

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
April 13, 2010

The Regular City Council Meeting was called to order by Mayor Sangster in the Council Chambers in the City Hall at 7:00 p.m. The proceedings were as follows:

Present: Council Members Bronson, Lepp, Jewell, Sangster, Couture and Kopernik
Absent: Councilman VanFleet

Councilman Couture moved to excuse Councilman VanFleet. Seconded by Councilwoman Lepp. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Jewell led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Approval of Agenda and Receive and File all Communications

It was noted that Linda Konicki should be added to Consideration of Reappointment to the Brownfield Authority under General Business.

Councilman Kopernik moved to approve the agenda as amended and receive and file all communications. Seconded by Councilwoman Lepp. Motion carried unanimously.

Correction and Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes

- **Regular City Council Meeting – March 23, 2010**

Councilwoman Lepp moved to approve the minutes of the March 23, 2010 Regular City Council Meeting as presented. Seconded by Councilman Kopernik. Motion carried unanimously.

- **Special City Council Meeting – March 26, 2010**

Councilman Bronson moved to approve the minutes of the March 26, 2010 Special City Council Meeting as presented. Seconded by Councilwoman Lepp. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comments

Public comment portion of the meeting opened by Mayor Sangster.

- **Duncan Avenue Properties**

Mrs. Trudy Lofgren introduced herself and commented on a concern regarding the 300 block of Duncan Avenue properties that have become very muddy. Public Works Director Gall explained that the condition of the properties is the responsibility of the landowners. Councilman Kopernik noted he would contact the landowners to determine if the problem can be addressed.

Public comment portion of the meeting closed by Mayor Sangster.

Public Hearings

- **Pending Application to the Michigan Economic Development Corporation for Funding under the Community Development Block Grant Program for \$439,440 for the “Woolworth Site Re-Use Project”**

Public hearing portion of the meeting opened by Mayor Sangster.

Ms. Jan Kellogg of the Northern Lakes Economic Alliance provided an overview of the grant application process, the anticipated grant amount of \$439,440 and the projected City match of \$107,360. Ms. Janet Gahn questioned the source of the City matching funds. It was noted that the matching funds would come from the General Fund. Mrs. Trudy Lofgren commented favorably on the project and inquired about the potential redevelopment of the site.

Public hearing portion of the meeting closed by Mayor Sangster.

Councilman Couture moved to approve the submittal of the Application to the Michigan Economic Development Corporation for Funding under the Community Development Block Grant Program for \$439,440 for the “Woolworth Site Re-Use Project” and adopt the Section 6 Authorizing Resolution. Seconded by Councilman Jewell. A roll call vote was taken. Motion carried unanimously.

Communications and Petitions

- **Consideration of a Request from The Northern Care Center of Cheboygan to hold a Fundraiser at Gordon Turner Park on August 21, 2010 from 12:00 noon to 7:00 p.m.**

Councilman Couture moved to approve the request from the Northern Care Center of Cheboygan to hold a fundraiser at Gordon Turner Park on August 21, 2010 from 12:00 noon to 7:00 p.m. Seconded by Councilman Kopernik. Motion carried unanimously.

Bills and Disbursements

- **Pre-paid Bills and Disbursements for the Month of March 2010**

Councilman Kopernik moved to approve the pre-paid bills and disbursements for the month of March 2010 in the amount of \$415,065.40. Seconded by Councilman Bronson. Motion carried unanimously.

- **Unpaid Bills and Disbursements for the Month of March 2010**

Mayor Sangster requested clarification on bills shown as “All Departments.” Clerk/Treasurer Kwiatkowski explained that these pertain to expensed over multiple Funds.

Councilman Couture moved to approve the unpaid bills and disbursements for the month of March 2010 in the amount of \$14,244.84. Seconded by Councilman Kopernik. Motion carried unanimously.

Department, Boards and Commission Reports

- **Department of Public Safety Monthly Statistics – March 2010**

The Department of Public Safety Monthly Statistics for March 2010 were received and reviewed.

Resolutions

- **Consideration of Resolution to Provide Local Approval to Transfer 50 Shares of Stock in a 2009 Resort Class C License for 106 Pine Street, Cheboygan (The Boathouse) from Anthony Ingersoll & Brenda Ingersoll to NIHLS Investments LLC**

Discussion was held on the Resolution to Provide Local Approval to Transfer 50 shares of stock in a 2009 Resort Class C License for 106 Pine Street, Cheboygan (The Boathouse) from Anthony Ingersoll & Brenda Ingersoll to NIHLS Investments LLC. Chief Jones stated that he conducted an investigation and submitted a report to the State of Michigan and that now the local government body must approve or deny the stock transfer.

Councilwoman Lepp moved to approve the Resolution to Transfer 50 shares of stock in a 2009 Resort Class C License for 106 Pine Street, Cheboygan (The Boathouse) from Anthony Ingersoll & Brenda Ingersoll to NIHLS Investments LLC. Seconded by Councilman Jewell. A roll call vote was taken. Motion carried unanimously.

