



CITY COUNCIL

March 3, 2014

A regular meeting of the City of Petoskey City Council was held in the City Hall City Council Chambers, Petoskey, Michigan, on Monday, March 3, 2014. This meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M.; then, after a recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, a roll call then determined that the following were

Present: William Fraser, Mayor
Kate Marshall, City Councilmember
John Murphy, City Councilmember
Grant Dittmar, City Councilmember
Jeremy Wills, City Councilmember

Absent: None

Also in attendance were City Manager Dan Ralley and City Clerk-Treasurer Alan Terry.

Resolution No. 18755
Approve Consent Agenda Items

Following introduction of the consent agenda for this meeting of March 3, 2014, City Councilmember Dittmar moved that, seconded by City Councilmember Wills adoption of the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council does and hereby confirms that the draft minutes of the February 17, 2014 regular-session City Council meeting be and are hereby approved; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that receipt by the City Council of a report concerning all checks that had been issued since February 17 for contract and vendor claims at \$1,242,865.18, intergovernmental claims at \$10,665.85, and the February 27 payroll at \$179,630.41, for a total of \$1,433,161.44 be and is hereby acknowledged.

Said resolution was adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Marshall, Murphy, Dittmar, Wills, Fraser (5)
NAYS: None (0)

Resolution No. 18756
Confirm Appointments

Mayor Fraser then reviewed that City Council consider an appointment to the Greenwood Cemetery Board to fill out the remaining term of deceased member Jack Waldvogel.

City Councilmember Murphy moved that, seconded by City Councilmember Marshall, adoption of the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council does and hereby approves the appointment of James Hempstead, 512 Woodland Avenue, to the Greenwood Cemetery Board, for a four-year term ending May 2018.

Said resolution was adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Marshall, Murphy, Dittmar, Wills, Fraser (5)

NAYS: None (0)

Hear Public Comment

Mayor Fraser asked for public comment and heard from Izzy Lyman, 1117 Jennings Avenue, regarding parking revenue information. Mayor Fraser responded that the

Downtown Management Board handles parking revenues and that they meet the third Tuesday of each month.

Hear City Manager Updates

The City Manager reported the US-31/ Mitchell Street and Mitchell Street bridge projects is scheduled to begin in March when winter breaks; that there has not been a

formal response to the letter sent to MDOT concerning the Mitchell Street bridge; that vacation rentals were discussed at the Planning Commission meeting; and that residents are still urged to run water until further notice.

Public Safety Millage Discussion

The City Manager reviewed that the February 17, 2014 Council meeting Council expressed tentative interest in establishing a Citizen Committee to examine options

and make recommendations concerning a possible Public Safety millage. However, based on feedback from Council members since this last meeting, further discussion about the process for this millage was warranted. For further discussion is whether City Council should conduct work sessions to further discuss the budgetary challenges within the General Fund, including possible Public Safety funding options, or whether a Citizen Committee should be established.

City Councilmembers discussed Council's responsibility to review and ultimately make decisions, not citizens; in favor of work sessions where public is present and included in discussions; move past a citizen committee and not establish; and that timing is important.

City Councilmembers concurred that the City Manager set a work session for Monday, March 24, 2014.

Mayor Fraser asked for public comments and heard from those in favor of millage if necessary, but that currently everything is not justified; in favor of work sessions; and that there is some concern of increased millage rates.

Acknowledge Receipt of Planning Commission Annual Report for 2013

The City Manager next reported that required by the Michigan Planning Enabling Act, the City Council had been provided a copy of the Planning Commission Annual Report for 2013, as part of its March 3 meeting-

agenda materials, and that the City Council was being asked to acknowledge receipt of this 2013 annual report.

First Reading of Fireworks Ordinance Amendment

The City Manager next reviewed a proposed ordinance that would amend regulations adopted in 2012 by City Council to prohibit the use of consumer fireworks between the hours of 1:00 A.M. and 8:00 A.M. on the day

before and day after federal holidays. The currently proposed ordinance reflects a minor amendment to the Michigan Fireworks Safety Act adopted by the State in 2013 giving local municipalities additional powers to regulate the times that fireworks are used.

The Michigan Fireworks Safety Act, which became effective on January 1, 2012, legalized the use of aerial fireworks, and established a State-wide licensing system for the sale of "consumer fireworks". Following feedback from municipalities that fielded complaints about the noise associated with the use of aerial fireworks, the State amended regulations in order to permit municipalities to further restrict the hours that such fireworks may be used.

For municipalities under 50,000 in population, municipalities may regulate the ignition, discharge, or use of consumer fireworks between the hours of 1:00 A.M. and 8:00 A.M.

City Council will consider a second reading and possible action at the March 17, 2014 City Council meeting.

Hear Council Comments

Mayor Fraser asked for Council comments and City Councilmember Dittmar and Murphy commented that it was good to see snow pack removed near the Mitchell Street bridge; and Mayor Fraser also commented that Kalamazoo Avenue was becoming quite narrow due to the snow banks and that DPW took care of the matter quickly.

There being no further business to come before the City Council, this March 3, 2014, meeting of the City Council adjourned at 7:37 P.M.

W.J. Fraser, Mayor

Alan Terry, City Clerk-Treasurer