mr. Wrobel also

- 1st Question: Interest Rate on the ballfields and ice rink.
2nd Question: Interest rate on the \$6 million to the Community Center.
3rd Question: \$4.8 million loan to TIFA.

Mayor Jones told Mr. Wrobel he would give a full report at the next council meeting. Mayor Jones told Mr. Wrobel that he will do whatever it takes not to raise taxes in the City of Flat Rock.

Mr. Painter asked the Major when the loan to TIFA was proposed if the City would be giving \$400,000 a year back from TIFA to the General Fund? Mayor replied that is correct. Mayor Jones said that his report in two weeks will show that the city has not lost \$3.2 million, but that it has lost some monies due to budget deficits over the past 3-4 years of which the Council Members are fully aware of.

Councilman Gagne welcomed back the Mayor from his recent illness.

Jim Martin welcomed the Mayor back and reminded him to keep his cool.

7. MAYORS COMMENTS:

Mayor Jones commented on his recent heart surgery. He said one month ago today he had a fainting spell in his dining room which resulted in 40 stitches in his forehead and upon further investigation it was determined that his present blockage situation in his heart was more serious than previously thought; it then resulted in him having quadruple bypass surgery. Mayor Jones thanked all the people that sent cards and made phone calls on his behalf during his recovery process. He said he felt he is a very lucky man to be alive and doing so well.

8. BID OPENING REPORTS: (None)

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

a. Letter from Acting City Clerk in Re: Stonewater Development Pud. In which the developer requested an amendment to the agreement on the following two changes:

- 1) The agreement to pave 600 ft. of Cahill Road taken out. The developer would not be responsible for any improvement.
- 2) A rent stipulation agreement of \$1,000 minimum rent would be taken out of the agreement.

02-20-07-3 Motion by Jones supported by Martin to direct the City Attorney to do a draft amendment to the Stonewater Development Pud agreement as requested and have Mr. John Fiorelli bring letters from the engineer, Wayne County and equity companies to present at a future meeting to document his statements on the difficulty of financing. Mr. Fiorelli says no equity company will finance with the City determining what the rent will be; buildings being designed as condos, but are for rent. Motion 5-1 (1-Wrobel).

10. NEW BUSINESS:

a. Letter from City Attorney David Grunow Re: Celtic Farms Development, LLC Storm Water Management Agreement, Our File No. 03-3392.

02-20-07-4 Motion by Jones supported by Gagne to direct City Attorney to write a letter to Celtic Farms Development requesting them to meet all the requirements for the ditches and water drainage problems created on the west side of Inkster Road from the existing development before approving agreement for the Celtic Farms Development Pud. Motion carried unanimously.

b. Letter from Mayor Jones Re: Appointment to the Beautification Commission.

02-20-07-5 Motion by Jones supported by Wrobel to approve the appointment of Marilyn Young to the Beautification Commission and to present retiree Carol Klingel a plaque in recognition of 25 years of service to the City of Flat Rock on the Beautification Commission. Motion carried unanimously.

11. CORRESPONDENCE:

- a. Board of Review dates and times.

12. ADJOURNMENT:

02-20-07-06 Motion by Painter supported by Gagne to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 P.M. Motion carried unanimously.

RICHARD C. JONES, MAYOR

GEORGE W. MANS, ACTING CITY CLERK

Date: 03-05-07
Approved