

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS FOR NOVEMBER 12, 2001

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

Pledge of Allegiance led by City Clerk Christine Lee.

PRESENT: Mayor Kelly Pavel, Councilmembers – Laura Carpenter, Frank Lukacs, Mike Stain, Julie Miller, Judy Murray, Pat Jacobson; City Clerk Christine Lee, City Manager Clint Holmes, City Attorney Gerard Garno.

ABSENT: None

CORRECTION AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion by CM Carpenter, support by CM Miller, to approve the Minutes of October 22, 2001, as submitted. Motion Carried.

PAY BILLS:

CM Murray questioned the bill from Brown City Auto Parts – Mounting bracket for snowplow. City Manager said the bracket was already installed but will talk to the DPW about the price of equipment.

Motion by CM Murray, support by CM Miller, to pay the bills as presented in the following funds: General -\$24,416.46, Payroll - \$12,156.76, Sanitary Sewer - \$11,291.67, Major St. - \$3,000.00, Water Recreation - \$31.61, Investment - \$13,369.18. Motion Carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. City Ordinance Chapter 5 Work Session Scheduling: Draft of Chapter 5 completed. Will forward to Miller/Canfield for analysis along with the detailed questionnaire that they requested.
2. Rezoning Request – Keith Muxlow: Pending

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS: None

PERSONAL APPEARANCES:

1. Rand Smith didn't attend the meeting but talked to City Manager Holmes about purchasing Pepper Park, to put in 4 parking spaces and/or a skid shed. No support by the Council to sell the property.

PUBLIC HEARING: None

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS:

Preapplication Building Permits –

1. Curt Lowe, 4280 Main St. – Replace Shingles.
2. Audrey Stanton, 6774 St. Marys St. – 24'x24' Shed.

Motion by CM Carpenter, support by CM Lukacs, to approve the above listed preapplication building permits for Curt Lowe and Audrey Stanton as submitted.
Motion Carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. Building and Grounds (Carpenter)– None
2. Streets and Sidewalks (Lukacs)– Stop sign at 2nd and Walters Street needs to be replaced.
3. Police (Miller)- None
4. Water and Sewer (Stain)- Item #2 in City Manager Report
5. Tax and Finance (Murray)- Blue Cross rates – City Manager will get back with us when he receives the new rates.
6. Personnel (Jacobson)- None

ATTORNEY'S REPORT:

1. **Mapleview Estates vs. City of Brown City:** City Manager Holmes and City Attorney Garno had a conference call with the Michigan Municipal League Defense Fund. City Attorney Garno received a call back and they agree to take our case. Miller/Canfield to write the brief.
2. **Mapleview Estates vs. City of Brown City:** Court hearing on November 5 concerning Mapleview Estates vs. City of Brown City resulted in the release of money held in a County Clerk escrow fund for water/sewer connection fees. However, the Court denied Motion to require the City of Brown City accept advance payment for water/sewer connection fees from Mapleview Estates.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

1. **City Master Plan:** The Planning Commission met with representatives of McKenna Associates and discussed corrections to the land use map and other issues that will form the heart of the Master Plan. A meeting is tentatively planned for Tuesday December 4th, for additional clarification of City growth plans. In addition to the Planning Commission, McKenna has requested that “community stakeholders” attend this meeting and provide input. If Councilmembers have any recommendations as to who should attend, please let me know so that invitations to this meeting can be mailed.

2. **City Projects:** Davis Land Surveying in North Branch has provided estimates for the engineering of proposed City projects: Upgrading and resurfacing Maple Valley Road and Industrial Drive (\$8,600); constructing a drainage ditch north of the water tower and to improve the downstream flow (\$9,800); and installation of a sewer main servicing an area south of Maple Street (\$6,800). Recommend the City proceed with this phase of the three projects. **REQUIRES MOTION.**

Motion by CM Stain, support by CM Murray, recommend the City proceed with the Maple Valley Road and Industrial Drive (\$8,600) project, and constructing a drainage ditch north of the water tower and to improve the downstream flow (\$9,800). Motion Carried. (as corrected 11/26/01 - Council was not in favor of contracting an engineering report for the installation a sewer main servicing an area south of Maple Street.)

3. **Economic Development:** I met with state and county economic development representatives on November 7th to discuss possible land acquisition for a City-owned industrial zone. Three pieces of property were discussed and inspected. The next step is for Lansing to conduct some analysis and proposed recommendations for a loan/grant. Based on this discussion, it is likely that only the current City Renaissance Zone (14.2 acres) would be eligible; however, recommendation from the state will not be available for a few weeks. Loans are generally for 20 years with the first payment due in five years. A grant of \$10K (in the form of a principal reduction) can result from each new job created (up to half the value of the loan).
4. **Fire Hydrant Flow Meter:** The Brown City Fire Authority wishes to sell its fire hydrant flow meter to the City. New the unit would cost \$1,200. They wish to sell it for \$600. The City should be flow-testing hydrants on a regular basis, usually when they are flushed. The City's current flow meter is a poor design and requires regular maintenance. DPW Supervisor supports purchase of unit.

CM Murray will ask the Brown City Fire Authority if they will permanently loan the flow meter to the City.

5. **NEXTEL Cell Tower:** Obviously the cell tower is nearing completion. The City has received checks for the first month's franchise fee (\$677.42) and first payment toward the installation fee (\$1K). We have received no formal notice as to when the tower will be fully operational.
6. **Girl Scout Cookies:** The Girl Scouts have requested permission from the Council to sell cookies January 19-February 11 (with deliveries starting March 11). **REQUIRES MOTION.**

Motion by CM Miller, support by CM Carpenter to grant permission to the Girl Scouts to sell cookies January 19 – February 11 with deliveries starting March 11.
Motion Carried

- 7. Zoning Variance Request:** An individual has asked if the Council (acting as the Zoning Board of Appeals) would be adverse to a variance request to turn a single family home on west Main Street into two apartments. Area is zoned commercial.

No support by the Council to allow this change.

- 8. Vehicle Bids:** The City advertised for bids on the 1990 Chevy police car and 1979 International dump truck. High bids were \$505 and \$1,765. Does the Council wish to accept these bids? **REQUIRES MOTION.**

Motion by CM Stain, support by CM Lukacs to accept the two high bids for the 1990 Police Car and 1979 International Dump Truck. Motion Carried

- 9. Office Copy Machine** – The office supply representative said that the duplexer for the office copy machine is now available for \$500 instead of \$1,000. City will offer \$430 because it will cost \$70 to install. Report at the next meeting.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

- 1. Resolution #01-14** = To Commend Richard Lee for Outstanding Service.

Motion by CM Carpenter, support by CM Lukacs, to adopt Resolution #01-14.

Roll Call Vote: Jacobson - Yes, Murray - Yes, Miller - Yes, Stain - Yes, Lukacs - Yes, Carpenter - Yes. 6 - Yes, 0 - No, 0 - Absent, 0 - Abstain. Motion Carried.

The second Council meeting in December falls on Christmas Eve. Council may wish to consider rescheduling.

Motion by CM Jacobson, support by CM Miller, to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 PM.
Motion Carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christine Lee
City Clerk