

## REGULAR COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

### CITY OF FLAT ROCK, MICHIGAN

MONDAY, JUNE 16, 2008

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 Members, Painter, Gagne, Martin, Wrobel, Tefend and Dropiewski.

**ALSO PRESENT:** City Clerk Butski, Police Chief Neal Rossow, Attorney Dave Grunow, Economic Development Director George Mans, Recreation Director Joan Pawlukiewicz, Debra Lambrix, Treasurer, Fire Chief Vack, and Building Director John Russ, DPS Director Bruce Hammond.

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

06-16-01 Motion by Dropiewski supported by Martin to approve the Regular Minutes of June 02, 2008 as presented.

All voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Jones excused Bruce Hammond, DPS Director, from the meeting due to an emergency.

4. **CITIZENS TO BE HEARD:**

Melvyn Newransky, 23053 Croft Street, has lived there 22 years and for the last 10-15 years his back yard has been flooding due to neighbors constructing fences, raising contours of the land and different obstacles on the easement. He has filed complaints and talked with the Building Department with no results. He feels the area needs to be graded to relieve the flooding.

Mayor Jones requested the Building Director, John Russ, to have a report at the next meeting and invited Mr. Newransky to attend.

5. **REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS:**

Fire Chief William Vack reported that the generator project is complete, up and running, fully functional and is now fenced in. For a self-check, each Monday morning at 8:00 am it automatically starts up. Also, he said the Fire Department participated in the Kid Fest activities in the park last Saturday and assisted the Police

Department with the motorcycles that came through town. This Friday they will assist the Recreation with Safety Town at the Community Center.

**6. REPORTS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS:**

Council Person Painter said he has been asked about Comcast rates for senior citizens. Rockwood seniors pay \$23.00 and Flat Rock seniors pay \$53.00. Attorney Grunow stated we have no control over Comcast charges. With AT&T in the process of offering service to Flat Rock we could call Comcast and use as leverage to bargain a better price.

06-16-02 Motion by Painter supported by Jones to authorize the City Clerk to write a letter to Comcast regarding a senior discount.

All voting yes. Motion carried unanimously

Council Person Dropiewski congratulated Mr. Gagne on becoming a Great Grandfather June 13<sup>th</sup>. He also said he had seen on the news that CVS in Wayne, Mi. had contributed employee labor and \$100,000 to fix/build a playscape there. He told the Recreation Director it may be worth looking into.

Council Person Gagne stated he had attended a DDA meeting on June 5<sup>th</sup> and a DMA/DCC meeting where co-op insurance coverage was discussed. He reported that on June 18<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 pm South Shore Hospital is having a ribbon cutting ceremony for the opening of a new blue trauma center. He said he attended a Library Board meeting on June 4<sup>th</sup> and they set the 2008-09 budget and on June 10<sup>th</sup> attended a 33<sup>rd</sup> District Court meeting.

Council Person Wrobel said he wanted to correct the newspaper which stated that 33% of Flat Rock residents were members at the Recreation Center. It should read 33% of the membership at the Recreation Center was Flat Rock residents.

**7. MAYOR'S COMMENTS:**

Mayor Jones gave a brief discussion on the South Huron Valley Authority (SHVA). He asked Bruce Hammond to pull the tape of the July 18, 2007 SHVA meeting. He said there is a SHVA meeting Wednesday, June 18<sup>th</sup> and he will try one more time to get the SHVA Attorney out of office due to a conflict of interest.

**8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

Item A – Proposed budget for 2008-2009.

Mayor Jones stated that under P.A. 11 he is required to tell Council the budget is not balanced in its present format.

Extensive discussion. Council Members threw out suggestions i.e.; possibility of taking money from other funds such as the Evergreen Street project, Historical Millage, possibility of selling a Millage, health care savings, lowering purchasing amount, take money from DDA.

Mayor said the DDA has about a million dollars. He said Vreeland Road needs to be done for public safety and the DDA could finance the road. The DDA money could be divided between the City and the County and refund some back to General fund (about \$400,000). The problem is if we don't cut expenditures here and we lose another 20 M tax base, you are not going to have that \$400,000 from DDA next year and won't be able to balance the budget. You won't have TIFA or DDA to take it from. We need to get serious about this budget. I am more concerned about the next budget.

