

MONTROSE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

July 15, 2021

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Colleen Brown called the regular Council meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was held at the Montrose City Offices located at 139 S. Saginaw Street, Montrose, MI.

ROLL CALL: Present Council Members were Mayor Colleen Brown, Robert Arnold, Mark Richard, Ryan Heslop, and Andrea Martin. Also present were City Manager Neil Rankin, City Attorney Otis Stout, City Clerk Tina Rush, and 11 citizens. Members Tom Bigelow and Aaron Burch were recorded as absent.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG: Mayor Colleen Brown led the Pledge of Allegiance.

CITIZEN OF THE MONTH:

1. *THE MONTH OF JUNE 2021, ETHAN ANDRES:* Mayor Brown mentioned that Andres is a member of the Montrose Porch Project and thanked him for his assistance with sidewalk edging.

2. *CHOOSE A CITIZEN OF THE MONTH FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST:* Mayor Brown recommended Angela Barrett for being one of the founding members of the Montrose Porch Project.

- **MOTION** by Richard **SECOND** by Arnold that Angela Barrett be Citizen of the Month for the month of August. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

PUBLIC HEARINGS: NONE

PRESENTATIONS: NONE

REPORTS

1. *FIRE & POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORTS:* Officer Jason Ronbach read aloud the police statistics report and reiterated the need for the public to contact 911 even for non-emergency issues. *Report on file at city office.*

2. *BUILDING INSPECTION SERVICES:* *On file at city office.*

3. *HYDRO-CORP INSPECTION SERVICES:* *On file at city office.*

4. *RENTAL PROPERTY INSPECTIONS:* Currently scheduling appointments.

5. *ROSE PEST SOLUTION MIDSEASON REPORT:* Mark Lucerno introduced Ashley Warner as the new management team for the municipal mosquito programs. Ms. Warner read aloud the end of the year report.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Owner of 288 E. State Street, Dennis Graham, read aloud a letter to city council requesting penalty fees be waived for the General Business License Ordinance. David Martin, 48th District State House Representative introduced himself and referenced a proposed house bill regulating rental housing. Representative Martin also announced that he will be at the

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Telephone Museum on Monday July 19th at 10:00 a.m. Mayor Brown excused herself from serving on council to speak as someone from the public and asked Mayor Pro-Tem Mark Richard to run the meeting. Mayor Brown said she is submitting 2 event applications on behalf of the Montrose Porch Project, one is to host a Farmer's Market on the first Sunday in July through October and the other project is a community beautification project to paint the windows in the DDA District. Mayor Brown said they are still searching for event insurance to cover the painting project and asked council to co-sponsor the Montrose Porch Project for this event only, conveying that they are taking safety and security, renting scaffolding and local artists will be doing the painting. Mayor Brown also asked Council to waive the Depot rental fees as the Montrose Porch Project is a non-profit organization. *Mayor Brown excused herself from speaking in the public and resumed leadership role as Chairperson of the meeting at 7:28 p.m.*

- **MOTION** by Richard **SECOND** by Arnold that we put on the agenda item No. 10, "Dennis Graham Waiver of General Business License Late Fees". All Ayes. Motion Carried.
- **MOTION** by Arnold **SECOND** by Richard that we add No. 11, "Montrose Porch Project Farmer's Market Event Application". All Ayes. Motion Carried.
- **MOTION** by Richard **SECOND** by Arnold that we add No. 12, "Montrose Porch Project Window Painting Event Application". All Ayes. Motion Carried.

MATTERS OF COUNCIL ACTION:

1. APPROVAL OF THE 06/17/21 SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES:

- **MOTION** by Richard **SECOND** by Arnold to approve the special meeting minutes of 06/17/2021. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

2. APPROVAL OF THE 06/17/21 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES:

- **MOTION** by Arnold **SECOND** by Richard that we approve the 06/17/2021 regular meeting minutes as presented. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

3. APPROVAL OF TREASURER REPORT & CHECK REGISTER:

- **MOTION** by Arnold **SECOND** by Richard to pay our bills including the check hand out tonight in the amount of forty-one thousand six hundred six dollars and sixty-two cents, (\$41,606.62). Roll Call Vote: Heslop – Aye, Martin – Aye, Arnold – Aye, Richard – Aye, and Mayor Brown – Aye. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

4. DISCUSSION/DIRECTION RFP FOR PAINTING OF DPW GARAGE: Rankin reported that the DPW garage will shortly having the roof replaced, along with this project would be the repainting of the building which is badly needed. I have included a few exterior photos of the paint that is flaking and rusting. The RFP would basically utilize a Sherwin Williams product/process for outdoor metal buildings to ensure proper prep and adhesion. The goal will be to get this completed by early to late fall this year.

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- **MOTION** by Richard **SECOND** by Heslop to approve the RFP for painting our DPW garage. Roll Call Vote: Heslop – Aye, Martin – Aye, Richard – Aye, Arnold – Aye, and Mayor Brown – Aye. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

5. *DISCUSSION/DIRECTION RESOLUTION FOR MOSQUITO ABATEMENT BALLOT LANGUAGE PROPOSAL*: Rankin said at the last meeting, council approved going with a different company. The City will submit this proposal to the Genesee Co. Elections/Clerk for the next Countywide election that could be either November 21 or May of 2022. Prior to the roll call vote, Stout noticed the assessment period said 3 years instead of 5 and it should be 5 years. Rush asked for clarification because at the last meeting, council member Tom Bigelow made a motion to hold it on the November election and Mayor Brown clarified that council's desire is to save money and not hold a special election just for this purpose.

