

REGULAR COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

CITY OF FLAT ROCK, MICHIGAN

TUESDAY, JANUARY 22, 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 Tefend, Wrobel, Painter, Martin and Gagne.

01-22-01 Motion by Martin supported by Tefend to excuse Council Member Dropiewski.

All present voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

ALSO PRESENT: Fire Chief Vack, DPS Director Hammond, Recreation Director Pawlukiewicz, City Clerk Butski, Robert Hale Interim Police Chief, Debra Lambrix Treasurer and Attorney Dave Grunow, Economic Development Director George Mans.

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

01-22-02 Motion by Gagne supported by Painter to approve the Regular Minutes of January 7, 2008 and Special Minutes of January 16, 2008 as presented.

All present voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

4. **CITIZENS TO BE HEARD:**

Don Fesko, Vice President of the Flat Rock Historical Society made a presentation to Council:

1. The Historical Society has been working with Flat Rock Metal for almost a year to get a State Historical marker for the old Ford Lamp Plant and it has been awarded. Fabrication should take 2-3 months and we anticipate a dedication ceremony in the spring. I am here to ask for the City's assistance in site selection for the marker and installing it. The marker is like the one in front of the Munger Museum with two supporting posts and a width of about 53 inches with writing on both sides. My recommendation would be to place it in the pass through break in the fence on Huron River or in place of one of the fence sections between the break and the bridge for the best view.

2. Last summer the City Council passed a resolution supporting historical preservation as part of an application for a "Preserve America" designation for the City.

That has also been approved in Washington and our road sign has arrived. I am also requesting the City's assistance in locating and installing this sign. There is only one sign so I recommend installing it in the park east of City Hall, facing Gibraltar, probably close to the Library where one can see our Historic District.

3. I just want to mention that the Historical Society would like to assist both financially and physically with the restoration of the DT&I caboose. We have also brought this up with Bruce Hammond and have some experts looking into proper ways of painting and preserving this artifact. When we have developed a plan, we will come back and ask for your approval to proceed.

Brian Scott, 26615 Stoneway Drive, read an article by Staff Writer Vairyn Warren, in a paper from Dayton, Ohio. The article was called "Meijer to close Dayton store, open one in Huber Heights" (see attachment #1).

5. REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS:

George Mans, Economic Development Director, reminded everyone the Planning Commission Public Hearing on the rezoning for Meijers will be held in the High School auditorium at 7:30 p.m. on January 28, 2008.

6. REPORTS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Council Member Gagne complimented Don Fesko and the Historical Society for the work they are doing.

Council Member Martin asked if the Meadows Street bridge is open. Bruce Hammond stated that technically the roads haven't been dedicated yet. City Attorney stated he and the City Engineer have been working with the developer to get descriptions of the roadways and right of ways for sewer and water so they may be dedicated to the City.

Council Member Painter stated the group, Citizens for Responsible Development, wants to bring in a man by the name of Jeff Milchan from the American Independent Business, an expert on big box stores. He would like to give a 30 minute presentation to Council at the February 18th Council meeting.

Mayor Jones said tell them to send a letter or contact the City Clerk's office to get on the agenda.

7. MAYOR'S COMMENTS:

Mayor Jones stated he was proud to announce that Bruce Hammond brought back two checks from the South Huron Valley Authority (SHVA). One check was \$244,625.00 dated 1/16/08 and the second was \$13,547.00. We also have under appeal part of 2002, 2003 and 2004. Council has authorized us to go to court but we are holding off filing any court documents until such time as we go to dispute resolution and I hope we get some satisfaction then.

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Item a – Police Chief appointment.

Mayor suggested Lt. Robert Hale as Police Chief with no recommendation.
Failed.

Mayor suggested Lt. Michael Wrobel.

01-22-03 Motion by Painter supported by Tefend to promote Michael Wrobel to the Police Chief's position.

Council Members Tefend and Painter voted yes, Gagne and Martin voted no and Mayor Jones abstained due to Charter provision. Motion failed.

Mayor suggested Neal Rosseau as Police Chief.

01-22-04 Motion by Painter supported by Martin to hire Neal Rosseau as Police Chief.

