

## REGULAR COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

### CITY OF FLAT ROCK, MICHIGAN

MONDAY, JUNE 4, 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, Gagne, Borden, Wilkins, Moore and Wrobel.

ABSENT: None

**ALSO PRESENT:** DPS Director Hammond, Fire Chief Vack, Treasurer Lambrix, Recreation Director Pawlukiewicz, Economic Development Director Mans, Police Chief Rossow and City Attorney Grunow

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

06-04-01 Motion by Gagne, supported by Martin to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of May 21, 2012. Motion carried unanimously.

4. **CITIZENS TO BE HEARD:**

Eric Painter from the Flat Rock Schools wanted to say thank you to Bruce Hammond, Matt Sype and Joan Pawlukiewicz for their assistance in the recent girls' softball districts and its success. He would also recommend that the pads at the ball fields are showing their age and will need work.

Wayne County Commissioner Raymond Bashan wanted to introduce himself to the council as our new representative for the 14<sup>th</sup> District. Commissioner Bashan also introduced his staff member, Brian Peters. Bashan wanted to let council know that he was looking forward to working with Flat Rock and to contact him if the city had any issues.

5. **REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS:**

Economic Director Mans reported that the State of Michigan toured the Coleman Building with Vack and Hammond to evaluate the situation. The State will pay for a study of the contaminates and prepare a report to be used when bidding for the demolition of the building. DCC is still a viable source of funding to assist with the demolition costs.

Chief Rossow reported to the council of a recent increase in break-ins to buildings and autos that have been left unlocked. He reminded residents to lock their homes and vehicles. He commended his officers on good police work in the apprehension of a couple of suspects that were linked to several break-ins. Rossow reported that Lt. Metz is still researching the "jake braking" issue, but has been busy with the current homicide trial, but hopes to have a

report soon. Rossow then addressed council regarding his budget requests and the urgency to hire additional patrol officers. Covering the shifts with the current staffing level is difficult and placing a strain on the personnel. Rossow also commented on the need for vehicles with 4 of the 6 patrol cars having more than 80,000 miles and the technology is aging and will need replacement soon.

Recreation Director Pawlukiewicz wanted to remind residents that Kidfest will be held on June 18 from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm to kick off the summer programs. There are many programs for all age groups and to check out the newsletter for information.

Chief Vack requested permission to purchase AED's that are required for the fire trucks to complete the purchases on the FEMA grant and the new pagers that are from a single-source distributor for Michigan. The total purchase will be approximately \$40,000 but is 95% funded through the grant.

06-04-02 Motion by Wrobel, supported by Martin to approve the recommendation of the fire chief and waive the bid requirement due to the single-source. Motion carried unanimously.

DPS Director Hammond reported that the US Department of Fish and Wildlife is conducting a study of the sea lamprey in the Huron River. Sea lamprey is a parasitic eel-like fish that feed on other fish. They have not found a large investigation of lamprey so far. The Fish and Wildlife personnel have reported that survey shows the river to be healthy with a large number of different species of fish being caught and Huroc is one of the best fishing sights in southeast Michigan.

Hammond and the water department personnel will be conducting water sample testing as required by a nationwide EPA requirement. The sample testing is for by-products for the water purification process. Hammond stated that with our water source being surface water that the levels of the by-products should be low.

Hammond further reported that the construction on Telegraph is moving along. Recent work was being done at the north end of the project near West Road but the crews have moved back to the south end to finish sewer work.

Lambrix and Grunow had nothing to report at this time.

## **6. REPORTS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS:**

Council member Wilkins had nothing to report at this time.

Council member Borden thanked the Stumpmeyer family for their work on the community garden at the Community Center. Borden asked Hammond if he could talk with the contractors on some of the drives to the businesses in the construction zone that still have dips and holes.

Council member Martin asked the status of the light at Hall and Gibraltar being turned on. Hammond stated that the city engineer sent an email and is waiting on a response.

Council member Wrobel wanted to thank that VFW and the veterans for the participation in the Memorial Day Parade. Wrobel stated that it's not a big event, but is a meaningful one.

Council member Gagne has nothing to report at this time.

Council member Moore asked if the sidewalk installed in front of Metro Shores Credit Union will be extended from Arsenal to Telegraph. Dropiewski stated that it will be discussed at the DDA meeting. Moore invited the residents to send off the Girl Scout troops on June 8 at the Flat Rock High School in celebration of the 100 year anniversary of the Girl Scouts. Moore wanted to wish all the Flat Rock students a happy and safe summer and to take advantage of the programs offered through the Community Center.

**7. MAYOR'S COMMENTS:**

Mayor Dropiewski encouraged residents to take advantage of the summer programs at the Community Center. Dropiewski also wanted to congratulate the Flat Rock girls' softball team on their win at the district games and to the participants of the Relay for Life held that past Saturday. Dropiewski echoed Wrobel's sentiments on the Memorial Day Parade. He also reported that he will be presenting the Flat Rock Soroptimist with a resolution recognizing the club's 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

**8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**A. Public Hearing Proposed Budget for 2012-13**

Mayor Dropiewski opened the hearing at 8:00 pm. Dropiewski asked if anyone wished to speak, none responded. He spoke of the decline in the tax base with the main contributors being the revised valuation of the Auto Alliance plant and the proposed personal property tax elimination. Mr. Painter asked from the audience if the millage that was approved for police and fire will be levied. Wrobel stated that he wanted to make sure the revenue went to the police and fire departments as the voters approved. Dropiewski stated that the two departments are maintaining the current levels of services due to the millage increase.

