

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

March 12, 2019

The Regular City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Bronson in the Council Chambers at City Hall at 7:03 p.m.

Roll Call:

Present: Bronson, Mallory, Temple, King, Kwiatkowski, and Johnston

Absent: Couture

Councilman King moved to excuse Mayor Pro Tem Couture; supported by Councilwoman Kwiatkowski. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comments:

- Joe and Laura Derk of Scrolls Unlimited discussed better promotion of businesses on the east side of Cheboygan. Some ideas they presented were developing a DDA along the east side corridor, improving the street lights and sidewalks, and adding a business directory on the City website that includes all businesses located in Cheboygan. They also presented a new campaign they are working on, "The Sun Rises on the East Side." They are selling totes for \$5; select businesses on the east side will be offering discounts for shopping with your tote.
- Mr. Ray Lofgren inquired about the Christmas decorations that are still up downtown and when they will be taken down. He also voiced his support for the east side campaign.

Approval of Agenda and Receive and File all Communications:

- Councilwoman Kwiatkowski moved to approve the Agenda and receive and file all communications, supported by Councilwoman Johnston. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes:

- Councilwoman Kwiatkowski moved to approve the Regular City Council Meeting Minutes of February 26, 2019 as presented, supported by Councilman King. Motion carried unanimously.

Bills & Disbursements:

- Councilman King inquired about the advertising payments made to MacDonald Garber Broadcasting and Northern Michigan Review in February. Clerk/Treasurer Brown reported that those items were radio and print ads for Hospitality Night and Men's Night and they were approved by the DDA and paid for out of the DDA budget.
- Councilman King also inquired about the bond payment that was paid and wanted to know the history of that bond. City Manager Eustice responded that was a 40 year bond for water system improvements.
- Councilman King moved to approve the prepaid bills and disbursements for the month of February 2019 in the amount of \$521,665.67, supported by Councilman Mallory. A roll call vote was taken, motion carried unanimously.

- Councilwoman Johnston inquired about the unpaid item to Truck & Trailer Specialties in the amount of \$11,114.00. Clerk/Treasurer Brown reported that was for emergency repairs on two of the salt trucks, one had the conveyor chain drive system and hydraulic motor kit replaced and the other had the box replaced. City Manager Eustice reported that both trucks broke down with a 48 hour period and needed to be repaired.
- Councilwoman Johnston moved to approve the unpaid bills and disbursements for the month of February 2019 in the amount of \$41,197.10, supported by Councilman Temple. A roll call vote was taken, motion carried unanimously.
- The Revenue and Expense report was provided as of February 28, 2019, no action required.
- The Unassigned Fund Balance Report 2008-2018 was presented, no action required.

Department, Boards and Commission Reports:

- Downtown Development Authority Meeting Minutes, January 15, 2019 received and filed.
- Planning Commission Meeting Minutes February 19, 2019 received and filed. City Manager Eustice reported that the final draft of the Master Plan will be reviewed at the next Planning Commission meeting on Monday, March 18 and set the public hearings to finalize the plan. This is the last step in the process of applying for the Redevelopment Ready Community designation.

Resolutions:

- Consideration of Recommendation of Certified Resolution for a Special License to Serve Alcohol on April 26-28 at 480 Cleveland Ave (Ice Rink/Pavilion). Councilman King moved to recommend the issuance of a special license to serve alcohol on April 26-28 at 480 Cleveland Avenue (Ice/Rink Pavilion), supported by Councilman Mallory. A roll call vote was taken, motion carried unanimously.

General Business:

- Consideration of Proposal from Wolverine Fireworks Display for July 4, 2019 Fireworks. Councilman King moved to approve the proposal from Wolverine Fireworks Display in the amount of \$7,000.00 and authorize the City Manager and Director of Public Safety to sign the Hold Harmless Agreement; the City Manager to sign the Contract Agreement; and the Mayor to sign the 2019 Permit for Fireworks Other than Consumer or Low Impact, supported by Councilman Mallory. A roll call vote was taken, motion carried unanimously.

