

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
May 11, 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:

The Oath of Office was taken by Richard B. Sangster, Theo Lepp, Winifred Riddle and Michael VanFleet.

Present: Council Members Lepp, Jewell, Sangster, Couture, Riddle, Bronson and VanFleet

Councilwoman Riddle led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Approval of Agenda and Receive and File all Communications

Councilman VanFleet moved to approve the agenda as presented and receive and file all communications. Seconded by Councilman Couture. Motion carried unanimously.

Appointment of Mayor Pro Tem

Councilwoman Riddle moved to reappoint Councilwoman Lepp as Mayor Pro Tem. Seconded by Councilman VanFleet. A roll call vote was taken. Motion carried unanimously.

Correction and Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes

- **Special City Council Meeting – April 27, 2010**

Councilman Bronson moved to approve the minutes of the April 27, 2010 Special City Council Meeting as presented. Seconded by Councilwoman Lepp. Motion carried unanimously.

- **Regular City Council Meeting – April 27, 2010**

Councilman Couture moved to approve the minutes of the April 27, 2010 Regular City Council Meeting as presented. Seconded by Councilman Bronson. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comments

Public comment portion of the meeting opened by Mayor Sangster.

- **Former Councilman Kopernik**

Former Councilman Roger Kopernik commented on the honor and privilege of having served on the City Council.

- **Rally for Education**

Ms. Michelle Chase introduced herself and commented on behalf of Cheboygan Area Teachers that she is available to answer questions regarding the Rally for Education that will be discussed later in the meeting.

- **Library Millage**

Mr. Richard Lemorie introduced himself and requested clarification on the Library millage that was part of the ballot on the May 4, 2010 election. Councilman Bronson explained tax captures that take some of the Library millage such as DDA, Inverness Township DDA and any designated Brownfield Redevelopment Projects, which calculates to slightly less than 4% of the bond issue.

- **Sidewalks**

Mrs. Trudy Lofgren introduced herself and questioned whose responsibility it is to remove sod growing over sidewalks to make them walkable. Mayor Sangster stated the responsibility in most cases goes to the landowner and would fall under the same guidelines as snow removal. Mrs. Lofgren commented on sod growing over sidewalks in some areas along Mackinaw Avenue, making passage difficult. Interim City Manager Korthauer indicated the matter would be looked into.

- **Pinehill Cemetery Records/City Manager Recruitment**

Ms. Janet Gahn introduced herself and questioned the status of the missing burial records. She also questioned the status of the City Manager search and if advertising is expected by mid-May as stated at an April City Council meeting. Clerk/Treasurer Kwiatkowski stated that the burial records are still missing. Interim City Manager Korthauer stated in terms of the City Manager search, he will be contacting Caroline Kennedy of the Michigan Municipal League again tomorrow after missing contact with each other the past two days to continue working on the profiles. He added that he spent time last weekend regarding the City of East Jordan who is also going through that process. Interim City Manager Korthauer noted that in terms of the advertising deadline he is unsure if the mid-May deadline would be met but it would be close to that.

- **Veterans Memorial Park/Washington Park**

Ms. Debbie Messler introduced herself and commented on Veterans Memorial Park, which is dedicated to veterans and remembering the military. She questioned why those types of memorials continue to be placed in Washington Park particularly since it is in the process of revitalization and opening the area up to the new pedestrian bridge. Ms. Messler commented on the monuments that are dedicated to the Army and to 9/11 Fire Fighters and now there is a sign indicating that another monument to honor fallen soldiers will be placed in Washington Park. She noted her full support of veterans but recommended that all memorials be located in one place, such as Veterans Memorial Park versus two different places. Mayor Sangster explained that the issue regarding the placement of a monument to honor fallen soldiers was brought before Council and approved and in the future those types of requests may be addressed through the public hearing process to encourage more public input. Discussion was held regarding future memorials. Mrs. Trudy Lofgren questioned if it would be appropriate to discuss with the various committees the possibility of moving their monuments to Veterans Memorial Park. Discussion was held regarding moving monuments.

Councilwoman Riddle moved to make a formal request to the appropriate groups about the possibility of relocating memorials in Washington Park to Veterans Memorial Park. Discussion was held regarding relocating the memorials and permission from Cheboygan County in reference to Veterans Memorial Park. Councilwoman Riddle withdrew her motion.