Discussion on consolidation of services and that movement has been slow to combining various services, but Dropiewski will continue to have discussions with surrounding communities.

Council member Gagne stated he was not prepared to vote on the budget at this time. He voiced many concerns at great length with the city helping with the finances of the Flat Rock Library. Gagne questioned the charges related to services provided by city hall personnel.

Dropiewski stated that the budget was a living document and the city should have a fund balance for emergencies. He further stated that the need for capital spending will have to be addressed in the upcoming year as well.

Wrobel questioned the line item for animal control since the police was currently handling that area. Dropiewski stated that he was looking into having another community provide that service for a fee. Wrobel then asked about the line item for a new city clerk and

the need to have a part time elections person. Dropiewski reported that the current city clerk will be retiring on June 30 and that we might not have a qualified replacement in place in time for the August primary.

Borden was concerned with the amount of overtime in the DPS for weed mowing. Hammond explained that it is recouped in the charges to the landowners that cover the expense.

Martin asked that the \$5,000 increase in the fire chief be listed separately from his normal salary, so that when he no longer has a dual-role his salary can reflect the change.

Wilkins questioned the need for an operations manager at the Community Center. She did not feel that we need both the recreation director and an operations manager. Dropiewski explained the need for both positions and its potential to make the Community Center run more efficiently, which should generate more revenue. Wrobel and Borden questioned if the two new hires have made a difference in revenues since being hired full time. Dropiewski will provide a report in the future but stated that banquet should see an increase in revenues and the pool programs are reaching a maximum capacity of the available pool time.

06-04-03 Motion by Martin, supported by Borden to close the public hearing at 8:45 pm. Motion carried unanimously.

Martin recommended setting the millage rate for general operations at \$16.25 to allow for a cushion in the fund balance as he wasn't comfortable with budgeting such a small surplus. Dropiewski explained that in the next budget year the Aspen Road bond will be paid off which will reduce expenses by \$150,000. He further explained that DDA and Historical might have the ability to refund some of their tax revenues if needed.

06-04-04 Motion by Martin, supported by Dropiewski to set the water rates per thousand gallons at \$6.00 residential, \$7.50 commercial and \$7.75 industrial. Motion carried unanimously.

06-04-05 Motion by Wrobel, supported by Borden to set the millage rates at \$16.00 for general operations, \$0.25 for Historical, \$1.00 for Library and \$1.75 for Police/Fire. Motion carried unanimously.

06-04-06 Motion by Martin, supported by Borden to approve the 2012-13 budget. Motion failed 2-4 with Moore, Wrobel, Wilkins and Gagne voting no.

## **9. NEW BUSINESS:**

### **A. 1<sup>st</sup> Reading of Fireworks Ordinance**

06-04-07 Motion by Wrobel, supported by Martin to suspend the first reading. Motion carried unanimously.

### **B. Bike Path Resolution Wayne County Requirements**

Dropiewski brought before the council the geotechnical study that was turned down at the last meeting as recommended by the city engineer.

06-04-08 Motion by Dropiewski, supported by Martin to approve the geotechnical study as recommended to PSI in the amount of \$3,215.00. Motion carried unanimously.

06-04-09 Motion by Martin, supported by Borden to approve the resolution for issuance of permit by Wayne County. Motion carried 6-1 with Wilkins voting no.

### **C. Police Towing Service Agreement**

Chief Rossow explained that this will standardize the charges by the three towing companies used by the police department. He also reported that tow companies have begun to use the new rates. Wrobel asked that the companies are monitored to ensure the fee schedules are being used.

06-04-10 Motion by Martin, supported by Borden to approve the agreement as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

### **D. 2012 Community Development Block Grant Advisory Council Membership Representative**

06-04-11 Motion by Dropiewski, supported by Wrobel to appoint Council member Martin as the representative and Council member Moore as the alternate. Motion carried unanimously.

### **E. Riverfest Parade Resolution**

06-04-12 Motion by Martin, supported by Borden to approve the resolution as presented. Motion carried 5-2 with Wilkins and Wrobel voting no.

### **F. Huron River Watershed Annual Membership Dues 2012-13**

06-04-13 Motion by Gagne, supported by Moore to approve in the amount of \$978.80. Motion carried unanimously.

### **G. Payment to Detroit Elevator for Load Testing of Gibraltar and Olmstead Lift Stations**

06-04-14 Motion by Martin, supported by Wrobel to approve as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

### **H. Request from City Engineer re: CDBG Pavement of Evergreen & High School Blvd.**

06-04-15 Motion by Martin, supported by Wrobel to approved as requested. Motion carried unanimously.

## **10. CORRESPONDENCE:**

Minutes of March 12, 2012 Zoning Board of Appeals meeting

Wilkins asked Chief Rossow if they have seen an increase in problems with K2 sales. Rossow stated he was not aware of a problem but would look into it. Dropiewski asked the city attorney to research an ordinance to ban the sale by tobacco shops within the city and report back to council.

**11. ADJOURNMENT:**

06-04-16 Motion by Martin, supported by Borden to adjourn at 9:10 pm. Motion carried unanimously.

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**JONATHAN DROPIEWSKI, MAYOR**

**DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Approved**

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**DEBRA LAMBRIX, TREASURER**