

## REGULAR COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

### CITY OF FLAT ROCK, MICHIGAN

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 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, Gagne, and Martin.

02-19-01 Motion by Painter supported by Wrobel to excuse Council Member Tefend.

All present voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

**ALSO PRESENT:** Fire Chief Vack, DPS Director Hammond, Recreation Director Pawlukiewicz, City Clerk Butski, Neal Rossow Police Chief, Debra Lambrix, Treasurer, Attorney Dave Grunow, Economic Development Director George Mans and Ed Boike, Wayne County Commissioner.

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

02-19-02 Motion by Gagne supported by Martin to approve the Regular Minutes of February 04, 2008 as corrected.

Motion 02-04-08 should show the “no” votes to be Council Members Dropiewski and Wrobel.

All present voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

4. **OATH OF OFFICE OF POLICE CHIEF:**

The City Clerk administered the Oath of Office to Neal Rossow, the Police Chief. Chief Rossow thanked Mayor, Council and Citizens of Flat Rock for the opportunity to become part of this community and serve this City. I hope the Police Department continues to be well respected and trusted in this City and that everyone who wears this uniform is very proud of it.

5. **CITIZENS TO BE HEARD:**

Item A – Wayne County Commissioner Ed Boike stated the Wayne County Parks Millage gave the Recreation Department \$50,000 and also set aside some money to build a statue to honor the Indians in and of the area. The statue would be a black granite bear on a black granite base with a wrought iron fence around it. It would have an inscription

on the base. Mr. Boike said before they can put it out for bid they need a location for the statue. After much discussion it was the consensus to put near the footbridge at Huroc Park. Mayor Jones thanked Mr. Boike for the gift.

Di Anderson, 24761 E. Huron River Dr. asked if the locks on the bathroom doors at the park could be fixed because one cannot secure themselves in the bathroom. Mr. Hammond stated he would see to it right away.

Denise Gutenschwager, 27107 Arsenal Road read a statement (see attachment #1).

Bryan James of Royal Oak, legal representative for Citizens for Responsible Development, asked what was delaying the Planning Commission from voting on the rezoning of the land off Telegraph and Vreeland Roads. City Attorney Grunow asked Mr. James to call him the next day and he would bring him up to date on the project.

Mayor Jones told Mr. James that Meijer had asked not to be on the February Planning Commission agenda. There was a meeting with Meijer, City Planner, Building Department, Chairman of the Planning Commission and himself. Meijer has the plans and plat map for K-Mart and the CNN railroad. They are going to start from scratch and review whether the site will fit.

Evan Moore, 26856 Winslow, requested consideration be given to dismiss two citations he received for his puppy running loose. After he explained the circumstances to Mayor and Council, Mr. Grunow told him Council could not dismiss them – only the judge can do that. He explained to Mr. Moore the citations would be taken care of like and ordinance violation.

Steven Doss of Blue Herron in Hawthorne Subdivision passed out a slide presentation regarding entrances and exits to get to the proposed Meijer store and increased traffic with no plans yet to widen Arsenal, no sidewalks, etc. He asked that Council to take that into consideration when making a decision.

6. **REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS:** NONE

7. **REPORTS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS:**

Council Member Painter asked if there was any ordinance or nepotism clause that would prevent a spouse, brother, sister, etc. from serving on the Council together. Mr. Grunow said there was not. He also asked if an adjustment is being prepared on the reportable wages to MERS and the Treasure said it would be ready next week.

Council Member Dropiewski stated at that at the DCC meeting last week Wayne County Emergency Preparedness apologized again for the phone calls during the snow storm. He asked if the City has an ordinance to prevent a child from being hired to work with the parent/employee. The City Attorney will draw one up for Council's consideration.

**8. MAYOR'S COMMENTS:**

Mayor Jones stated he had a discussion with the new Police Chief and he had three requests: (1) he would like to be credited with 80 hrs. vacation (2) uniforms like patrol for a while (3) the use of a police vehicle & gas until he rents a place (3 months).

02-19-03 Motion by Painter supported by Gagne to approve the requests as suggested by Mayor Jones.

All present voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

**9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

Item A – Use of Seniors Building by the Little League.

02-19-04 Motion by Painter supported by Jones to approve the Little League to use the Senior Building for storage of their equipment.

All present voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

**10. NEW BUSINESS:**

Item A – Discussion of Community Center Finances.

Mayor Jones asked if anyone has any suggestions. Mayor stated the revenues for the center was \$675,797 and the expenses were \$894,419, leaving a deficit of about \$218,622. The maintenance salaries were lowered to save about \$82,000. Banquets and more advertising should save about \$100,000. There was extensive discussion re: ways to cut costs and interest more people to purchase memberships. Recreation Director is sending out a survey this Friday offering a free day pass for those who answer the survey. She is talking with the school re: prom and homecoming functions being held there. It was suggested they hire a manager/publicist and the Recreation Director asked Council for help in wording the ad. She said she will have a report for the next meeting on more ways to save.

Mayor Jones said it is time to start working on the budget and to keep in mind the Board of Review and the decrease in the value of homes and AutoAlliance taxes decreases each year. Mayor Jones gave the following list of budget cuts this year: Health Insurance Retirees - \$140,000, Health Insurance Employees (as contracts are negotiated) - \$360,000, Hiring Freeze DPW - \$105,000, Hiring Freeze Police Dept. - \$158,000, Promotional Freeze - \$20,000, Holiday Pay Police Department - \$4,000, Detective 4 hours - \$10,000, Insurance - \$20,000 and Recreation Dept. Employees - \$75,000 for a total of \$892,000. He said there are 3-4 other things in the future plans and he suspects a

problem with SEV next year. He suggested going to a defined contribution plan for employees.

Item B – Recreation Director re: community Center Rates.

These rates are: (1) Offer a six-month membership. This amount would be ½ of the yearly rate plus \$25.00, (2) Increase all monthly passes by \$5.00, excluding senior rates. (3) Only yearly and six-month members may bring up to 5 guests per visit at a rate of \$5.00 per person. (4) Allow Flat Rock Schools and school employees be allowed to purchase monthly passes as well as yearly memberships.

02-19-05 Motion by Gagne supported by Martin to approve the new rate schedule as suggested by the Recreation Director.

All present voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Item C – Knights of Columbus request to solicit in Flat Rock.

02-19-06 Motion by Dropiewski supported by Martin to approve the request to conduct the annual Tootsie Roll drive in Flat Rock, March 14, 15 and 16, 2008, from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

All present voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Item D – Appointment to the CDBG Advisory Council.

02-19-07 Motion by Martin supported by Dropiewski that Council Member Gagne be the primary Designate and Council Member Dropiewski will be the Alternate.

All present voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

**11. CORRESPONDENCE:**

Item A – Planning Commission minutes of December 17, 2007.

**12. ADJOURNMENT:**

02-19-08 Motion by Gagne supported by Martin to adjourn the regular meeting at 9:05 p.m.

All present voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

**RICHARD C. JONES, MAYOR**

**LORENE BUTSKI, CITY CLERK**

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