

## COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS FOR APRIL 12, 1999

**NOTE:** Councilmembers Laura Carpenter, Frank Lukacs and Marvin Ford were sworn in prior to the meeting. Library Board members Christine Furst and Cheryl Berry were also sworn in prior to the meeting.

Meeting called to order at 7:00PM by Mayor Pro-tem Laura Carpenter.

**PRESENT:** Councilmembers Laura Carpenter, Frank Lukacs, Marvin Ford, Mike Lents, Judy Murray, Kelly Pavel; City Clerk Julie Miller, City Manager Clint Holmes, City Attorney Marilyn Zimmerman. **ABSENT:** Mayor Ken Brown.

Moved by CM Pavel, supported by CM Ford to approve the Minutes of March 22, 1999 as written. Motion Carried.

**PUBLIC HEARING:** NONE.

**PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS:** NONE.

### **PERSONAL APPEARANCES:**

Blake Holmes presented to the Council a layout of the proposed advertisement for the WMIC Thumb Guide. Council agreed that it was good and to send it into the company.

### **PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS:**

1. Moved by CM Carpenter, supported by CM Ford to approve new roof shingles for Frank Lung, 7097 Lincoln Street. Motion Carried.
2. Moved by CM Carpenter, supported by CM Pavel to approve tearing down old porch and replacing with new for Ed Nolet, 4363 Main Street. Motion Carried.
3. Moved by CM Carpenter, supported by CM Ford to approve an 8x10 shed on skids for Robert MacLarty, 7108 Lincoln Street. Motion Carried.
4. Moved by CM Carpenter, supported by CM Pavel to approve a 12x16 deck on house for Michael and Jodie Jones, 6805 Cade Road. Motion Carried.
5. Moved by CM Carpenter, supported by CM Ford to approve a new roof for Clinton Morris, 4322 First Street. Motion Carried.
6. Request from TNR Tire to build 30x120 storage sheds for rentals. (Plans already reviewed by Planning Commission.)

**NOTE:** Moved by CM Lukacs, supported by CM Ford to approve all motions above moved by CM Carpenter, due to her being Mayor Pro-tem, including TNR Tires request, Maple Valley Road. Motion Carried.

7. Moved by CM Lukacs, supported by CM Pavel to approve SEMCO Energy Gas Co., to start working in the Hillside Subdivision. Motion Carried.

**ORDINANCES:**

City Attorney commented that everyone now has a copy of the Proposed Code Book Chapters 1-4. Attorney explained that the first reading would be at the Council meeting, then it would be introduced at the Council meeting and then a Public Hearing would be scheduled. Discussion on Admendments to the Ordinances.

Moved by CM Pavel, supported by CM Lents to table Chapters 1-4 until next meeting for further review by all Councilmembers. Motion Carried.

**RESOLUTIONS: NONE.**

**REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: NONE.**

**PAY BILLS:**

Moved by CM Murray, supported by CM Ford to pay the bills as presented in the following funds: Payroll Fund- \$24,898.26; Sanitary Sewer- 8,729.94; Water Recreation Fund- \$39.34; Investment Fund: \$29,340.31; Wastewater Debt-\$2,427.50; General Fund- \$69,324.20. Motion Carried.

**ATTORNEY'S REPORT: NONE.**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Buildings and Grounds: None.

Personnel: None.

CM Ford commented that the old Personnel Committee reviewed the City Manager's job performance and reported that he got a very good review.

Police: None.

Water and Sewer: CM Lents reported that the Committee met to discuss an increase in water and sewer tap in fees.

Moved by CM Lents, supported by CM Murray to hold a Public Hearing for a proposed Water and Sewer Tap-in fees on April 26, 1999 at 7:15PM. Motion Carried.

Tax and Finance: None.

CM Murray stated concerns regarding the heat bill for the old fire department building. Manager stated that once DPW expands their building, they will have space for the sewer machine and the old fire hall will no longer require heat.

Streets and Sidewalks:

CM Pavel commented that the work on the sidewalks is currently underway.

City Clerk Julie Miller reported to the Council that the Election Commission met and recommended appointing Elva Walker, Pat Hahnefeld, Kathleen Loutzenhiser, Eva Gottler, Julie Miller, and Pam Abel, with alternating shifts, to work at the May 11, 1999 County millage election.

Moved by CM Lukacs, supported by CM Ford to appoint the above workers to work at the May 11, 1999 election. Motion Carried.

OLD BUSINESS: NONE.