City Clerk's and Treasurers Comments:

- Clerk/Treasurer Brown reported that on Monday, March 11, 2019, the City settled with the County for the 2018 Taxes. The summer taxes had a collection rate of 91% and the winter taxes had a collection rate of 90%. Any funds owed to the City will be disbursed once the County has settled with the other units, which should be mid-April.

City Manager's Report:

- City Manager Eustice reported that the pending 425 Agreement with Inverness Township has been edited with some minor adjustments and has been forwarded on to Meijer. The

Development Agreement between the City of Cheboygan and Meijer will be forwarded on to Meijer once the draft has been reviewed by City Attorney Lindsay and DPW Director Karmol.

- City Manager Eustice reported that the Main Street Designation presentation was in Lansing on March 6, 2019. The City will find out by the end of March if we have been selected.
- City Manager Eustice informed Council that the Passport Grant for \$150,000 for improvements in Major City Park, which will cover the cost of updating the bathrooms and lighting, is due April 1, 2019. The grant requires a 25% match which has been met with in-kind services. The Coastal Zone Management Grant has been submitted for green space improvements in the Water Street parking lot. The City should know by July 1, 2019 if we've been selected to receive the grant funds.
- City Manager Eustice reported that Ryba Marine has repaired the boardwalk at Gordon Turner Park at no cost to the City.
- City Manager Eustice is still waiting to hear from the Department of Natural Resources about the appraisal on the property north of the Cheboygan County Marina.
- City Manager Eustice reported the sale of This Old House and adjacent properties to AutoZone closed on March 5, 2019. The property has been rezoned and AutoZone is hoping to be open by August 1, 2019.
- City Manager Eustice stated that a Public Participation Forum has been scheduled for April 22, 2019 from 6:30 – 8:00 pm at the Cheboygan Area Public Library as part of the Redevelopment Ready Community program. This will be annual event going forward. Councilman Mallory inquired if that meeting could be recorded.

Committee Updates:

- Councilman Mallory reported that the Downtown Development Authority has updated the requirements for the Façade Design Grant, applicants will only be eligible if construction hasn't been started. They are also taking bids on Wi-Fi service in the DDA district.
- Councilwoman Johnston reported that the Recreation Commission is working on new programs and reaching out to other townships for collaboration and letters of support for the Trails Town application. City Manager Eustice added that the Trails Town application is due June 1, 2019.
- Director of Public Safety Jones reported that the Blight Committee is waiting on a response from City Attorney Lindsay before the committee meets again.

Messages and Communications from Mayor and Council Members:

- Councilman King commended Executive Director Kathy King Johnson on what a great job she's doing with the Opera House. He also expressed some concerns about potholes around town, specifically at Lincoln Ave. and Main St. and also on Lincoln Ave. near the trail crossing. He reported that he will be unable to attend the Regular City Council Meeting scheduled for March 26, 2019.
- Councilman Mallory reported that he will be unable to attend the Regular City Council Meeting scheduled for March 26, 2019.
- Councilwoman Johnston inquired about the intersection located at Division St. and Water St. The stop sign is often ignored and cars often drive the wrong way on the one-way street.
- Mayor Bronson reported that a citizen tripped on a wind row along Main St and wondered if that could be cleaned up. The Mayor suggested that the east side look at other options rather

than a DDA to help promote the businesses. City Manager Eustice suggested a Commercial Corridor. Mayor Bronson inquired about whether O'Reilly's Auto Parts is looking at coming to town. City Manager Eustice reported that they are in the process of purchasing the Re/Max building. Mayor Bronson asked about the sidewalk bids. City Manager Eustice reported that he is working on getting that published.

Meeting adjourned at 8:39 p.m.

Mayor Mark C. Bronson

Clerk/Treasurer Bridget E. Brown

Councilman Brett Mallory

Councilwoman Sara Johnston

Councilman Vaughn Temple

Councilman Nathan H. King

Mayor Pro Tem Nicholas C. Couture

Councilwoman Betty A. Kwiatkowski