- **MOTION** by Arnold **SECOND** by Richard that we accept the ballot resolution language as amended. Roll Call Vote: Heslop – Aye, Arnold – Aye, Martin – Aye, Richard – Aye, and Mayor Brown – Aye. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

6. *DISCUSSION/DIRECTION GENERAL BUSINESS LICENSE*: Rankin reported that 47 businesses have applied and paid for the general business license, 40 have had inspections and passed, 5 need inspections/re-inspections, however, 4 have not complied, Black Ink Investments LLC & Community Threads located at 288 E. State Street, Masonic Temple Association located at 130 Parkway, and Commercial Realty located at 129 E. State Street. As specified in the ordinance the city does have action to remedy non-compliance, the first course of action was sending out letters, so far 3 letters have been sent, the most recently mailing via certified mail. Mayor Brown asked to re-evaluate the first letter to be mailed out and clearly define the steps. Each of the council members sympathized with the businesses but agreed with the necessity of this ordinance especially with the recent fire at Naples.

- **MOTION** by Arnold **SECOND** by Richard to include the Montrose Historical Telephone Museum to item No. 10. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

7. *DISCUSSION/DIRECTION SNOW REMOVAL RFP*: Rankin reported that the city did not receive one proposal and asked for council's direction. Arnold suggested contacting places directly instead and Mayor suggested council getting the word out. Discussion only, no action taken.

8. *DISCUSSION/DIRECTION ARPA RESOLUTION*: Rankin explained that this resolution is required in order to receive the funds.

- **MOTION** by Arnold **SECOND** by Richard that we go forward with the ARP resolution as presented. Roll Call Vote: Richard – Aye, Heslop – Aye, Martin – Aye, Arnold – Aye, and Mayor Brown – Aye. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

9. *DISCUSSION/DIRECTION LETTER OF SUPPORT*: Rankin said he was contacted by a resident asking for a letter of support for a grant she is writing in cooperation with the YMCA on Pierson Rd. The Grant would help fund an exercise program called, "Rock Steady Boxing" exclusively to

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Parkinson's patients like herself. The only current location in Genesee County is at Ascension Genesys Health Club in Grand Blanc which is slightly farther than she can drive.

- **MOTION** by Richard **SECOND** by Arnold that we do the letter of support for Shelly Hilton's Rock Steady Boxing. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

10. DENNIS GRAHAM AND THE MONTROSE HISTORICAL TELEPHONE MUSEUM, WAIVER OF GENERAL BUSINESS LICENSE LATE FEES:

- **MOTION** by Richard **SECOND** by Martin to waive the late fees for the Montrose Historical Museum and Community Threads. Roll Call Vote: Heslop – Aye, Arnold – Aye, Martin – Aye, Richard – Aye, and Mayor Brown – Aye. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

11. MONTROSE PORCH PROJECT FARMER'S MARKET EVENT APPLICATION:

- **MOTION** by Arnold **SECOND** by Martin to co-sponsor the Montrose Porch Project and allow the even to happen. Roll Call Vote: Martin – Aye, Richard – Aye, Arnold – Aye, Heslop – Aye, and Mayor Brown – Abstain. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

12. MONTROSE PORCH PROJECT WINDOW PAINTING EVENT APPLICATION:

- **MOTION** by Arnold **SECOND** by Heslop that we allow the Community Porch Project to use the Depot for its event and waive the fees. Roll Call Vote: Richard – Aye, Martin – Aye, Heslop – Aye, Arnold – Aye, and Mayor Brown – Abstain. All Ayes. Motion Carried.
- **MOTION** by Arnold **SECOND** by Richard that after a week, July 26th, shut the water off for the business who have not filed the General Business Licenses. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Citizen Cody Fry asked for clarification on the process for reimbursement on his water/sewer usage and Mayor Brown explained that he must put it in writing and submit it to the City Office by July 30th.

REPORTS FROM BOARDS & COMMISSIONS:

DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY BOARD: NONE

ELECTION COMMISSION: NONE

GENESEE COUNTY SMALL CITIES & VILLAGES ASSOCIATION: NONE

GENESEE COUNTY WATER AND WASTE SERVICE'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE: NONE

GENESEE COUNTY METROPOLITAN ALLIANCE: NONE

PLANNING BOARD: NONE

911 CONSORTIUM: NONE

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ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS: Arnold reported that the board has a special meeting set for Thursday July 22nd to hear a variance for a sign at the Lamb of God Church.

REPORTS FROM CITY MANAGER AND CITY ATTORNEY:

CITY MANAGER: Rankin read aloud his report, plans have been submitted to the DNR (based upon the original plan) with slight modification for the Passport Recreation Grant. Bids will go out shortly. I have included the plans and design elements. Once this project is completed I think Blueberry Park will be one of the nicest parks in the area and a real gem in the community. I also have a resolution for accepting the ARPA funds (if council moves to approve). Staff just received the login info last week and will start uploading financial related info. The DDA will be putting on another movie, Zootopia will be shown at the Lion's Park August 13th.

CITY ATTORNEY: NONE

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS: Mayor Brown reiterated the necessity of having a general business license ordinance reference the recent fire of Naples. Heslop, Richard, Arnold and Martin all agreed with Mayor Brown's comments regarding the ordinance.

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE COUNCIL: NONE

ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Brown adjourned the meeting at 8:27 p.m.
Prepared by City Clerk, Tina Rush