

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS FOR JANUARY 24, 2000

Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM by Mayor Ken Brown.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Councilmember Frank Lukacs.

PRESENT: Councilmembers: Mike Lents, Frank Lukacs, Julie Miller, Judy Murray, Kelly Pavel; Mayor Ken Brown, City Manager Clint Holmes, City Attorney Marilyn Zimmerman, City Clerk Barbara Seidel. Absent: Councilmember Laura Carpenter.

CORRECTION/APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

City Attorney M. Zimmerman requested change to minutes (page 2) as follows: Moved by CM Lents, supported by CM Carpenter, to grant a zoning variance to allow Amy Sontag to construct a home on Lot at 6955 George Street, Lot size 66' x 125', seeing that it would not be a detriment to the community and would avoid undue hardship to the individual. City Attorney Zimmerman suggested that in the future when variances are granted or adopted the minutes should reflect the legal reason why what the variance is allowing being granted or denied.

PAY BILLS:

Moved by CM Murray, supported by CM Pavel, to pay the bills as presented in the following funds: General fund \$16,897.32; Payroll fund \$12,417.85; Sanitary Sewer fund \$40,940.48; Investment fund \$14,059.81. Motion Carried.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS: City resident Dallas Berry voiced two issues about snow removal: 1. He asked that the DPW clean the sidewalks north on John St. from the First St. intersection to the schools so that children walking to school can use the sidewalk instead of the street; and 2. He asked if the DPW could remove the snow from the parking lot beside the parish of Calvary Baptist Church, between Main St. and First St. on John St. as this is the only parking lot available to parishioners and church workers. The City Manager will discuss these issues with the DPW.

PERSONAL APPEARANCES: None.

RESOLUTIONS: None.

PUBLIC HEARING: None.

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS: Pre-Application Building Permits.

1. James Gottschalk, 4094 Main Street – Two-story addition to house. Moved by CM Pavel, supported by CM Murray, to approve the Pre-Application Permit for James Gottschalk to build a two-story addition to house. Motion Carried.

ORDINANCES: None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Buildings and Grounds: Carpenter: Absent.

Personnel: Lukacs: Meeting scheduled for 5:00 p.m., 01/25/00.

Police: Miller: None.

Sewer and Water: None.

Tax and Finance: Murray: None.

Streets and Sidewalks: Pavel: Moved by CM Pavel, supported by CM Lents, for City Manager to advertise for bids for the 2000 Sidewalk/Street Project. Motion Carried. Moved by CM Pavel, supported by CM Murray to purchase a total of 40 street signs. Motion Carried. Public Hearing scheduled for February 14, 2000, for 2000 Sidewalk Project.

Election Commission: Seidel: Election workers selected and presented to Council. Moved by CM Pavel, supported by CM Miller, to approve Eva Gottler, Kathleen Loutzenhiser, Pam Abel and Pat Hahnefeld to serve as Election Workers for February 22, 2000, election. Motion Carried. Presented by City Manager Holmes that the Library will have to be closed for election. Moved by CM Miller, supported by CM Pavel, to close the Library, February 22, 2000, for election. Motion Carried.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT:

1. Agreement signed for closure of sale of Railroad Easement Property (Ordinance 17.200) and is scheduled to proceed on 01/25/00.
2. Church Property Annexation/Act 425. Burnside Township Attorney, Tim Denney, was contacted for information. Act 425 is specifically limited to commercial or industrial property and there needs to be an economic reason for the transfer. An Urban Cooperation Act allows municipalities to enter into contracts for various reasons, but again there has to be an economic benefit addressed. Public Hearings are required for either an Act 425 or an Annexation.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

1. **WELCH vs CITY OF BROWN CITY:** Received notice that mediation failed and this lawsuit is going to jury trial. Lawsuit concerns an alleged sewer back-up. Trial is set for March 23 and 24 in Sandusky. The City Manager, DPW Supervisor and DPW Foreman will be called to testify.
2. **SANILAC COUNTY PERSONNEL COMMITTEE HEARING:** I need to attend this hearing in Sandusky. Concerns the Sanilac County Veteran's Affairs Office Director. Scheduled for Tuesday, January 25 at 10:00 AM. Should be out of the office for no more than a couple of hours.
3. **SANILAC COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION:** Next meeting is Tuesday, January 25 at 6:30 PM in Peck. The steering committee is looking for 15 individuals from different occupations and different parts of Sanilac County. We are recommending four area residents for appointment to the EDC Board of Directors. Mr. Rick Bucklew (banking), Mr. John Liebler (insurance), Mr. John Murray (agriculture), and Mr. Rand Smith (law).

4. **SMALL CLAIMS COURT:** City has a court date of Monday, February 22 at 2:30 PM. Hope to get the \$452.20 that Brenda Krumenaker has owed the City since 1996.
5. **MICHIGAN CITY MANAGERS ASSOCIATION:** I will be at the MCMA meeting in Grand Rapids February 1-4.
6. **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT:** Received a request for all information relating to the increase in water and sewer tapins. Request came from a law firm in Sterling Heights. Information has been gathered and will be forwarded.
7. **BOND ISSUE:** Received a letter outlining types of bond issues that would satisfy the requirements for a Rural Development Grant. Need to schedule a meeting of Water & Sewer and/or Tax and Finance, at the next Council meeting, to decide the best course of action.
8. **SIGNS:** Cost of 4'X6' signs are \$310 each. 3'X4' \$159 each.
9. **WATER METER GUN:** Cost of the device to remotely read water meters is about \$500. Since the new water meters we are installing are capable of being read remotely, and some of the existing ones can be retrofitted, recommend we purchase the "gun."

MAYOR'S REPORT: None.

Moved by CM Lukacs, supported by CM Pavel to adjourn at 8:17 PM. Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara J. Seidel
City Clerk