Council Members Martin, Gagne and Painter voted yes, Tefend and Wrobel voted no and Mayor Jones abstained due to Charter provision. Motion failed.

Mayor suggested Craig Schwartz as Police Chief.

01-22-05 Motion by Gagne to hire Craig Schwartz as Police Chief. Motion died due to lack of support.

Mayor suggested Lance Greene as Police Chief.

01-22-06 Motion by Gagne to hire Lance Greene as Police Chief. Motion died due to lack of support.

Item B – Lease – Youth Center.

01-22-07 Motion by Gagne supported by Martin to approve the lease as presented.

All present voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Item C – Payment to Gaglio PR Cement for Baker Street Water Main..

01-22-08 Motion by Martin supported by Jones to table until further notice.

All present voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

9. NEW BUSINESS:

Item A – Medical and Hospitalization Insurance-Medicare eligible employees.

Tom Mercure was present to answer questions. Council Member Martin said we have two different groups with different co-pays. He asked if we were going to give everyone the \$5 drug co-pay or are we going to carry two different co-pay amounts?

City Attorney explained that everyone would stay status quo – whatever they had they will have now – 25 have \$5 co-pay and 5 have the \$10-\$20 co-pay.

Mayor Jones said he did not understand why we have different groups and Martin explained the different groups retired at different times so they have different benefits based on when they retired. Mayor said I find that whole discussion thoroughly disgusting because that is not what the contract says. The contract doesn't say that the retirees get the B/C that is in effect at the time they retiree. It says they get the insurance coverage at the current contract. For example, Carol Gibbons should be paying \$10.-\$20 drug co-pay but she should have the eye care. That has to be clarified in the future because there are differences for everybody and some people got improvements when there was a change and some people didn't so the contract is not being followed. I find that thoroughly disgusting. I will make the motion to go ahead and adopt based on the \$5. drug co-pay. I think for all our contracts this has got to be cleared up in the future and done proper. Gagne supported the motion.

Mercure asked if he meant \$5 for the entire post 65 retiree group. Mayor said yes. Mercure said there are 25 people on \$5. and 5 people on the \$20-\$20 card and Mayor said he had a problem with that. He feels it should be equal for everybody so his motion is \$5 for all of them.

Council Member Painter said in the future we will be looking at \$10-20 for everyone so why not go with the divided one because part of them are already there.

Mayor said his understanding of the contract says “current”. Lets make everyone \$5. and make sure in the future that everyone retiring understands what the contract says including the HR Department.

Mercure asked for clarification of “Retirees” and the attorney stated only those “65 and over”.

Mercure asked if Mayor and Council wanted the group that has no vision coverage to have it so they all mirror each other. Mayor stated not at this time. Lets take care of one thing at a time.

01-22-08 Motion by Jones supported by Gagne to go ahead and adopt the proposed Professional Benefit Services drug card based on \$5 co-pay for all 65 and over retirees.

All present voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

01-22-10 Motion by Jones supported by Martin to instruct the City Attorney to review the eye portion of the insurance on the contracts and give a report back in 30 days.

All present voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Item B – Request to transfer CDBG funds.

01-22-11 Motion by Gagne supported by Tefend to transfer \$2,846.59 from the ADA Bathroom-Historical Center to the ADA Door-City Hall project, making the total for the City Hall Door project \$12,846.59.

All present voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Item C – SINC Resolution.

Discussion. Acting Chief Hale explained that SINC was Shared Information Network Consortium and 8 different agencies make up the consortium. The Chief sits on the Board and an alternate. He suggests having himself and Lt. Michael Wrobel on the board until the Chief is appointed so Flat Rock can maintain voting rights.

01-22-12 Motion by Painter supported by Martin to appoint Acting Chief Hale and Lt. Wrobel to the SINC Board.

All present voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

10. LATE CORRESPONDENCE:

Item A – Request from the organization “Clean Water Action” to canvass the City of Flat Rock beginning February 1st and completing the canvass by April 18th. They will be out in the community from 4pm – 9pm Monday thru Friday.

11. ADJOURNMENT:

01-22-13 Motion by Painter supported by Martin to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:10 p.m.

All present voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

RICHARD C. JONES, MAYOR

LORENE BUTSKI, CITY CLERK

DATE: _____
approved