Council Member Painter asked if employees could buy time to retire. Mayor Jones said anyone who wants to buy their time should write a letter to Mayor and Council and it would be approved provided they pay all the cost. They would need to contact MERS to get the cost.

Council Member Wrobel said we don't want to take all the money from DDA because we want them to fix the empty unsightly buildings around the City.

DPS Director, Bruce Hammond, to have a report for the next meeting as to whether his department could pave Evergreen Street.

Mayor set a Special Council Meeting for Monday, June 23, 2008 at 7:00 p.m.

Item B – 2<sup>nd</sup>. Reading: Proposed Ordinance #403 – Regulating Street Vendors.

06-16-03 Motion by Painter supported by Martin to suspend the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading.

All voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

06-16-04 Motion by Jones supported by Martin to adopt the Ordinance and set the fee for \$50.00 per year.

Roll call vote: Martin, Wrobel and Painter voting yes. Jones, Dropiewski, Tefend and Gagne voting No. Motion failed 4-3.

06-16-05 Motion by Jones supported by Gagne to adopt the ordinance, set the fee for \$50.00 per year and limit sales to the two parks.

All voting yes except Tefend voting no. Motion carried 6-1.

Item C – Flat Rock Historical Society – request to award electrical bid.

Discussion. Barbara Fedon stated there are eleven rooms; the old electrical wires are still there, they are not taking down walls and the new wire has to be strung through

the walls. The Society plans to offer rooms as museums for organizations. Ron Klingel said this bid will bring it up to code.

**06-16-06** Motion by Painter supported by Tefend to approve the bid at \$19,700.

All voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Item D – City Attorney re: Retiree’s medical.

**06-16-07** Motion by Martin supported by Dropiewski to amend the employment policies for administrative officers and administrative employees to provide for the implementation of the Midwest Security medical insurance and the Ameritas dental and vision plans that are currently being implemented for the clerical and DPS employees. Under the plans the in-network deductible would be paid by the City. Also, change the four pre-65 year old retirees and the post-65 year old retirees to the new Midwest Security and Ameritas plans and the retirees affected by the change of insurances for the active employees be moved to these new coverages.

All voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Item E – Payment #3 to contractor re: Baker’s Square Water main.

**06-16-08** Motion by Gagne supported by Martin to approve payment in the amount of \$11,997.39.

All voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

**9. NEW BUSINESS:**

Item A – Approval of 2008-09 Millage and Water rates.

**06-16-09** Motion by Jones supported by Dropiewski to set the Millage rate as follows: General Operating – 16.00 mills, Historical District – 0.25 mill, Library – 1.00 mill.

All voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

**06-16-10** Motion by Martin supported by Gagne to set the water rates as follows:

Residential - \$5.00 per 1,000 gallons, Commercial - \$6.50 per 1,000 gallons, Industrial - \$6.75 per 1,000 gallons.

All voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Item B – Temporary Working Agreement – Huron Clinton Metro Authority.

**06-16-11** Motion by Martin supported by Gagne to approve the Agreement as presented.

All voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Item C – Recreation Director’s request re: Playscape repair.

06-16-12 Motion by Martin supported by Gagne to approve the Playscape ground fill in the amount of \$2,172.00 and replace the slide \$826.44.

All voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Item D – Fire Chief’s request to advertise for bids re: fire sprinkler and fire alarm system for Fire Station.

06-16-13 Motion by Gagne and supported by Wrobel to approve Fire Chief’s request to bid as presented.

All voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

**10. CORRESPONDENCE:**

Item A – Letter from resident Michelle Lezotte complimenting Truly Gourmet Catering of the Stone Creek Banquet Center at the Community Center.

06-16-14 Motion by Dropiewski supported by Martin to go into closed session at 8:50 pm to discuss various labor contracts.

All voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Jones called a 5 minute recess at 8:50 pm.

Open Session at 9:26 pm.

06-16-15 Motion by Dropiewski supported by Martin to implement Ameritas vision and dental for post 65 retirees.

All voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

06-16-16 Motion by Painter supported by Martin to adjourn the regular meeting at 9:27 p.m.

All voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

**RICHARD C. JONES, MAYOR**

**LORENE BUTSKI, CMC CLERK**

**DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**approved**