

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS FOR MARCH 24, 2003

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

Pledge of Allegiance led by Interim City Manager Ken Brown

PRESENT: Mayor Laura Carpenter; Councilmembers – JoAnn Potts, Frank Lukacs, Charles Zuhlke, Jason Nielsen, Julie Miller, and Pat Jacobson; City Clerk Christine Lee, Interim City Manager Ken Brown, City Attorney John Lengemann.

ABSENT: None

CORRECTION AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion by CM Jacobson, second by CM Lukacs, to approve the Minutes of March 10, 2003 as presented. Motion Carried.

PAY BILLS:

Motion by CM Jacobson, second by CM Nielsen, to pay the bills as presented in the following funds: General -\$13,741.88, Payroll - \$10,088.02, Sanitary Sewer - \$318.41, Investment - \$18,465.37. Motion Carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. City Ordinance Chapter 5 Work Session Scheduling: Pending.
2. Rezoning Request – Keith Muxlow: Pending

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS:

County Commissioner William Walters reported that the City of Brown City Revenue Sharing will be reduced by \$5,484.00 and that the County will be reduced by \$100,045.00.

PERSONAL APPEARANCES:

1. Representative from Comcast Cable Company. Marshall Kurschner from Comcast wanted to know what he could do to help with the service in Brown City and explained what is in the works to improve the service. Larry Steigerwald wanted to know why the prices keep going up and we have fewer channels. Why the service is worse in the colder weather. CM Lukacs wanted to know about the lines in the pictures and why some channels have a buzzing noise. Mr. Kurschner informed the Council and the public that the prices keeping going up because of the cost of programs and

gas, that there are fewer channels than Flint, because of fewer customers. He also said that if you call in a problem it should be fix within twenty-four hours. He also handed out his business cards to contact him if the City is not satisfied. Mr. Steigerwald thanked the council for getting right on this.

PUBLIC HEARING: None

ORDINANCES: None

RESOLUTIONS: None

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS: None

Preapplication Building Permits – None

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. Police (Miller)- Reported on Committee Meeting held on March 24, 2003. CM Lukacs wanted to know if the dismissal of former officer was handled correctly, CM Miller responded yes, that the proper procedures and the guidelines in the handbook were followed.

Motion by CM Miller, second by CM Jacobson, to hire Nick Vandenberg from Imlay City, Jeremy Howe from North Branch and Ryan Miller from Lexington as part time Police Officers. Motion Carried.

2. Tax and Finance (Jacobson)- None
3. Personnel (Zuhlke)- Schedule, Committee Meeting for Monday, March 31 at 7:00 P.M.
4. Water and Sewer (Nielsen)- Schedule, Committee Meeting for Monday, March 31 at 7:30 P.M.
5. Streets and Sidewalks (Lukacs) – Sidewalks; need to start getting bids on the Maple Street project. If there is enough money than we need to look at the Lincoln and Main Street corners and First Street between St. Marys and James. Streets: bids for James Street, Lincoln Street from the corner of Lincoln and Main Street. Need to put John Street project back a year. CM Lukacs reported that on Main Street, the vacant lot between, the old fire hall and the Shadley Building needs to be cleaned up. Also CM Lukcas wanted to know what homes on Main Street are part of the DDA district. Interim City Manager Brown, explained the homes west of Lincoln Street on Main Street, are in the DDA district..

6. Building and Grounds (Potts) - Reported on Committee Meeting held on March 11, 2003.

TREASURER'S REPORT: None

POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT: Chief of Police Ron Smith reported that because of it being cold for the Month of February it was quiet, crime was down.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT: John Lengemann will have the answer in a couple of days, if unpaid water bills from the trailer park can be put on property taxes. The City cannot shut-off the water because the shut-off is right next to the trailer and is on private property.

Attorney Lengemann will not be at the next meeting; Attorney Sally Miller will be here instead.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

1. DDA sale of 4227 Main Street, the building has been sold.
2. Maple Valley Road Project: Called the engineer and he needed a letter from the City to release the bids for the project. Bids are going out the week of May 2, 2003. The project is slated to start the later part of June or the first part of July.
3. DPW Projects: Rewire and level the clock and fill the gaps between bricks and base of clock. Clean out drains and catch basins.
4. City Manager Search: Frank Gerstenecker will start the search on April 1, 2003 and bring a report to the April 14, 2003 meeting.
5. Tractor Bids: Advertising for Tractor bids is going in the papers this week.
6. City Hall Entrance: Putting a new dormer to divert the water, from the entrance.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

1. City Clerk – Planning Commission Meeting Minutes:
The Planning Commission would like to know if the City Clerk could take minutes at their meetings. CM Miller wanted to know if the Planning Commission gets paid, and if the Planning Commission understood that the City Clerk would get paid for taking minutes. Dallas Berry, Chairperson of the Planning Commission said he understood that City Clerk Lee would be paid. County Commissioner Walters wanted to know what the City Clerk gets paid for the Council Meetings and stated that she should be paid the same for the Planning Commission Meetings. City Clerk Lee stated that she gets paid \$60.00 a meeting. CM Miller wanted to know if this is covered in the City Charter. Interim City

Manager Brown and City Attorney Lengemann will research this and report back their findings.

2. Interim City Manager – Board/Committee Meetings:

Motion by CM Jacobson, Second by CM Miller, to pay Interim City Manager Brown \$10.00 to attend the different Board/Committee Meetings. Motion Carried.

Dallas Berry informed the Council that the next Planning Commission Meeting would be April 1, 2003 at 6:30 PM.

CM Lukacs wanted to know what is happening to the building next door to City Hall. Interim City Manager Brown stated that we are waiting to hear from the people at Great Lakes Internet.

Interim City Manager Brown called former City Manager Holmes about the FEMA Grant for the Fire Department and the paper work was sent in. Interim City Manager Brown then called Washington and the grant was approved, and the funds will be here in two to three weeks.

CM Zuhlke wanted to know if the new Police Officers knew that they will be under the watchful eye of the City Council and the Community. CM Miller said yes.

Motion by CM Miller, second by CM Potts, to adjourn the meeting at 7:27 P.M. Motion Carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christine Lee
City Clerk