Councilwoman Riddle moved to contact Cheboygan County regarding permission to relocate the memorials from Washington Park to Veterans Park and if acceptable, make a formal request to the appropriate groups about the possibility of relocating the memorials accordingly. Seconded by Councilman VanFleet. A roll call vote was taken.

Yes votes: Council Members Riddle, Sangster, VanFleet and Bronson

No votes: Council Members Lepp, Jewell and Couture

Motion carried.

Public comment portion of the meeting closed by Mayor Sangster.

Public Hearings

- **Cancellation of the Public Hearing that had been Scheduled to Receive comments Concerning the Pending Application to the Michigan Economic Development Corporation under the Community Development Block Grant Program for \$500,000 to Partially Offset Costs of Proposed Water-System Improvements and Deferral of Rescheduling of this Public Hearing.**

Councilwoman Lepp moved to cancel the Public Hearing that had been scheduled to receive comments concerning the pending Application to the Michigan Economic Development Corporation under the Community Development Block Grant Program for \$500,000 to partially offset costs of proposed water-system improvements and defer rescheduling of this public hearing. Seconded by Councilman Jewell. A roll call vote was taken. Motion carried unanimously.

Communications and Petitions

- **Consideration of Request from the Cheboygan Memorial Hospital Auxiliary to hold its Annual Tag Day, August 6, 2010**

Councilman Couture moved to approve the request from the Cheboygan Memorial Hospital Auxiliary to hold its Annual Tag Day, August 6, 2010. Seconded by Councilwoman Lepp. Motion carried unanimously.

- **Consideration of Request from Cheboygan Area Teachers from the Michigan Education Association to host a “Rally for Education”, Monday, May 24, 2010, 5:30 p.m. in Washington Park**

Councilman Bronson moved to approve the request from Cheboygan Area Teachers from the Michigan Education Association to hold a “Rally for Education” on Monday, May 24, 2010 at 5:30 p.m. in Washington Park. Seconded by Councilwoman Lepp. Motion carried unanimously.

Bills and Disbursements

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

Councilman Jewell requested clarification on item 30 – Mark Maczka Construction for rental rehabilitation construction costs. Mayor Sangster explained that expense pertains to the Rental Rehab program and is part of the grant program. Councilman Jewell also questioned item 19 – E. F. Wilkinson & Sons regarding 100 yards of topsoil and asked the minimum amount where services are not required to be bid out. Clerk/Treasurer Kwiatkowski noted the City Manager can approve \$2,500 for services without seeking bids. Councilman Jewell questioned item 44 – Nantz, Litowicz, Smith & Girard, asking if a breakdown of labor attorney legal fees could be provided. Discussion was held regarding providing Council with a breakdown of legal fees. Clerk/Treasurer Kwiatkowski indicated he would provide a breakdown of costs. Councilwoman Riddle questioned item 25 – Gourdie-Frazier engineering services. Clerk/Treasurer Kwiatkowski noted that expense pertains to the trailhead facility. Councilwoman Riddle requested an update on the trailhead. Mayor Sangster provided an update on the trailhead facility noting that the construction bid was awarded to Rieth-Riley and a ribbon cutting ceremony will be held in June with a grand opening in September 2010. Mrs. Trudy Lofgren questioned item 20 – E. Gilbert & Sons regarding the footbridge. Clerk/Treasurer Kwiatkowski explained the notation will indicate progress payment until the final payment is made. He commented on the irrigation system issue that must be settled before the final payment is made. Mrs. Lofgren also questioned item 44 pertaining to labor attorney fees. Clerk/Treasurer Kwiatkowski noted that the expenses pertained primarily to the Police Officers Union negotiations and that negotiations with the AFSCME Union will begin soon. Mrs. Lofgren

questioned items 47 and 48 regarding Ellis Olson. Clerk/Treasurer Kwiatkowski explained that payment to the Pinehill Cemetery Sexton is provided in installments beginning April 1 through November 1. Mr. Richard Lemorie questioned item 25 pertaining to the trailhead. Mayor Sangster noted that the trailhead is a DNR project and the City is the grant holder of the project. Ms. Janet Gahn commented on the Pinehill Cemetery Maintenance payment of March 2010, noting that payment is scheduled to begin in April. She also commented on labor attorney legal fees. Mayor Sangster commented the legal fees are an ongoing cost. Clerk/Treasurer Kwiatkowski explained that legal fees are expensed to the City Manager under contracted services. Mrs. Lofgren questioned if labor attorney services could be bid out. Discussion was held regarding labor attorney expenses and the nature of specialized services that are provided. Clerk/Treasurer Kwiatkowski explained the payment process for Pinehill Cemetery maintenance. Councilman VanFleet questioned item 51 regarding the Bank of New York Mellon. Clerk/Treasurer Kwiatkowski explained the 2006 refunding bonds which were originally 1997 sewer bonds that were refinanced to significantly reduce interest payments.