General Business

- **Consideration to Place 6-Month Delinquent Water/Sewer Utility Bills and an amount of \$8,000 for Demolition of a Beethem Property, Parcel No. 16-054-P39-008-004-00 as Liens on the 2010 Summer Tax Roll**

Councilman Kopernik moved to approve the placing of 6-month delinquent water/sewer utility bills and an amount of \$8,000 for demolition of a Beethem property, parcel no. 16-054-P39-008-004-00 as liens on the 2010 summer tax roll and direct the City Assessor to spread these amounts against the properties. Seconded by Councilwoman Lepp. A roll call vote was taken. Motion carried unanimously.

- **Consideration to Seek Bids for Wastewater Treatment Plant Building Roof Repair**

Department of Public Works Director Gall provided an overview on the condition of the roof at the Wastewater Treatment Plant building and requested authorization to seek bids for the needed repair.

Councilman Couture moved to approve the seeking of bids for the Wastewater Treatment Plant building roof repair. Seconded by Councilman Bronson. A roll call vote was taken. Motion carried unanimously.

- **Consideration to Reappoint Jeanette Bronson to the Historic Resources Commission**

Councilman Kopernik moved to reappoint Jeanette Bronson to the Historic Resources Commission with a term to expire March 25, 2013. Seconded by Councilman Couture. Motion carried unanimously.

- **Consideration to Reappoint Kenneth Kwiatkowski as Treasurer and Appoint Kenneth Kwiatkowski as Recording Secretary of the Brownfield Redevelopment Authority**

Councilman Couture moved to reappoint Kenneth Kwiatkowski as Treasurer and appoint Kenneth Kwiatkowski as Recording Secretary of the Brownfield Redevelopment Authority. Seconded by Councilman Jewell. Motion carried unanimously.

- **Consideration to Reappoint James Mick, Alfred C. West, Jr. and Linda Konicki to the Brownfield Redevelopment Authority**

Councilwoman Lepp moved to reappoint James Mick, Alfred C. West, Jr. and Linda Konicki to the Brownfield Redevelopment Authority with terms to expire April 13, 2013. Seconded by Councilman Kopernik. Motion carried unanimously.

City Clerk's and Treasurer's Comments

- **Update – Cheboygan Trailhead**

Clerk/Treasurer Kwiatkowski noted that the Cheboygan Trailhead project is slightly behind schedule due to environmental information needed for the bid documents. He commented the project is scheduled to be completed in late fall 2010. Discussion was held regarding the D&M Railroad property and whether the City could acquire the property for storage of trail grooming equipment.

Interim City Manager's Report

- **Selection of tentative dates for the City Council to meet with the City's Special Legal Counsel to discuss pending negotiations associated with a renewed employment agreement with Michigan Council 25 of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME), AFL-CIO**

Interim City Manager Korthauer noted that AFSCME Union Staff Representative Duane Hunt has notified him that the Union wishes to begin negotiations for renewal of their employment agreement with the City and has requested background information which is currently being assembled. He commented that the City's labor counsel has been notified of the Union's request and has asked to meet with Council to receive direction concerning the City's approach to these negotiations. Council discussed tentative dates of a Special City Council meeting with closed session and decided on Tuesday, April 27, 2010 at 5:30 p.m. pending the availability of the labor attorney.

- **Selection of tentative dates for the City Council to meet with representatives of the Michigan Municipal League to discuss pending recruitment to fill the vacated City Manager position**

Council discussed tentative dates for a Special City Council meeting regarding discussion with Michigan Municipal League representatives and Interim City Manager Korthauer who is serving as the executive search facilitator, on specifications for the City Manager position. Mayor Sangster set a tentative date of Monday, April 19, 2010 at 5:00 p.m. for the Special City Council meeting.

- **Discussion concerning alternatives associated with the proposed resurfacing of Western Avenue, from Lincoln Avenue to the south City limit, with use of grant funds under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Program as administered by the Michigan Department of Transportation**

Council discussed the proposed resurfacing of Western Avenue from Lincoln Avenue to the south City limit with the use of grant funding under the ARRA Program, the bids received exceeded the engineer's estimate, and the possibility of the City assuming responsibility for the cost overage if the resurfacing project proceeds. Also discussed were various options available to the City.

Councilman Kopernik moved to authorize Interim City Manager Korthauer and staff to finalize the grant process for the resurfacing of Western Avenue from Lincoln Avenue to the south City limit and to authorize an amount not to exceed \$15,000 to cover any cost overages that the City may be responsible for. Seconded by Councilwoman Lepp. A roll call vote was taken. Motion carried unanimously.

Messages and Communications from Mayor and Council Members

- **Sidewalk Repair/Pylons**

Councilman Jewell commented on concerns regarding a portion of the downtown sidewalk and repair by the contractor. He also commented on several orange pylons placed at Eastern Avenue which may belong to the City. It was noted that Department of Public Works Director Gall would follow up on these issues.

- **Zoning Issues**

Mayor Sangster commented on concerns regarding zoning issues. It was noted that Interim City Manager Korthauer would address zoning issues internally with existing staff.

Adjournment

Councilman Couture moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:12 p.m. Seconded by Councilman Jewell. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Richard B. Sangster

City Clerk Kenneth J. Kwiatkowski

Councilman Nicholas C. Couture

Councilman William K. Jewell

Councilwoman Theo Lepp

Councilman Mark Bronson

Councilman Michael J. VanFleet

Councilman Roger Kopernik