

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS FOR FEBRUARY 28, 2000

Pledge of Allegiance led by Councilmember Lents.

Meeting called to order at 7:00 P.M. by Mayor Brown.

PRESENT: Councilmembers – Laura Carpenter, Mike Lents, Frank Lukacs, Julie Miller, Judy Murray, Kelly Pavel; Mayor Ken Brown, Deputy Clerk David R. Van Cura, City Manager Clint Holmes, City Attorney Marilyn Zimmerman.

ABSENT: City Clerk Barbara Seidel.

CORRECTION/APPROVAL OF MINUTES: February 14, 2000 - Change the word “Quick” to “Quit” under RESOLUTIONS: Item #2 and ATTORNEY’S REPORT: Item #1.

MOVED BY Councilmember Carpenter, supported by Councilmember Murray, to approve the Minutes of February 14, 2000 as corrected. Motion Carried.

PAY BILLS: MOVED BY Councilmember Murray, supported by Councilmember Lukacs, to pay the bills as presented in the following funds: General - \$10,766.26, Payroll - \$10,940.77, Sanitary Sewer - \$272.55, Major Street - \$683.62, Local Street - \$683.62, Water Recreation - \$145.89, Investment - \$22,391.19. Motion Carried.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS: None.

PERSONAL APPEARANCES: None.

RESOLUTIONS:

1. Resolution No. 00-03: A resolution scheduling a Public Hearing in accordance with State Law concerning Truth in Taxation and the proposed City Fiscal Year 2000-2001 Budget. MOVED BY Councilmember Murray, supported by Councilmember Miller, to adopt Resolution No. 00-03. Roll Call Vote: Pavel – yes, Murray – yes, Lents – yes, Miller – yes, Lukacs – yes, Carpenter – yes. 6 – yes, 0 – no, 0 – absent. Motion Carried.

PUBLIC HEARING: None.

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS:

1. George Emmie, Emmie Tool & Die – Discussion and review of site plan for the proposed addition to his existing building. MOVED BY Councilmember Carpenter, supported by Councilmember Miller, that the pre-application building permit be approved WITH THE condition that the finished floor of the new building be the same height as the existing building, which is about 7” to 7.5” above the finished grade. Motion Carried.

ORDINANCES: NORDIC ELECTRIC COMPANY FRANCHISE: This company has signed an agreement with the school to provide electricity under deregulation. However, they require a non-exclusive franchise agreement with the City before they can begin service. The school has asked that we approve this franchise as soon as possible.

City Attorney Zimmerman will prepare a “Non-Exclusive Franchise Agreement” ordinance to address Nordic’s request, and present it at the next Council meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. Buildings & Grounds: Carpenter – none.
2. Personnel: Lukacs – none.
3. Police: Miller – none.
4. Water & Sewer: Lents – MOVED BY Councilmember Lents, supported by Councilmember Lukacs, to purchase promotional water conservation rulers with the message “City of Brown City –Help us continue providing quality water service. Report leaks to 346-2325.” Motion Carried.

A Water and Sewer Committee meeting has been scheduled for 7:00 PM on Tuesday, February 29, 2000 to discuss the Thelman Avenue lift station.

5. Tax & Finance: Murray – The Committee met on February 24, 2000 to review budget amendments and preliminary figures for next year’s budget for presentation to the Council on March 13, 2000. The Committee discussed compensation to the City Manager for his work on repairing the City’s computers and getting them Y2K ready. The Committee recommends compensating him \$500.00.

MOVED BY Councilmember Pavel, supported by Councilmember Carpenter, to reimburse City Manager Holmes the amount of \$500.00 for past computer work for the City. Motion Carried.

Discussion on the rate to pay the City Manager per hour for future computer work.

Discussion on the mileage reimbursement rate (.28 vs .32). We need to adjust the rate after April 1, 2000.

6. Streets & Sidewalks: Pavel – none.

ATTORNEY’S REPORT:

1. City Attorney Zimmerman has sent a letter to Tim Dennie, Attorney for Burnside Township regarding the Church Property Annexation.

The Buildings & Grounds Committee will meet to review the present DPW building situation, and make a recommendation concerning construction of a new building. The Committee will meet on Wednesday, March 1, 2000 at 2:00 PM at the DPW garage.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

- 1. SANILAC COUNTY MASTER PLAN:** Meeting of city and township officials, Board of Commissioners and County Planning Commission to discuss a County Master Plan took place February 15 in Sandusky. The three-hour meeting was to begin the update process for a Countywide Master Plan. The current Plan dates from 1974. Meeting identified the most significant problems facing Sanilac County and ways to address them. Also discussed was importance of, and recommended directions for, growth. Expect the next step to be a survey of County residents.
- 2. EES:** Received a signed contract back from EES. Anticipate that equipment will be installed as soon as GTE installs the necessary telephone lines. Service will be \$22.50 per month for unlimited access with no adjacent calling fees necessary. Residents interested in signing up may call 1-888-877-8500.
- 3. MICHIGAN AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES:** MAC has requested permission to close off Industrial Drive on Wednesday, March 15 to facilitate equipment display for an auction. They wish to display equipment along Industrial Drive and use the VFW Hall lot for visitor/customer parking. City Manager tasked to determine liability issues, if any.
- 4. SCHOOL BUS:** Brown City Schools has requested permission to use a 65 passenger bus verses the 35 passenger bus now being used. The empty weight difference is approximately 500 pounds. City Manager to research whether a full bus would exceed street weight limits of 15,000 lbs.
- 5. HUMAN DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION:** The HDC has scheduled meeting called "Dialogue on Poverty 2000." Because they may be discussing issues that could have an impact on Brown City, it might be useful for a member of the Council to attend.
- 6. SEMCO:** The gas company has submitted a request to begin installing a gas main in the Brown City Manufactured Home Park. The City will grant permission with the stipulations that 1) the DPW Supervisor observe the installation so he is familiar with actual location of the main; and 2) that the main be buried at a uniform depth.
- 7. GEMCRAFT HOMES:** The company that bought Softwinds Subdivision has submitted revised site and building plans for what is now named "Gemcraft Estates." City Engineer will review plans prior to their submission to the Planning Commission on March 16th.
- 8. EMMIE TOOL AND DIE:** State guidelines limit Tax Abatements to 5% of SEV. Due to the completion of the P&H abatement, combined with an increase in SEV, a tax abatement for Emmie Tool & Die may be possible. Council tasked City Manager to investigate procedures for, and maximum possible size of, a tax abatement for Emmie.

Councilmember Lents asked about the City creating an Industrial Park area and the status of the Brown City Economic Development Corporation. He requested the addition of City industrial park/EDC to the agenda under Old Business for the next meeting to allow further discussion.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

1. The new "Buckle Up" Law goes into effect March 10th.
2. Received a letter from Annaka Berry regarding youth groups providing public service within the City. Council supports this voluntary community service.

DISCUSSION:

1. Lincoln Street construction entrance to Mapleview Estates. City Manager to discuss issue with Fire Chief.
2. Status of house located at 4115 Main Street. City will continue to monitor situation.
3. Grading the berm along Maple Street to help water run off. City Manager to task DPW to repair.
4. Repairing the water shutoff at 4455 Vine Street. City Manager to task DPW to repair ASAP.

MOVED BY Councilmember Lukacs, supported by Councilmember Pavel, to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 P.M. Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

David R. Van Cura
Deputy Clerk