Councilman Riddle moved to approve the unpaid bills and disbursements for the month of April 2010 in the amount of \$582,897.72. Seconded by Councilwoman Lepp. A roll call vote was taken. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Councilman Jewell moved to approve the unpaid bills and disbursements for the month of April 2010 in the amount of \$15,548.54. Seconded by Councilman Couture. A roll call vote was taken. Motion carried unanimously.

Department, Boards and Commission Reports

There was no report.

General Business

- **Consideration to Reappoint James Maynard and David Kronberg to the Planning Commission – Terms to Expire May 10, 2013**

Councilman Couture moved to reappoint James Maynard and David Kronberg to the Planning Commission with terms to expire on May 10, 2013. Seconded by Councilwoman Lepp. Motion carried unanimously.

- **Consideration to Award Bid for Wastewater Treatment Plant Building Roof Repair**

Council was referred to a tabulation of bids regarding replacement of the flat roof of the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Councilwoman Lepp commented on the significant difference in the bid amounts. Mayor Sangster indicated that travel expense could likely affect the bid amount. Interim City Manager Korthauer noted that in addition to the lower mobilization costs this contractor also proposed to maintain the existing insulation as well as adding new material and reusing the ballast stone.

Councilman Couture moved to award the Wastewater Treatment Plant Building Roof Repair to Doyle, Inc. in the amount of \$13,121. Seconded by Councilman Bronson. A roll call vote was taken. Motion carried unanimously.

- **Consideration of the 2009/10 Third Quarter Financial Report**

Council reviewed the highlights of revenues and expenses of the various Funds prior to discussion of the Third Quarter Financial Report. Discussion was held on General Fund Expenses pertaining to the Opera House contribution and other expenses relative to utilities, maintenance and repair. Also discussed was having budget information available to the public for review and it was noted that information on the proposed budget should be available the second week in June. Discussion was held on expenses relating to demolition of the former F. W. Woolworth building and grant funding for that project. Council also discussed Department of Public Safety staffing and wage data, the City Income Tax, 2010/2011 Marketing budget and providing budget information online.

Councilman VanFleet moved to accept the 2009/10 Third Quarter Financial Report. Seconded by Councilwoman Lepp. A roll call vote was taken. Motion carried unanimously.

City Clerk's and Treasurer's Comments

There were no comments.

Interim City Manager's Report

- **Foreign Exchange Student Picnic**

Interim City Manager Korthauer commented that the Human Relations Board will be hosting a picnic on Sunday, May 23, 2010 from 2 to 5 p.m. for foreign exchange students at the Alverno Town Hall.

- **Joint Meeting with Council and Pool Committee Consultants**

Interim City Manager Korthauer noted that the Library will be available on Monday, June 21, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. for a joint meeting with the Pool Committee consultants, City Council and representatives from the various Townships. He commented that date would be confirmed with the pool consultants to arrange a joint meeting and then notification would be provided.

- **Approval for Urban Revitalization 3.0 Grant/Washington Park**

Interim City Manager Korthauer reported that notice was received from the Michigan Economic Development Corporation that the City's grant application for \$47,250 for improvements to Washington Park has been approved.

Messages and Communications from Mayor and Council Members

- **State Shared Revenue**

Councilman Jewell requested clarification on the criteria that State shared revenue is based on. Interim City Manager Korthauer referred to a complicated formula used by the State to calculate shared revenue.

- **Cheboygan Area Schools Budget Reductions**

Councilman Jewell outlined reductions within the Cheboygan Area School System and the impact to this community. He also commented on similar financial constraints with the hospital.

- **Vinyl Fencing**

Councilwoman Riddle commented on the condition of the white vinyl fencing between the law office and Mariners Village Marina on Main Street that needs attention.

Adjournment

Councilman VanFleet moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:03 p.m. Seconded by Councilwoman Lepp. 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

Councilwoman Winifred Riddle