#### MANAGER'S REPORT:

1. **DPW Garage Furnace:** Orton Refrigeration of Clifford was called in to repair the furnace in the DPW Garage. They stated that the unit is totally worn out. Currently, the DPW is relying on a kerosene floor unit (owned by Dave) for heat. The estimate for a new unit is \$1,700. **Requires Resolution. Moved by CM Ford, supported by CM Lukacs to purchase new furnace. Motion Carried. Manager to get bids from different companies.**
2. **Sewage Lift Stations:** Maple Valley Road Main Lift Station: Install new control panel, overhaul motors and install variable speed system - \$18,590. Thelman Street Lift Station: This station is approximately 25-30 years old and rusted very badly. The piping, chain and guide rails are also in poor condition. Complete Station replacement - \$26,550. Sewer maintenance reserve fund is currently about \$155,342. **Requires Resolution. Moved by CM Lents, supported by CM Lukacs to have Manager get Bids for this. Motion Carried.**
3. **Well #4 Overhaul:** Well #4 is overdue for overhaul. Work was last done in 1994. Cost to overhaul well #3 in 1997 was \$21,089.47. Prefer to have this work done as soon as possible. Water maintenance reserve fund is currently about \$37,159. **Requires Resolution.**
4. **Water Tower:** Jones & Henry is still researching possible sources of grant funding. However, they are not optimistic. Discussion with Tri-County Bank revealed they could lend us \$200K @ 4.10% over four years. Cost about \$58,200 a year. Millage increase raises about \$16,533. Service fees are estimated to raise about \$69K. Additional \$41,700 per year would require an increase in water rates of about 60% (\$14-\$25/quarter) or an additional contribution from the General Fund.
5. **Jones & Henry Engineers, Ltd.:** Final Comprehensive Water Report is available. Also, they have been asked to provide an estimate of the cost to engineer an expansion of Cell #3 of the Sewage Lagoon. They will also provide an estimate of the expansion costs. They will meet with us on April 20.
6. **Road Salt:** The State purchasing program provided us an opportunity to "buy into" the State bulk road salt sales program. Right now we are paying \$35/ton. State program would *probably* be less, but we must guarantee we will purchase and receive the amount we order (EST 100 tons). **Requires Resolution. Moved by CM Pavel, supported by CM Ford to adopt a resolution to allow Manager to participate in the State Salt Purchasing program. Motion Carried.**
7. **COPS Grant:** We received payment from the COPS Grant for 1998 of \$16,838.66. Also, we received paperwork to apply for a new grant. Recommend we put in for two part-time officers.
8. **Lawsuit:** Roy Welch vs. Brown City is proceeding. Representatives from our insurance company's law firm will be here on April 22 to take statements from DPW and myself.
9. **Budget Amendment:** The Park Board asked that their budget be amended to increase Capital Outlay from \$0.00 to \$725 (drawing from their reserve) to install a length of fencing in the Park (Little League will pay for the rest of the fence section). **Requires Resolution. Moved by CM Murray, supported by CM Pavel to amend the budget for the Park Board from \$0.00 to \$725.00 to install fence. Motion Carried.**

10. **Y2K:** A program to test the BIOS chips on City Hall computers was downloaded from the Internet and run. Police and Water Computers failed. **Manager requested possibly upgrading computers. Council requested the least expensive route. A guest stated that there are grants available to purchase new police computers through the Dept. of Justice. Manager to look into this.**
11. **1999 Sidewalk Program:** Probably be completed by next week. Paul Czap, who is scheduled to have two sidewalk flags replaced (at a cost to him of \$72) stated that the reason the sidewalk broke was due to City installation of water and sewer lines (1983?). He feels the City should be responsible for repairs. **Council said everyone is responsible to pay.**
12. **Census 2000:** We began to receive information and tasking from the USG. All of the addresses in the City must be verified and the maps provided updated.
13. **County Election:** Need to close the library for the May 11, election. **Moved by CM Ford, supported by CM Pavel to Close the library for the May 11, election. Motion Carried.**
14. **Brown City Spring Clean-up Days:** Recommend scheduling Clean-up Days for Thursday May 20 and Friday May 21. **Requires Resolution. Moved by CM Pavel, supported by CM Lukacs to schedule the Clean-up Days for Thurs and Fri. May 7 & 8, 1999. Motion Carried.**
15. **Hydrant Flushing:** DPW recommends scheduling hydrant flushing for Monday April 26 through Wednesday April 28. **Requires Resolution. Moved by CM Pavel, supported by CM Lents to schedule hydrant flushing days for the dates above. Motion Carried.**
16. **MDOT Micro-resurfacing:** MDOT stated that in order resurface the parking lanes when the State does Cade Road to M19, the City must contract with the company doing the work and pay approximately \$6,614.17. **Council stated NO.**
17. **Tree Bids:** There are several trees throughout the City that require either extensive pruning or removal. I plan to start asking for bids to determine when these trees can be taken care of and the associated costs.
18. **Nasty-Grams:** Two letters were sent to residents concerning violations of City Ordinances. One was for a loose dog on Vine Street and a second to a local merchant for junk in the back yard.
19. **Temporary Mobile Home:** A couple who had suffered extensive damage to their home as a result of a fire, requested they be allowed to park a mobile home, with water and sewer hook-ups, until repairs can be completed. **Council stated NO due to City Ordinance.**
20. **DDA Terms:** Three terms for DDA members have expired and require either reappointment or replacement. **Manager stated if anyone had recommendations to please voice them.**

Moved by CM Lukacs, supported by CM Ford to Adjourn at 8:38PM.

Rick Greenman questioned the Council about the money being spent to fix the sidewalks in town, stating that they didn't need to be fixed. Discussion on this issue.

Meeting adjourned at 8:48 PM. Motion Carried. (due to Citizen's question)

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

JULIE P. MILLER  
CITY CLERK