

REGULAR COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

CITY OF FLAT ROCK, MICHIGAN

MONDAY, JANUARY 7, 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 Dropiewski, Wrobel, Painter and Gagne.

01-07-01 Motion by Painter supported by Dropiewski to excuse Council Member Tefend who had to work and Council Member Martin who was in the hospital.

All present voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

ALSO PRESENT: Fire Chief Vack, DPS Director Hammond, Recreation Director Pawlukiewicz, City Clerk Butski, Steve Tallman Police Chief, Brenda Tallman Treasurer and Attorney Dave Grunow, Economic Development Director George Mans, City Engineer Russ Wittman and City Planner Terry Croad.

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

01-07-02 Motion by Gagne supported by Painter to approve the Regular Minutes of December 17, 2007 as presented.

All present voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

4. **CITIZENS TO BE HEARD:**

Sue Farrar, Chair Person of the Beautification Commission, introduced Molly Lumford of DTE and the two of them passed out awards to the winners of the Home and Business Decorating contest for December, 2007 as follows:

Residential-Traditional Category: 1st place was Anthony Verdun, 26443 Blue Heron Dr. 2nd place was Willard Cianfarani, 23429 Kenmore St.

Residential-Original Category: 1st place was Kathy VanBode, 29844 Red Cedar Dr. 2nd place was Ricky Meyers, 23011 Croft

Residential-Religious Category: 1st place was Nick Jabe at his mother's home, 29619 Evergreen St. 2nd place was Maria Balan, 25164 Hunter Lane.

Business-Traditional Category: Schultz Family Restaurant and Flat Rock Metal.

Business-Original Category: Big Boy, Flat Rock Café and Royal Arc Welding.

Mayor Jones, Council Members and the audience congratulated the winners.

Brian Scott of 26615 Stoneway Drive stated he is for Meijer coming to Flat Rock but not in the location they want. He read an editorial he had published in the newspaper (see attachment #1).

Fireman Tim Webb on the fund raiser committee for Fireman Matt Antieau who was diagnosed with MS thanked everyone including the Flat Rock Community Center staff, Huron Township Fire Department, Chief Vack, Chief Rousseau and numerous individuals, businesses and fire departments who helped make the fund raiser a total success.

5. REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS:

Fire Chief Vack gave an update on a couple of grants the department has been working on. One is \$35,000 for computers in the ambulances for software and programming which will allow them to electronically create and run reports and billing. He expects to receive this within the next 3-4 months. The second grant is approximately \$200,000 for a generator for City Hall which will be installed about the first week of May. The electrician has stated there might be a half day down time.

DPS Director stated the ice rink is operating very well.

6. REPORTS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Council Member Gagne was wondering if there may be a grant out there for a feasibility study concerning using the damn to produce energy. Mayor suggested he talk to Engineer Russ Wittman.

Mr. Gagne also reported that the DCC has grant money available to provide financial assistance to qualified residents to help with gas and electric bills. Residents may call City Hall for the phone number to the DCC. He also mentioned that Comcast is increasing rates and the City has no control since the State took over.

Council Member Dropiewski elaborated on Mr. Gagne's report re: the DCC. He stated financial assistance is available if you meet the Federal guidelines for low to moderate income and if you need help call them soon because the funds go quickly. He also stated Comcast is changing the municipal channel from #12 to #915 effective January 15, 2008. Mr. Dropiewski asked Mr. Hammond to check out the potholes on the ramp from I75 to Gibraltar Road.

7. MAYOR'S COMMENTS: None.

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Item a – Appointment of City Treasurer.

01-07-03 Motion by Gagne supported by Painter to appoint Debra Lambrix City Treasurer effective January 15, 2008.

Discussion regarding the Assistant Treasurer's position followed. Mayor Jones stated it has been posted and four (4) applicants have applied. The position will be filled after January 15th.

All present voting yes with Mayor Jones abstaining due to Charter provision. Motion carried 4-0.

Item b – Appointment of Chief of Police.

01-07-04 Motion by Gagne to approve the Mayor's recommendation and appoint Robert Hale Police Chief effective January 15, 2008. Motion died for lack of support.

Mr. Gagne clarified his vote by saying he supports the Mayor's recommendations because he is the one who has to deal with them.

Council Member Painter asked who would be in charge until a chief is appointed and Mayor said he has asked Chief Tallman to stay on a little longer. Mayor said he would call a special meeting next week and have Council interview the outside top two candidates.

Item c – Amendment to the Stonewater P.U.D.

01-07-05 Motion by Gagne supported by Painter to approve the amendment as presented.

Discussion. Motion carried 4-1 with Council Member Wrobel voting no.

Item d – Youth Center Lease.

Mayor Jones stated this item would be on the next agenda.

Item e – Vreeland Road water services contract payment #3.

01-07-06 Motion by Gagne supported by Painter to pay D & D Water & Sewer \$3,201.25 as recommended by the City Engineer.

All present voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

9. NEW BUSINESS:

Item a – Mayoral appointments.

01-07-07 Motion by Dropiewski supported by Gagne to approve the Mayor's recommendations as submitted with the exception of Police Chief, Treasurer and put Dropiewski as representative to Mutual Aid and the DCC.

Discussion re: the Recreation Director's work load.

Council Member Wrobel suggested an amending motion to leave out the Fire Chief, Recreation Director and News Paper. Gagne and Dropiewski agreed to the amendment.

Mayor Jones stated these positions will be on the special agenda for next week.

All present voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Item b – Resignation of Timothy Marsh from the Zoning Board of Appeals.

01-07-08 Motion by Gagne supported by Painter to accept Mr. Marsh's resignation and send him a letter of thanks for his service.

All present voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Item c – Flat Rock Fish Ladder agreement.

01-07-09 Motion by Jones supported by Wrobel to reject the agreement as presented.

All present voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

10. CORRESPONDENCE:

Item a – Planning Commission minutes of November 26, 2007.

Item b – Resolution from City of Riverview re: Requesting relief from the mortgage foreclosure crisis through the use of CDBG Funds.

11. ADJOURNMENT:

01-07-10 Motion b Gagne supported by Wrobel to adjourn the meeting at 8:22 p.m.

All present voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

RICHARD C. JONES, MAYOR

LORENE BUTSKI, CITY CLERK

DATE: _____
approved