

REGULAR COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

CITY OF FLAT ROCK, MICHIGAN

MONDAY, AUGUST 4, 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, and Wrobel.

ABSENT: Council Members Tefend, Martin and Dropiewski.

08-04-01 Motion by Painter supported by Wrobel excuse the absent members.

All present voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

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

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

08-04-02 Motion by Gagne supported by Painter to approve the Regular Minutes of July 21, 2008 as presented.

All present voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

4. CITIZENS TO BE HEARD:

Debbie Wilkins, Ordinance Officer, stated Friday, August 8, 2008 is her last working day for City of Flat Rock. She said she accepted another job due to the fear of being laid off next year. She is requesting 75% of her sick time she has earned in the last eight years of employment. She realizes that by contract one must be retiring in order to receive the 75% of accumulated sick leave; however, she feels she has earned it because she worked weekends, holidays and vacation to take care of the animals and never charged the City because she wasn't allowed to charge overtime. She had fund raisers and donations to build an addition and extensive renovations to the dog pound that didn't cost the City any money. She referred to a grievance by Jim Black, Dispatcher, who received 10% for each of his seven years with the City. The Attorney stated he will look into the grievance and report back to Council. Mayor asked the Treasurer to figure the cost of 75% sick time.

5. REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS:

City Clerk reminded everyone to vote Tuesday and that the polls were open from 7:00 am to 8:00 pm.

Item A – Building Director – Heating and Cooling unit for Fire Department.

John Russ, Building Director, stated the training room unit quit and the cost to repair was equal to a new one so he authorized the unit to be replaced as an emergency.

He also addressed the deteriorating sidewalks in the City stating that there are upheavals, major slants, etc. that are dangerous. The ordinance states the repair is 50% paid by the resident and 50% paid by the City but where would the City's 50% come from? Mayor and Council asked Mr. Russ to fix the worst ones by figuring the cost and go out for bids.

Police Chief Rossow said he regrets losing Debbie Wilkins. She is a hardworking dedicated person with a passion for the animals. He said he is operating on the assumption that he isn't going to replace her. The officers will pick up some of the duties and John Russ's department will pick up some of the ordinance duties.

Joan Pawlukiewicz, Recreation Director, said the Level Pebble Run Sunday, July 27th was a success and thanked the Police Department, Fire Department, the DPS for filling pot holes before the race, Mayor and Granddaughter McGuire, and especially Crest Ford who was the major sponsor as well as the other sponsors. She thanked the residents and volunteers who manned corners and gave out water. Council Member Painter stated the shirts were really nice this year.

6. REPORTS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Eric Painter said the Mazda/AutoAlliance Event last week was huge with important people from all over the globe and the Mazda6 sports sedan was a sharp looking car.

7. MAYOR'S COMMENTS:

Mayor Jones addressed the Jefferson Road Sewer (North Arm) 8,000 feet of bad sewer that will cost 4.5 million to fix. In 1998 we sued South Huron Valley Authority over several issues and one thing we got out of it was an agreement that "if you don't use it you don't pay for it". The issue is are we going to accept financing this even though we don't use it based on revenues, the amount of usage each month or number of total gallons each month or are we going to tell them to live by the rules they created by their court case and let Brownstown, Woodhaven and Gibraltar pay for this. Mayor Jones said he feels that 8,000 feet of pipe should not fall apart in 20 years. He feels the engineer who designed the pipe was worried about infiltration and inflow and made the pipe so

tight that the gases don't escape and when gas mixes with water it turns to acid which eats the line.

How does Council want to approach this? Do you want to tell them we think its repair and maintenance or do you want to agree to have them finance it through future revenues of the system? Council Members Wrobel, Painter and Gagne agreed we should not pay for it but follow the 1998 agreement of operation and maintenance – Mayor Jones agreed.

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Item A – Police Chief – Increase parking and dog/animal fees.

08-04-03 Motion by Painter supported by Wrobel to approve the fees as requested by the Police Chief.

All present voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Police Chief Rossow addressed **New Business – Item B:** Spending Request.

Chief stated the Downriver Mutual Aid Task Force has received a grant from COPS to purchase laptop computers and mobile data computers – no matching funds required – only Council approval to initiate the process.

08-04-04 Motion by Painter supported by Wrobel to approve the purchase of three laptop computers as requested by the Chief.

All present voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

9. NEW BUSINESS:

Item A – City Attorney – 2000 Huron Woods Series A & B Special Assessment.

Mr. Bierut is requesting he be allowed to make the August 1, 2008 bond payment on February 1, 2009.

08-04-05 Motion by Jones supported by Gagne to inform Mr. Bierut's attorneys they have until September 15, 2008 to pay \$85,078 payment or the City will foreclose on the mortgage.

All present voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Item C – Fire Chief – Proposed ambulance fee increase.

08-04-06 Motion by Painter supported by Jones to concur with the Fire Chief's recommendation.

All present voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

10. CORRESPONDENCE: None

Mayor Jones announced he will hold a department head meeting Tuesday, August 5th at 8:30 am and will request department heads to start working on a 2010 budget. At the September 1st Council meeting Mayor plans to request a proposal to spend \$45,000 for an audit on AutoAlliance personal property.

08-04-07 Motion by Gagne supported by Wrobel to go into closed session.

All present voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Jones called a 5 minute recess at 8:10 pm.

Council went back into open session at 8:31 pm.

Discussion re: Ordinance Officer position.

08-04-08 Motion by Painter supported by Wrobel to offer the Ordinance Officer position to Renee Rosebohm who is laid off at this time.

All present voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

08-04-09 Motion by Painter supported by Wrobel to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:35 pm.

All present voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

RICHARD C. JONES, MAYOR

LORENE BUTSKI, CITY CLERK

APPROVED: _____
approved

